

Illness a Spur Ambitious Rather Than a Curb to Her Bed Becomes Her Office Conservationist

Mrs. Schmitt
Keeps Working
In Sick Bed

Uses Phone to Further
Efforts; Finds How
Wonderful People Can
Really Be

As with tree, so too it is with
ment: when the chips are down and
scattered by the woodsman's axe
the true grain and strength of the
tree is revealed in the naked wood.
For Mrs. Max J. (Caroline)
Schmitt the chips went down when
a recent illness forced surgical
attention upon her with a result-
ing bed ridden aftermath.

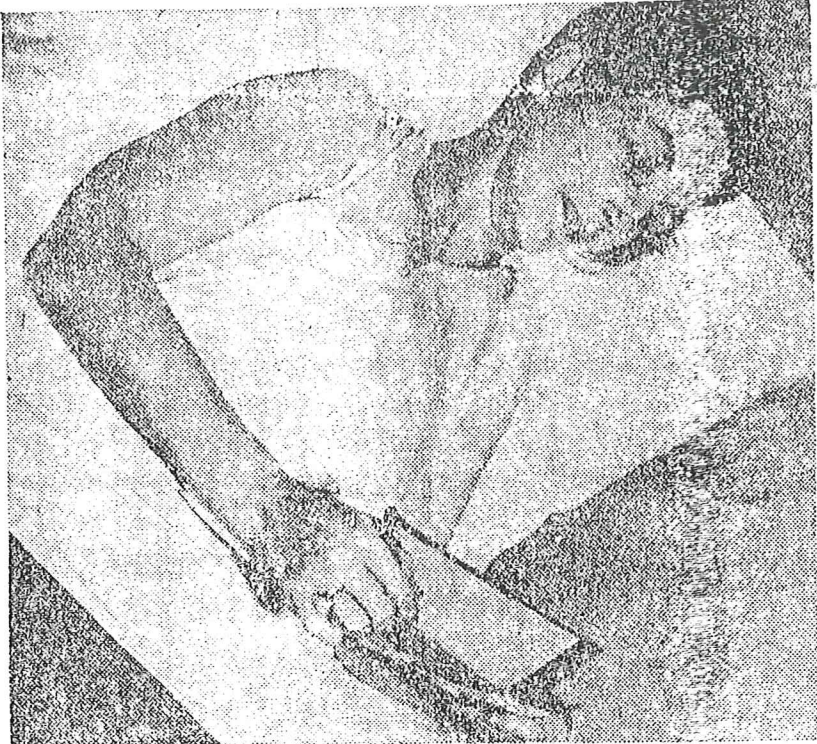
Many less hardy personalities
would have covered their cards
and passed the bet, but Mrs.
Schmitt called life's bluff and is
playing her hand even though she
must remain in bed and under a
physician's care

Phone Her Weapon

A telephone is her main weap-
on of assault, and with it she is
able to forward the work she has
done in conservation and princi-
pally the coordination of industrial
and recreational forestry with the
aim of wedding both to compati-
bility.

Mrs. Schmitt has always been
close to nature. Born in James-
town, N.Y., she spent her summers
and as much spare time as she
could on Chautauqua lake which
body of water she says is the real
home of the muskies.

Since her grandfather, Dr. John
W. Scott, was on the staffs of
both hospitals there she took



Her Bed Becomes Her Office

Mrs. Max J. Schmitt, ardent conservationist, confined to bed
because of illness, carries on her work in forestry reforms and the
general field of conservation.

Urges Congress to
Invite Industrial
Interests to Meet

By Mrs. Max J. Schmitt

This article is written with in-
tention of proposing that next

Petty Violations

(Continued from Page 1)

but it would take a force of war-
dens 50 times the size we now
maintain to do a really adequate
job.
So the job belongs to you

Congress Deer Decisions Are Analyzed by Wife

By Larry C. Whitton

Conservation Congress Echoes...

Delegates to the 14th annual Conservation Congr
will long remember the session as "the year we sat up in
of the night fighting the deer question."

There was more to the beleaguered fight than occur-
on the Congress floor. Seven hours of arguing left mi-
unheard, it is doubtful, however,
that any new accusations, direct
or indirect, could have been voiced
by those opposed to the Deer Com-
mittee's recommendations.

Speeches had become angry ti-
rades long before the question
reached the floor at 2 a. m. A roll
call vote was polled, county by
county, disclosing the identical re-
sults of the county meetings held
May 10, which showed 37 counties
favoring the recommendation, 33
opposed and one not voting be-
cause of a tie.

Members of the Deer Committee
donned suits of metal armor be-
fore the meeting ever opened. Not
one of the men flared up when
the barrage let go. Before the
night was over those intending to
break down the integrity of the
men succeeded only in burning
their own hands.

Congress Silent

The Conservation Department
took no part or side in the fracas,
neither did the Commission. For
the first time in the history of
Congress the Department did not
present a recommendation. Their
stand off position, however, did
not spare them from a goodly
number of low jabs, some of which
could have been construed as slan-
derous, had they chose to deem
them worthy of recognition.

The fact that order was main-
tained through the entire pro-
cedure was a credit to Ed Palmer
of Ellsworth, Pierce county. He
accomplished a marvellous, but
grueling job, of handling the chair.
Parliamentary procedure was car-
ried out to the Nth degree.

Results

Analyzing the results, certain
important deductions can be de-

your own Congress members
served on the Deer Committee
the interest of conservation in
perpetuation of as large a
herd as the state of Wisconsin
carry. What do you want to
about it?"

Fifth: Delegates attending
Congress feared for their hi-
but they were loyal to their
sitizens. This was evidenced
the fact that not one county si-
ed from the May 10 position,
the exception of Vilas where
voted originally was for an ant-
less season. They changed to
deer."

Some people questioned
value of the Congress, stating
the expense and trouble wa-
waste of time and money. On
viewing it more graciously re-
that it is grass root democra-
action, and should continue,
only remaining question is:
the Commission see it as such
if they do, what about the
error? Will he dare cross up
majority of the sportsmen on
eve of an election?

Solunar Fishing Schedule

(June 24-30)

Thursday—East, 2:30 to 4:30
Good, 7:55 to 9 a. m. and su-
to dark.
Friday—Best, 3:15 to 5:15
Good, 8:40 to 9:40 a. m. and
set to dark.
Saturday — Best, 3:55 to 5
Good, 9:00 to 10:30 a. m.

ated with an L.B.

Mother a Botanist

Fier mother was a botanist and it is from her that she learned a basic appreciation and love of the fields and forests. The extensive forests of Maine became her study halls.

On a visit to Milwaukee she met Max Schmitt, and Maine was soon forgotten as she discovered the loveliness of Wisconsin. When her children were young she became active in Junior Garden clubs and acted as a guide for nature study in local schools.

More and more she became involved in the work of conservation until every moment of her spare time was being given to it.

Active Career

Summarized, she has served four years as State Conservation chairman of the Garden Club federation; charter member of the Milwaukee County Conservation Alliance; executive director of the national organization "Foresters" publishing their publication; member at large of the National Izaak Walton League; charter member of the Friends of the Land serving as director and third vice president and a number of other lesser organizations.

Mrs. Schmitt's chief interest is forestry. She has and is working hard and long for forest reforms. From her bedside at this writing she is in constant touch with a voluntary committee which is working for legislative revision of outmoded laws which hamper rather than help the cause of conservation.

She keeps in day by day and hour by hour contact with happenings throughout the nation and state, and of her illness all she has to say is:

"I have found how wonderful people can be, and I only wish I could express my gratitude. They have given me the courage to see it through."

—Neil Chase

vile to its meeting a delegation of Forest industries personnel so they may present their problems for consideration.

I believe that if people from both groups have an opportunity to meet and talk together, come to know one another as persons much misunderstanding can be avoided.

I have worked with these people for several years. Prior to meeting there was a great deal of mutual antipathy. That has largely disappeared. We have our differences of opinion, but we do respect each other and have found common ground to work out some very constructive programs. By and large you find them ready and willing to do what they can to compromise if the sportsmen will go half way.

Mutual Likes

It's a well known fact that when you become acquainted and like a person, things assume a different perspective. These people are outdoor people like yourselves. With interests much like your own, and many of them with vision and ambitions of outdoor creativeness that would draw yours.

Basically forestry is the mainstay of the nation. Without paper our industrial civilization would collapse. And certainly if this happened or if our economy is even partially affected through extensive reduction of paper, the average sportsman's job will be affected and he will not be able to enjoy his outdoor sports for financial reasons.

Every sportsman is to some extent dependent upon the industry. And every sportsman must come to realize that game management is a by-product of land management and must not take precedence in the thinking of the people. Nor must their disagreements be allowed to weaken or destroy the departments whose duty it is to protect us against excessive exploitation by industry or sportsmen.

First, police your own efforts. Don't fish where you legally shouldn't, because there is always a good reason for prohibiting fishing in such spots. Return undersize fish carefully. Give them a chance to spawn. Don't go over your bag limit even if you haven't been getting any fish for several weeks. The bag limit is there merely as a check point and not as the number of fish you are supposed to take daily.

When you are keeping your own fishing strictly legal, go after your friends. If they won't listen to reason, try shaming them into fish law obedience. If that won't work, strike them off your friendship list. Then, if they persist, report their activities to a warden. That's not being disloyal. That's being really loyal to yourself, your state and your children's children.

Many Violations

I checked on minor violations during a past weekend and counted six all during the course of a single day. One man was taking undersize, illegal bass. Another was filling a pail with six inch rainbows that had just been planted. Another was transporting more than 15 trout, and so on and on.

In each instance I told the violator that he was violating the law, and tried to show him how he was hurting himself.

Reactions Differ

Some were frightened and put their fish back. Others laughed and said: "Everybody's doing it." It is a tremendous job, but it is a necessary one. It would be impossible to maintain a force of wardens anywhere near large enough to check petty violations thoroughly.

So help yourself by staying within the law and asking your friends to do likewise. You'll be surprised how the fishing will improve if you and the other millions of fishermen keep strictly within the law.

First: The Congress, by a majority of counties, voted for a one deer season.

Second: The counties supporting the recommendation representing many times the population of those counties opposed. The heavily populated counties, including Milwaukee in the Southern half of the state, voted in favor.

Third: The opposition resorted to threats, political intimations and insinuations of a personal nature as their chief means of argument. Factual evidence to support their claims did not appear at any time.

Fourth: The committee presented their side in a straight forward, direct and to the point manner. No political implications or ramifications were alluded to. It was stated that, "Here is what we found, how we found it, and where. These are recommendations of

and 4:30 to dark. Good, up to 11:05 a.m.
Monday—Best, 4:55 to 6:55 a.m. and 5:15 to dark. Good, 10 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Tuesday—Best, 5:30 to 7:30 a.m. and 5:55 to dark. Good, 11 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Wednesday—Best, 6:15 to 8 a.m. and 6:35 to dark. Good, 12:20 to 1:20 p.m.

Aussies: Kaise Pheasants
Australia wants to know about the operations of Wisconsin's pheasant propagation program. The department has just filled request from H. T. Roper, director of the zoological board of Victoria at Melbourne, Australia, asking for a copy of the conservation department's pheasant propagation handbook and all possible information as to the artificial incubation of pheasant eggs.

Pair of Fish Eaters



The cat pictured above has seen so much wildlife come and at the state game farm near Foyette that not even an osprey evoked more than a mild curiosity. The bird was a young one it had been salvaged and turned into the farm where it grew up with the cat.

—Photo by Stuber Ross
(Courtesy Wisconsin Conservation Dept)