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STATE SCHOOLS WILL TEACH
GAME MANAGEMENT METHODS

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Courses in game management, to be set up in several State Universities, will have the active support of the Bureau of Biological Survey, which is prepared to supply instructors and to cooperate with the universities and with State game commissions in financing this new development.

J. N. Darling, Chief of the Bureau, in announcing this new policy, said one of the leading American manufacturers of arms and ammunition has agreed to contribute \$30,000 a year for the purpose. The Biological Survey will be able to supply \$42,000. The game commissions and universities also will share in the expense.

The staffs of the new courses will do research work in wild life subjects as well as in teaching the application of modern game management methods. Many universities now have important schools of forestry. It is anticipated that the new educational service in game management will follow similar lines.

Commenting on the \$30,000 annual contribution from the arms manufacturer, Darling said he "deserves to be commended for his generosity and for his sound business judgment as well. I shall probably be called bad names because I am accepting a contribution from this source. There will be some who will see in this an outrageous attempt on the part of a wicked industry to buy its way into heaven, or to camouflage its evil motives with \$30,000 worth of whitewash.

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An abundance of game means profits for the industry, of course, but also for others-- farmers, transportation companies, hotel keepers, merchants, and many more. If anyone wants to devote a part of his profits to maintaining the resource the least we ought to do is to use the money to the best advantage. Appropriations and contributions for the benefit of wildlife are by no means so generous that we can afford to toss \$30,000 out of the window and rap the knuckles of the hand that made the offer."

Several schools and State game commissions are ready to go ahead with the inauguration of game management courses. The Biological Survey has men competent to direct the work. The courses will be designed to fit men with practical and scientific knowledge in game management and to turn out graduates equipped to do work in the restoration of valuable forms of wild life.

"For years colleges and universities have been training foresters and park-planning engineers and developing specialists in the use and preservation of many of our natural resources," said Darling; "but nowhere have we developed facilities to prepare young men for the equally important task of administering our valuable supply of wild birds, animals, and fishes. As a result of this neglect and the consequent shortage of trained game technicians, there are only a very few scattered spots in the country where there are men who have the scientific and technical qualifications necessary to enable them to deal with the steady decrease in our wildlife by applying the known principles of game restoration."

Under this new policy the Biological Survey will supply the educational institutions with technically trained instructors who will make available to students, farmers, landowners, and sportsmen the results of investigational and experimental work conducted by the wildlife agencies of State and Federal Governments and by conservation organizations.

"Wildlife studies have been going on for years," said Darling, "but much of the value of the results has been lost because there has been no satisfactory way to carry the information gathered about our birds, animals, and fishes to the farmers and sportsmen who could make practical use of it. Our specialists know a lot about quail, to take one example, that would enable landowners to increase greatly the numbers of these valuable birds, but we can't pass this information along satisfactorily by means of bulletins and pamphlets. Correspondence school methods won't work when it comes to raising wild turkeys. Game-cropping methods have to be taught and demonstrated by the same means used to teach other branches of modern agriculture. Some splendid wildlife restoration programs that started off with a glorious rush and a promising bang have collapsed through failure to provide the last link in the chain between the research worker and man who has to do the work on the ground."

"This is the best thing so far as our nonmigratory wildlife is concerned that has happened in years," the Federal wildlife chief declared. "I hope to see the program developed until every university in the country has such courses. It will mean the salvation of our upland game species."

"It means also that we shall at last be able to coordinate our research and experimental work. Heretofore it has been possible that several agencies might be studying an identical problem--rabbits, deer, bear, beaver, or what have you--and neglecting something else just as important. These units under the direction of the Bureau of Biological Survey will do away with this duplication of effort."