

Rod & Gun Club Opposes Dams; Good 'Game' Winter Reported

CRAIGMONT—R. B. Pirtle of Lewiston, Idaho State Fisheries biologist, Ray J. Kernan, Nez Perce County conservation officer of Lewiston, and Marion Rhodes of Craigmont, Lewis County conservation officer, were visitors Monday night at the meeting of the Craigmont Rod & Gun Club at the Community Hall.

Vern Spekter, club president, presided and Gene Walker of Winchester substituted as secretary-treasurer for Mrs. Goldie Hawks who was absent.

During a discussion on proposed river dams, Vern Spekter said the Craigmont club had gone on record as being opposed to selected sites for dam construction on the Salmon and Clearwater rivers.

Homer Woody, game bird committee chairman, reported that he had not been out to check on bird conditions but he thought with the mild winter weather, the birds are "doing pretty good."

Good For Birds

Rhodes said weather conditions had been exceedingly good for pheasant and partridge, that they are ranging on the river breaks in timbered sections south and west of Winchester, and in timbered draws at the top of Winchester Grade.

Ray Kernan reported he had circled the Snake and Salmon River break areas recently by plane and that the draws were full of Chukkar partridge. He said the area was thick with predatory birds and animals, that he planned on going up there soon and set traps and put out poison. He added that poison would be placed on the river islands where it will do no harm except to predators it is intended for.

Kernan said on the up-river trip more than 90 head of elk were counted. Forty-five head of bulls, cows and calves were counted in one herd, he said.

Under the direction of Ray Lauby, chairman of the fish committee, discussions were held on the suggested late opening of the fishing season and areas for juvenile fishing only.

The possibility of cleaning trash fish out of Lake Waha and making it a fisherman's paradise were discussed. Kernan stated the lake, which in pioneer days was said to be bottomless, was 80 feet deep in the deepest place, according to a survey made about six years ago.

A motion was carried "that raccoons be dropped from the status of fur-bearing animals to that of a predator" and that the recommendation be sent to the Second District meeting for action. Badgers, according to information given out, are predators and are not protected by the state. It was suggested that there should be a bounty on raccoons.

Craigmont Briefs

The 4-H Cookerettes Club will hold its 1954 organizational meeting Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the home of the club leader, Mrs. Melvin Smith. Any child over 10 years of age is welcome to join the club, Mrs. Smith said, and can take any year of cooking they are qualified to take.

The Craigmont Community Presbyterian Aid will hold its first meeting of 1954 Thursday at 2 p. m. at the Church. Mrs. W. W. Riggers, newly-elected president, will preside.

The meeting program will be a presentation of the handbook, constitution and policy of the Presbyterian Women's Association. All interested in the work of the women of the Church are urged to attend, Mrs. Riggers said.

Hostesses for the meeting are Mrs. Riggers, Mrs. K. H. Collins and Mrs. Clyde E. Clovis. Mrs. Henry Mochel will be in charge of devotions.