

species that are essential in game management, deals with the numerous problems related to the utilization of the wildlife resources, and co-operates with the various private groups of sportsmen, informing them of the results of current investigations.

The Game Act was passed in 1877 in an attempt to provide a certain amount of protection for a limited number of birds and animals. Under the provisions of this Act, a closed season was established for such important game species as moose, deer and caribou. In addition, it provided for a limited season for the following fur bearing animals: mink, otter, fisher, sable and beaver. Partridge and snipe were also protected by this early legislation with a closed season. Hunters could no longer use a punt gun, swivel gun or net for killing ducks, geese, brant or other wild fowl.

Prior to the original Game Act, legislation pertaining to birds and mammals was limited to granting of bounty for wolves in 1792 and bears in 1828. The payment of bounty was established as a means of compensation to settlers for loss of domestic stock and should not be interpreted as an attempt to control predator populations.

The present New Brunswick Game Act provides adequate protection for the numerous species of game birds, game animals and fur bearing animals in the province. Its numerous provisions include such matters as open and closed seasons, length of season, bag limits, etc. The Act is enforced by the staff of the Forest Service, Department of Lands and Mines, with the co-operation of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.

In 1919, the provincial government passed legislation authorizing the establishment of game refuges as a conservation measure. The first refuge, consisting of 175 sq. miles of forested Crown land, was established in 1921. At present, twelve game refuges are located throughout the province and contain approximately 1,125 sq. miles.

Research in the field of game management is relatively new in New Brunswick. In the past three years, with the addition of two game biologists and a fish biologist, a number of projects have been initiated. These studies include a population analysis and census of the white-tailed deer; a population analysis and census of the moose herd; an appraisal of DDT spraying on ruffed grouse reproduction; a population analysis of ruffed grouse; an analysis of bob-cat stomachs; and an inventory of the freshwater fishery. Censuses of the woodcock and waterfowl population are carried out in co-operation with the federal Canadian Wildlife Service biologists located at Sackville. In addition, a number of wildlife projects are undertaken by the staff of the Northeastern Wildlife Station, Department of Biology, University of New Brunswick. The staff of the Fish and Wildlife Branch is located at Fredericton.

*Quebec.*—The provincial Department of Tourism, Game and Fish recently instituted a Wildlife Management Service which employs about 30 biologists and maintains five fish hatcheries for the purpose of restocking public waters. The functions of the biologists include the preparation of inventories of the land and water wildlife resources in their particular areas and the recommendation of conservation measures for possible inclusion in provincial game and fish legislation. Their work also includes the management of public hunting and fishing waters. A study of the biological aspects of the fur trade is at present under way.

To permit the study on a regional basis of problems in connection with sport fisheries, freshwater commercial fisheries and salmon rivers, the province is divided into 11 districts, each headed by a chief biologist. However, because of the vast area involved and the limited number of biologists, there has been no division of the province into districts for the study, conservation or management of big game. In connection with the latter, it may be noted that an experiment has been tried recently; for the first time in 30 years, the Department has permitted a controlled moose hunt in Laurentide Park after drawing by lot the names of a specific number of hunters.

For the management of wildlife, the province is divided into 13 protection districts, staffed with fish and game wardens who are either experienced or recent graduates of the Quebec Game Wardens School. This school provides a course of study, both technical and practical, on the special problems of wildlife conservation.