

intricate interlocking ecological relationships, affecting many diverse human interests. In self defence it is often necessary for man to attempt to strike a balance between different forms of wild life, and the crucial question to be answered in each case is whether the problematical advantages exceed the disadvantages; steps, once taken, usually cannot be retraced.

One of the most important and effective agencies of conservation in Canada is found in the immense National Parks and the many smaller provincial parks where wild life is protected, and the overflow from these areas helps to keep up a supply in the surrounding areas. The extensive preserves in the Northwest Territories where hunting and trapping of game is restricted entirely to native Indians and Eskimos, eliminates much intensive harrying of the game and fur-bearing mammals in those areas. Certain parks and sanctuaries are the only remaining natural habitats of important mammal species. Among these are the Wood Buffalo Park and the Thelon Game Sanctuary where the wood buffalo and most of the remaining musk-oxen on the mainland of Canada are protected.

The conservation of migratory birds became a federal matter by the Migratory Birds Treaty of 1916 between Great Britain and the United States. The provisions of this treaty were put into effect by the Migratory Birds Convention Act of 1917, and reinforced by legislation of the different provinces. Co-operation between Canada and the United States is necessary, as a large proportion of the migratory wild fowl are reared in Canada and feed during the winter in the United States.

The protection of non-migratory birds, game, and fur-bearing mammals in Canada is entirely within the control of the provinces, except in the Northwest Territories where it is regulated by the Northwest Game Act, and in the Yukon Territory where the Game Ordinance of the Yukon Council is in effect. Protection of inland fish resources is largely a matter of provincial action, but the Dominion Government operates fish hatcheries and patrol vessels in coastal waters.

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