

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS



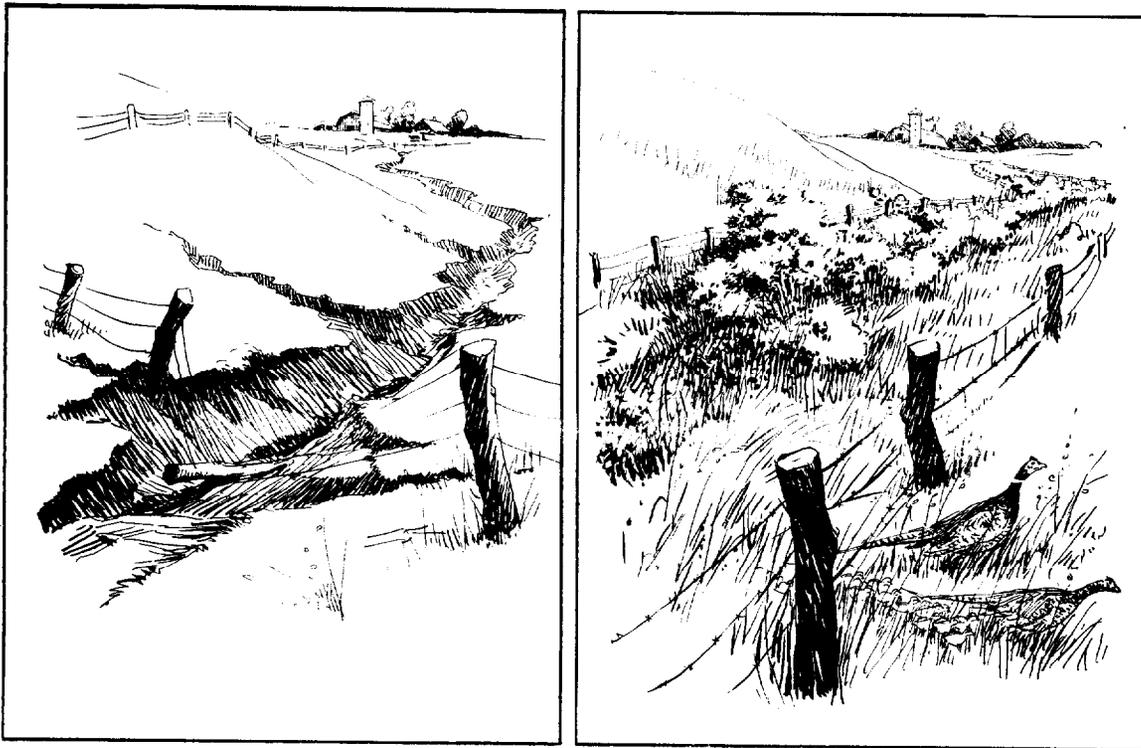
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FARM GAME MANAGEMENT IS
URGED FOR FUTURE SPORT
AND BIGGER FARM INCOME

Open game country and free public shooting grounds are almost things of the past in many States. If sportsmen are to hunt small game in the future, it will have to be produced by farmers and other landowners, and the sportsmen will have to be reconciled to the fact that if game is to be pro-



BEFORE and AFTER
"Ding" Darling shows what game management can do to a barren,
eroded eyesore on the farm.

duced for their recreation, the farmer who produces that game is entitled to a just remuneration for the product, for the use of his land, and for his services.

So say three Biological Survey authors of a new Farmers' Bulletin (No. 1759) just issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture on "Game Management on the Farm." The writers are Ira N. Gabrielson, Biological Survey chief, H. P. Sheldon, chief of the Bureau's public relations division, and J. N. Darling, former chief of the Survey, senior author, whose drawings also provide illustrations for the bulletin.

"Game management," the authors point out in their introduction, "makes it possible for the farmer or landowner to increase the number of game birds and mammals on his property and by so doing to produce benefits and realize profits that will reward his efforts. The conservationist will encourage game management and the hunter will pay for it, and besides it is sensible practice for the farmer. It is in effect simply good land management by means of which a game crop is added to the crops already produced on the farm."

Landowners, the writers declare, should rid themselves of the notion that the work is going to be difficult or that it will require highly specialized knowledge. For ages past the land has produced wildlife naturally just as it has produced forests or grass or wild fruits. It will produce the same things again, even near civilization if it has the opportunity. Wildlife is one of the easiest of all crops to grow, because it is one of those that it might seem the land itself prefers to produce, and would still be producing abundantly but for man's cultivation and interference in nature's original scheme.

Anyone undertaking game management, the bulletin recommends, should first make a survey of farm conditions affecting wildlife. The next step pointed out is

providing suitable cover and seeing that a year-round food supply is available. When this has been done, game will increase itself, although it may be stocked on some areas. Hunting must be regulated and arrangements made with sportsmen to insure a profitable "harvest" of the crop without interfering with other interests of the farmer.

The authors make detailed suggestions for carrying out each of these recommendations and also discuss at length the "hunter-farmer problem" and the various plans for remunerating the farmer and preventing undesirable trespass.

Copies of Farmers Bulletin No. 1759, "Game Management on the Farm," a 24-page publication, may be obtained free from the U. S. Department of Agriculture.