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To Russell Gilmore
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CONSERVATION'S FIRST CENTURY IN WISCONSIN:

LANDMARK DATES AND PEOPLE

Wisconsin is fortunate to have such outstanding natural resources, for these have attracted that most valuable natural resource--people with character and creativity, energy and enthusiasm, vision and vitality. This is the stuff of which many of our early settlers were made, and it will help explain why Wisconsin has been both pioneer and leader in the conservation movement over this past century and more. There are those skeptics who say that if what Wisconsin has done and is doing represents the best, then others must be mighty poor indeed. This attitude reflects another valuable human trait so long as the criticism is constructive. We also have been blessed with a large measure of constructive critics!

It is most appropriate that this Conservation Centennial Symposium has established its beginning date as 1867 when Increase Allan Lapham's Forestry Commission published its "Report on the Disastrous Effects of the Destruction of Forest Trees Now Going On So Rapidly in the State of Wisconsin." We are most fortunate to receive reprint copies of this publication today, courtesy of the Banta Foundation of Menasha. For many years I have offered \$25.00 or more for an original edition and failed to find a copy. Lapham deserves the credit for securing passage of the legislation establishing this commission and there is no doubt he helped pick his fellow members: Judge J. G. Knapp of Madison and Hans Crocker of Milwaukee. Both were early settlers with thirty years experience in the fledgling state and fellow members in the Agricultural and Horticultural Societies which promoted the legislation. It is significant that only the State of Michigan had appointed a Forestry Commission at so early a date--but the bibliography of forestry does not indicate this resulted in a published report.

There is no question but that Lapham was the father of Wisconsin's conservation movement. Two days after he landed in Milwaukee harbor on July 1, 1836 he examined stone quarries near the Milwaukee river and made a profile of that waterway. The day before he died in 1875 he made soundings for the depth of Crooked Lake and completed a pioneering report on the fish production potential of Oconomowoc Lake. The years between these dates were filled with intense activity as an archeologist, botanist, cartographer, geologist, meteorologist and statesman. His 1836 publication, at Milwaukee, "A Catalogue of Plants and Shells Found in the Vicinity of Milwaukee on the West Side of Lake Michigan" is reported to be the first scientific paper published west of that lake and a copy of the 12-page original sold for \$125 last year.

Most important about Lapham is the fact that he kept contact with all the latest scientific developments and used them to good advantage. Only in this way is it possible to account for the fact that many of the ideas proposed in the 1867 forestry commission report were present in his 1855 article on "The Forest Trees of Wisconsin", published in the Transactions of the State Agricultural Society. This was five years prior to the first federal report on "Forest Trees of North America"! At that time 112 years ago he recommended planting at least

one good specimen of every native tree and shrub on every state campus and said, "I will venture to predict that the University or College that shall first surround itself with such an 'Arboretum', will first secure the patronage and good opinion of the people; and will thus outstrip those institutions that show a lack of taste and refinement, by omitting to plant trees." He brought to Wisconsin the latest ideas from the best scientific minds in the country and well deserved the honorary Doctorate granted him by Amherst College in 1866.

Before proceeding with my assigned topic of landmark dates and people during conservation's first century in Wisconsin, one obvious question should be answered: what good came out of this 1867 Forestry Commission report? The answer is that it was far ahead of its time so far as action on all recommendations was concerned. However, the 1868 Legislature did pass "An Act to encourage the planting and growth of trees and for the protection thereof." The new law offered complete tax exemption on up to one-fifth of each farm on land left in tree-belts and a "bounty" of \$2.00 per acre per year after the trees, planted or growing naturally, became twelve feet high. Among the many trees authorized for tree-belt planting were such rare or exotic species as American chestnut, coffee tree, cucumber tree and tulip tree--and surprisingly, all of these today are present in Wisconsin indicating that some people read and acted on the recommendations.

Just 100 years ago this summer, John Muir visited his family farm in Wisconsin prior to leaving on his roundabout trip which led him to the California high Sierra country by 1868. There have been times during recent weeks when I have been tempted to follow John Muir's footsteps through the warmth of Florida and give up the idea of trying to present a paper on so difficult a subject. How was it possible to mention all the significant conservation events and the people responsible in 100 years of Wisconsin's history and still be reasonably brief and entertaining? Also, how would I ever be forgiven for all the possible sins of omission and commission that would take place without question? I was reminded most frequently about a story and a fact. The fact was that just 30 years ago I wrote a "Conservation History" which was published in the Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin and every month since then I discovered new knowledge which attested to the need for more research to do justice to this subject. The story was about the farmer who was given the job of sorting potatoes before sending them to market. After judging them as to quality for an hour or so, he fell over in a dead faint from sheer exhaustion!

So now I must admit that I searched for a way to make my assigned task more palatable for myself as well as for you. I decided to make up three lists which would be appended to my paper: 100 landmark dates, 100 deceased conservationists and 100 retired individuals deserving of special mention. These lists all are preliminary and subject to revision prior to final publication, so if you have corrections or changes to suggest, they will be welcome. Also, I hope to briefly state the reasons for including people on these lists prior to publication.

You will note that I am a coward when it comes to listing people who still are playing an active role in conservation matters. Even as John Muir had his Hetch Hetchy battle in California, we still have our controversies in Wisconsin and judgment without the cooling and tempering of historical time is rash indeed. For this reason, most of you here today may not be on these Centennial lists, but well may be mentioned when the next appraisal is made 50 years from now. However, some explanation is needed on the list of retired people, for it is impossible to know when retirement takes place in private businesses and professions and here it was necessary to interpret the idea sometimes as

retirement from the main conservation battlefield to some extent. I'm sure you will appreciate this concept of appended lists for otherwise I now would be attempting to give you one or more landmark dates and names of conservationists at the average rate of less than a year for each minute! The lists are available on a table outside the auditorium.

Before moving forward to discuss the larger conservation landmarks of this last century, recognition should be given to some significant events prior to 1867 and also to some individuals who do not appear on the lists for various reasons. Conservation is an amalgamation of many things, and the pioneer naturalist who searches for facts, or the historian who records experiences of early settlers both play a vital part. Likewise, the science and art of agriculture and horticulture are closely related to ecological problems. Prior to 1867 important roles were played by the State Historical Society formed in 1849, Agricultural Society founded in 1862 and Horticultural Society established in 1865. Their early publications are filled with material related to conservation problems and reflect the work of pioneer naturalists and scientists. The very fact that Lapham tried to organize a Wisconsin Natural History Association in 1848 attests to their interest--as also does the establishment of a German Natural History Society in Milwaukee in 1857 which was progenitor of the Milwaukee Public Museum.

The record shows an Audubon Society was formed in Madison as early as 1861 and John Muir tried to purchase a small unspoiled bog on his home farm for a wild flower sanctuary in 1865. Thure Kumlien arrived at Lake Koshkonong from Upsala University in Sweden in 1843 and Dr. P. R. Hoy came to Racine from Ohio in 1846. Their studies and natural history collections continued for 20 years prior to our starting date and this period included much of Lapham's scientific writings. Similarly, oologist and ornithologist Benjamin Franklin Goss settled at Pewaukee in 1842 and the first Professor of Chemistry and Natural History at Beloit College, Stephan P. Lathrop, started teaching in 1849. After proving his ability and promoting some creative soil-conserving agricultural practices, he transferred to the University of Wisconsin in 1854 and unfortunately, died the same year. From a purely historical point of view, how can the vital early work of Lyman Copeland Draper be divorced from its conservation aspects any more than the story of the fur trade can be removed from the writings of Fredrick Jackson Turner?

Earlier it was stated that people are one of our greatest natural resources. Names of some individuals do not appear on the appended lists because their most significant contributions were made elsewhere. However, a few should be mentioned here. Just as John Muir became father of our national park system and founder of the Sierra Club after he left Wisconsin, so also Carl Schurz, whom we like to call one of our own, helped establish the first federal forest reservations as Secretary of Interior in 1877. At a later date, Wisconsin lost such valuable conservationists as Harold Bradley, H. H. T. Jackson, Ned Hollister, Sig Olson, Herbert Stoddard, Sr. and Alexander Wetmore, although all of them continued their interest in this state. The out migration continues, and I'll mention only these examples: Irven O. Buss in wildlife research, Vernon Carstensen in conservation history, David G. Frey in limnological research, and of course, the whole Leopold family except Mrs. Leopold.

Over the years we also have received help from nonresidents with our conservation problems and a sample of the better known men would cite Paul L. Errington, Will Dilg, E. B. Fernow, Seth Gordon, Alfred O. Gross,

John Nolen, T. S. Palmer, L. H. Pammell, Filibert Roth and Raphael Zon. Many others could be mentioned, but it was not intended here to list individuals still fully active in the conservation field.

There's one other group which must be recognized--the philanthropists and those who gather money for worthy conservation causes. Rather than putting these names on the appended lists, it was thought best to make special mention of them here. During the century there have been many gifts of great value, but these are the most substantial. The story begins back in 1907 when Frederick Weyerhaeuser was liquidating his Nebagamon Lumber Company. State Forester E. M. Griffith was his good friend and he wanted to help his state forest program. He gave the State of Wisconsin 2,840 acres of land in Douglas County which even then was valued at about \$40,000. From 1910 to 1916 Col. Gustav Pabst stocked large quantities of imported Hungarian partridge and pheasants on his farm in Waukesha County--the first successful stockings of these game birds in the state. Both Walter Kohler, Sr. and Charles Broughton were impressed by the Izaak Walton League goals so that Kohler purchased over a mile of shoreline in the Black River area along Lake Michigan and Broughton helped secure the famous Sheboygan Marsh which was reflooded in 1938. Recently, the Kohler family gave the Lake Michigan property to the state, establishing a new state park as had been planned years ago.

Little Eau Pleine

Fortunately for conservation in Wisconsin, generous philanthropy for worthy purposes is not dead by any means. In 1959 the Consolidated Water Power and Paper Company through President Stanton W. Mead gave the state approximately 20,000 acres in the Little Eau Pleine river valley of Marathon, Portage and Wood Counties. The value of this new George W. Mead Wildlife Area was enhanced through management aided by additional gifts of \$5,000 each year. Similar gifts of cash and equipment by Guido R. Rahr over several decades have especially assisted statewide and local conservation education programs.

Paul Olson

Probably most thrilling of all is the recent work of former Conservation Commissioner Paul J. Olson who has stated that his goal in extracting money from others for deserving projects is a million dollars--and he's almost halfway there already. As Chairman of the Wisconsin Nature Conservancy, about \$250,000 already has been spent for acquisition work and one generous helper, who is present here today--Lawrence Achilles--has contributed one-tenth of that amount alone--and he's not even a resident of the state! Olson also played the key role in getting the Dane County Conservation League to form a Prairie Chicken Foundation about 1958 in order to help Fred and Fran Hamerstrom with their prairie chicken management project on Buena Vista Marsh. This was augmented several years later when Willis G. Sullivan of Milwaukee "caught fire" and used his creative genius to establish the Society of Tympanuchus Cupido Pinnatus with headquarters in Milwaukee. Together, these groups already have purchased about \$300,000 worth of land and still are going strong.

In closing this discussion of gifts, I think the many others who serve at arduous conservation tasks without remuneration deserve credit as well. Two men who exemplify this unselfish spirit are being honored by the Wisconsin Division of the Izaak Walton League at their Awards Dinner in Madison's Park Motor Inn tomorrow: former Assemblyman Frank Grass of Sturgeon Bay and Attorney Bill Aberg of Madison, both of whom helped write the Conservation Act of 1927. Frank spent thousands of dollars from his personal funds to promote League projects during its first decade of substantial accomplishments and I believe he's in the audience here today--40 years later. Bill Aberg freely gave

his professional legal advice during twelve years on the Conservation Commission and more--and bypassed opportunities for professional gain in favor of the cause.

Ten Decades of Hard Work

Well over 100 landmark dates are cited in the list appended because some related items have been grouped together. However, in the interest of time, I now plan to review only the basic trends and major accomplishments of these ten decades and the rest can be read at your leisure. I assure you that the prepared list is only about a quarter of the key dates originally selected--and they were but a fraction of those in Leopold's "Wisconsin Wildlife Chronology" of 1940 and my earlier "Conservation History." Also, it is obvious that Wisconsin does not exist in a vacuum so far as conservation is concerned and the interstate and federal relationships are becoming more pressing with each passing day. As this was our Centennial, outside influences generally were omitted except where the impact was both outstanding and beneficial.

One other pertinent observation is the fact that the decision as to what is significant and important depends upon a personal point of view. To a forester the establishment of sustained yield cutting on the 2 1/2 million acres of county forests would be a great accomplishment while a wildflower enthusiast might select the preservation of the Ridges Sanctuary in Door County as most valuable. I have tried to take a broad view of the entire conservation field with as much impartiality as possible. At this point, if I had time to look up from my manuscript, I'm sure I'd find some who know me smiling at my declaration of impartiality! For anyone who lives conservation emotionally--as some of the best conservationists have done--it is next to impossible to see all aspects with equal clarity.

The first decade after 1867 was still one of pioneering by a few far-sighted individuals who could see what was happening but were powerless to stop the action. It still was a time of exploitation of all natural resources from passenger pigeons to pine trees and showy ladyslippers to water lilies. But there were signs of depletion and abuse and some who raised their voices. The word and idea of "conservation" existed only in the unabridged dictionary and on the tongues of people overseas who had seen the washing of the hills and the fouling of the waterways. Still, there was hope, for the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters had been chartered for the express purpose to study the state's natural resources, and Birge had started his studies at the University of Wisconsin. And there was one other hope: every catastrophe like the 1871 Peshtigo Fire, when about 1,500 people burned to death along with over a million acres of precious landscape, men stopped a moment to try to determine the reason. In 1872 a new law prohibited burning of the woods, prairies and cranberry bogs between August 1 and November 30!

In the second decade from 1877 to 1886, scientists like T. C. Chamberlain and Franklin H. King studied the state's resources in preparation for publication in "The Geology of Wisconsin," but this was truly a misnomer, for one of Chamberlain's contributions was on the "Native Vegetation of Eastern Wisconsin" and King used transect counts to help him study the "Economic Relations of Wisconsin Birds." Already by 1885 Dr. Hoy was annotating "Man's Influence on the Avifauna of Southeastern Wisconsin" and an active Wisconsin Sportsmen's Association was trying to help the fledgling Fish Commission keep some of the stocked trout out of the poacher's creels. A flicker of hope existed in formation of the American Forestry Congress in 1882 and two Wisconsin

representatives were present at their fourth meeting in Boston several years later. Highlight of the period was establishment in 1878 of the 50,000-acre "Northern State Park," which in retrospect seems to have been but a clever holding action to keep timber off of the market until a later and more opportune date.

Large private hunting clubs were the status symbol in the third decade and there were a few like the Blackhawk Club on Lake Koshkonong which tried to outlaw sneakboats and the Upper Horicon Club, whose constitution pledged protection of game in closed season. But there also were many who ignored the fish and game laws and only the attention of game wardens could bring them "Religion." This period opened with the first wardens being appointed and publication of the first season regulations, and closed with establishment of a Chief Warden's office at Madison. At the University Agricultural Experiment Station which was established in 1883, the wind erosion problem was the subject of a leaflet published by Professor King, who also wrote on tree windbreaks on the farm. An article by Professor Trelease about Lake Mendota told of algae so thick in the early summer that you couldn't row a boat through it. Perhaps students even today should search out and study that copy of the Wisconsin Academy's TRANSACTIONS.

Probably most important during this period was the continuous encouragement of the State Agricultural Society and State Horticultural Society for better management of the state's forest resources. Articles by national experts appeared in virtually every annual TRANSACTIONS and in 1893 the Horticultural Society set the stage for a talk by Professor Blaisdell of Beloit College which aimed at organization of a state forestry association. Impetus for this good cause was given by the destructive "Phillips Fire" of 1894 which forced the Legislature to do something about forest fires the next year. However, making the Chief Clerk of the State Land Office ride herd on the so-called "Town Fire Wardens" was largely an exercise in futility. Highlight for this period was establishment of the special Commission for the Interstate Park at Dalles of the St. Croix.

The fourth decade of 1897 to 1906 set the stage for greater things to come. Many significant developments included such things as the Willow River Club decision when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of a man called Wade who had deliberately fished in what the club called its "private waters." The club owned both banks of the river, but Wade entered the river from a public road without touching their private lands. After he had a limit of ten trout, he was arrested for trespassing and the club tried to recover \$20.00 for the fish he had taken. All fishermen gained in this decision which said that "Such ownership is of a qualified character as not in any way to interfere with the character of the stream as public waters...public in the common-law test of navigability."

Another highlight was action taken by the second State Forestry Commission in securing Filibert Roth to survey northern Wisconsin forests. His report on the "Forestry Conditions of Northern Wisconsin" has been invaluable in managing them most effectively today and resulted in some excellent recommendations. This period was the one which saw the Forestry Board organized and it was a "red letter" day in February of 1904 when Wisconsin's first State Forester, E. M. Griffith, was appointed. He was fresh from the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale and the Biltmore Forest School and also had received practical experience in Germany as well as elsewhere throughout

the world. He attended President Theodore Roosevelt's American Forestry Congress in 1905 and republished much that he learned in both his official reports and the Wisconsin Arbor and Bird Day Annuals as well as in TRANSACTIONS of the state's learned societies. Because of his enthusiasm, he managed to set aside for a "forest reserve" all state-owned lands north of Town 33 totaling over 234,000 acres. In addition, Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Sr. secured 20,000 acres of vacant land from the federal government free of charge. Those were the good old days!

Progressive
Era

This ten years was full of first dates including hunting licenses, state park land acquisition, organization of the Wisconsin Audubon Society with their publication By The Wayside, establishment of the U. S. Forest Service and beginning of the Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Wisconsin Forestry Association. Milwaukee Public Museum scientists promoted organization of the Wisconsin Natural History Society and the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters succeeded in securing legislation to establish the Geological and Natural History Survey in cooperation with the University of Wisconsin. Two fine points should not be overlooked: Kumlien and Hollister's "Birds of Wisconsin" was published and the farmer-botanist, Stoughton W. Faville from Lake Mills, protected his woodlot from pasturing.

"Conservation" as a word and a way of life became paramount in the fifth decade from 1907 to 1916. President Roosevelt's Conference of Governors in 1908 set fire to the public's imagination throughout the nation and enthusiasm burned for several years. Governor James O. Davidson actively participated in the conference and both Professors Chamberlain and Van Hise also spoke. In later years, Hugh Bennett, founder of the Soil Conservation Service, credited Chamberlain's statements on "Soil Wastage" for his decision to go into this work. Chamberlain's article in Popular Science Monthly of July 1908 stated, "When our soils are gone, we, too, must go, unless we shall find some way to feed on raw rock or its equivalent...the key to the problem lies in due control of the water which falls on each acre..."

As soon as Wisconsin's representatives returned home, the Governor appointed a Conservation Commission with Van Hise as Chairman, and their first report in 1909 deals with the state's basic resources and related problems. The following year Van Hise, who was President of the University of Wisconsin, published his pioneering book on "The Conservation of Natural Resources in the United States."

Establishment of the first State Park Board and the Weyerhaeuser gift of land near the Brule River in Douglas County were highlights for this period along with many other "firsts" as follows: Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company organized; Professors Birge and Juday publish "The Inland Lakes of Wisconsin;" U. S. Forest Products Laboratory established at Madison; forest ranger school held by Forestry Board; county agent program started in Oneida County; U. W. publication on soil erosion control; forest nursery, planting and fire towers established near Trout Lake Forestry Headquarters; game refuges on private lands promoted; exotic game birds stocked successfully; pamphlets issued on Devil's Lake, Peninsula and Interstate Parks; warden's school held and public educational program started.

Probably the most colorful conservationist of this time was Senator Paul Husting of Mayville, who loved both to hunt and to fight for what he considered public rights. The Diana Shooting Club claimed private

privileges on Horicon Marsh. The Senator deliberately trespassed over their lands using a shallow draft boat in water about twelve inches deep and was arrested. However, the courts freed him with a decision in 1914 stating that "Navigable waters...should inure to the benefit of the public. They should be free to all for commerce, for travel, for recreation, and also for hunting and fishing...when it is confined strictly to such waters while they are in a navigable stage..."

The rest of this morning could be spent in telling about the battle Senator Husting had with what was considered a monopoly over the state's water powers. The franchises given to the Corporations which were managing the Chippewa and Wisconsin rivers were monopolies and should be curtailed so far as the public rights given away were concerned. As a member of a special Legislative committee on "Water Powers, Forestry and Drainage," he promoted the minority view which secured public support of most state newspapers and the people. New controls were to be placed on any similar projects in the future and the public would have a recapture clause in case they wanted to take over control by paying the power company for the property. So successful was this fight that he was elected to the U. S. Senate after the battle was won. In this connection, it is interesting to note that a University of Wisconsin Law School Professor, Eugene A. Gilmore, prepared a detailed review of all cases relating to "Riparian Rights in Wisconsin" and Senator Robert M. LaFollette had it published in its entirety as a U. S. Senate Document in 1910.

Other conservation developments were less well defined but were present as beginning trends. Milwaukee established its Metropolitan Park Commission in 1908 and this later developed into one of the first "regional planning" groups in the country. Pioneering in this field was C. B. Whitnall as Secretary of their Public Land Commission and a strong proponent for creating parkways along river flood plains--a project which also was supported by the conservation-minded Milwaukee Journal. Similar ideas for preservation of natural beauty through planning and zoning were promoted by John Nolen in his 1907 report on "State Parks for Wisconsin" submitted to the Governor and also in his 1910 report, "Madison a Model City." Nolen quoted Thoreau's famous phrase, "In Wildness is the preservation of the World" and many others of equal power. He also used photographs to good effect and successfully promoted a state park system for Wisconsin.

In these days when we hear so much about reorganization, it may be interesting to note how comparatively easy it was to accomplish in 1915--just a little over 50 years ago. In the report of the special Legislative Committee on Forestry, which studied the negative Supreme Court case which found the state's forestry program a work of internal improvement and unconstitutional, the members recommended the formation of a Conservation Commission including all conservation agencies dealing with forests, parks, fisheries, law enforcement and the Commission dealing with basic natural resources. This was accomplished with little difficulty, creating a three-man paid Conservation Commission consisting of James Nevin in fisheries, W. E. Barber in game and F. B. Moody in forestry. Their first biennial report of 1915-16 states that the total officials and employees in the several old groups was 14 salaried and 22 non-salaried, while after reorganization there were only nine salaried personnel. But the work of this infant Commission was just beginning--what with the 600 islands in northern Wisconsin lakes given to the state by the federal government and the stocking of Yellowstone elk in a 320-acre

Vilas County refuge, which they completely fenced "to keep out the wolves and the foxes." Remnant traces of wire still are to be found in the woods near Allequash Lake.

The publication of one additional book should be mentioned for this time--"The Wisconsin Idea" by Charles McCarthy, Chief of the Legislative Reference Department, in 1912. Among the people he mentions as serving both the University and the state, he cites Professor Birge on the forestry, fish and Conservation Commissions; Juday in the Geological and Natural History Survey; H. L. Russell, an ex officio member of the State Board of Forestry; President Van Hise, Chairman of the Conservation Commission; President of the Geological and Natural History Survey and a member of the Forestry Board; A. R. Whitson in charge of the Soil Survey for the Geological and Natural History Survey and even Forester E. M. Griffith as "Lecturer in Forestry." In regard to the reorganization a few years later, it might be said much valuable talent was temporarily transferred to other endeavors. Probably the greatest resource loss of all was Griffith's resignation resulting from the adverse forestry decision which easily set back this work by a decade or more.

Aldo Leopold came to Wisconsin as Associate Director of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory, assuming his new duties on July 1, 1924. The full meaning of this to the people of Wisconsin and the nation now is being studied in depth by Miss Susan Flader, who is preparing a doctoral dissertation on his life and work and is here with us today. He resigned after several years in order to do a "Game Survey of the North Central States" and subsequently, on August 10, 1933, was appointed Professor of Game Management in the U. W. Department of Agricultural Economics. This is one of the most important landmarks, for Professor Leopold brought with him a special kind of golden indestructible ink into which he dipped his pen, and his book published just a quarter century later, "A Sand County Almanac," still is a conservationist's Bible.

Another landmark date in this period is June 4, 1922 when the State Division of the Izaak Walton League of America was organized at Appleton. Will Dilg and Rev. Preston Bradley--spellbinders from Chicago--were there to exhort the crowd to action and the Wisconsin Conservationist story tells how all 500 people present joined! At this time the Fond du Lac, Milwaukee and Stevens Point Chapters already had been organized and the drive was destined to move forward to include more than 100 chapters and over 12,000 members. Fred W. Luening, who joined the Milwaukee Journal staff this year--as also did Russell G. Lynch--became very active in the League and promoted their good work through his "On, Wisconsin" columns. During these first years the League concentrated on statewide support from all groups for worthy causes such as pollution control, establishment of the national forests in Wisconsin and protection of Conservation Commission revenues from misuse and diversion for other purposes. Promotion of preservation for the Winnishiek Bottoms was realized in 1924 when Congress established the Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge. However, their most significant accomplishments were to come in the next decade.

One of the most important landmarks in 1917 was transfer of power from the Legislature to the Conservation Commission for the closing of seasons if found necessary. This was a first little step toward setting of all seasons by the Commission, which came about 16 years later. Another significant sign of the groundswell of public opinion in favor of conservation was the two-to-one referendum vote favoring a constitutional amendment to permit a state forestry

program. Support also was given to establishment of National Forests with a half-million acre maximum limitation set by 1925. This same year the Legislature set up an interagency Committee on stream pollution with the "generous" appropriation of \$10,000 for the job. Also, that year the Governor vetoed the Conservation Commission's budget and the stage was set for a battle to segregate the fish and game funds.

Two moves were made toward popular support for conservation at this time: establishment of The Wisconsin Conservationist magazine published by the Conservation Commission from 1919 through 1922 and the start of a Science Inquiry Series by the University of Wisconsin at the request of President Glenn Frank. This series pulled together knowledgeable professors and scientists for an inventory of present problems and the need for solutions. It is significant that they included soil erosion, forestry, water, game management and related social problems. Dr. Harry Steenbock was one of the group which created this series outline about the same time as he was the catalytic force in organization of the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation.

In 1922 Professor Birge published his report on "The Plankton of Lakes" and Charles E. Brown used the Wisconsin Conservationist for his thoughts on "Preservation of Natural Conditions." But it was Whitnall's article a year earlier which was pioneering in the field of zoning of waterways. He called his article "Milwaukee's Memorial" and said, "Environmental influences control all life development--they determine where the brook trout shall swim; where the whip-poor-will shall sing; where the violets shall perfume the atmosphere. In Milwaukee, they are the hindrance to a higher mental and physical development of many, and determine--which of us shall end our career in hospitals for incurables--or, in prison....One of the most vital factors in landscape architecture for beauty (health) is the conserving of our natural water courses--they should never be fenced in as private property. They are a common inheritance." What is most exciting is that he largely accomplished this dream.

At the very beginning of the seventh decade in 1927, the Legislature enacted a "Conservation Act" establishing the Wisconsin Conservation Commission in its present basic form as worked out by Bill Aberg, Frank Graass, Aldo Leopold and others. Also, that same year, the Forest Crop Tax Law was passed and voters again ratified the forestry amendment to the state constitution. The Legislature created the State Committee on Water Pollution and the State Board of Health published its first extensive report on "Stream Pollution in Wisconsin." Further, the Legislature passed a bill for building a dam on the Rock River at Horicon, strengthened forest fire control so districts could be established and set the stage for creation of the Kettle Moraine State Forest.

The fact is that the decade through 1936 was of such significance that it properly could be called the golden age of conservation in Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Chapter of the IWLA was so active that they published an Official Yearbook and the President of the University of Wisconsin, Glenn Frank, set out the goals with his well-turned phrases: "We have been little more than salesmen of our resources. We must become statesmen of our resources. This is a real conservation, and it involves a sweeping reform of the national mind as well as reforestation of denuded areas." Such statesmen were to be found in the new Chairman of the fledgling Conservation Commission, William Mauthe of Fond du Lac, in the President of the IWLA, Attorney William Aberg of Madison, and in the first occupant of the Chair of Game Management, Professor Aldo Leopold of Madison. And there were many other dedicated individuals who helped.

The front cover of the Milwaukee Chapter's Yearbook spelled out their goal in large type "On Wisconsin--Green Trees and Blue Waters Forever."

This was the time of innovation, for more than 100 Civilian Conservation Camps were started to furnish employment to men and boys thrown out of work by the great depression. A look at the lists of top conservationists during this past century would show a fair percentage were active leaders in this period when large crews were put to work daily in the fields, forests and waters in the name of conservation. Such men as Otis Bersing and Sid Gordon supervised lake and stream improvement, improvising new methods and writing the book as they went along. The same can be said of the many soil conservation and forestry camps with their previously unheard of structures, deer drives, and deer exclosures. The "Erosion Handbook for CCC" by Professor E. R. Jones deserves special mention. Many a man since has returned to the nostalgic scene where he planted the trees, put out the forest fire, or found the fawn deer in the thick brush.

This also was the time when Assemblyman Frank Graess worked hardest for conservation in the Legislature--and for the IWLA State Division of which he was Secretary-Treasurer. There were several hundred conservation bills in each session and many of them were for different kinds of season regulations. In 1933 the Legislature threw in the sponge and asked the Conservation Commission to take on this difficult task of setting seasons on fish and game. Under the guidance of H. W. MacKenzie, Ernest Swift and William Grimmer, a system of county advisory committees eventually developed into the Wisconsin Conservation Congress--the only group of citizens in the nation elected for this purpose in the name of good management of natural resources. I realize that's putting it pretty strong when their primary function is the setting of seasons, but a careful study will reveal they also have had study committees on basic problems and fought battles--many times informally and separately--to prevent water pollution or diversion, urge good forest management and support conservation education programs.

In the field of conservation education there was a great wave of support led by Mrs. Wilhelmina LaBudde with the complete backing of the Wisconsin Federation of Women's Clubs, the Wisconsin Garden Club Federation, and many other civic groups like the Kiwanis Clubs, so that the Legislature was forced to pass a law requiring the teaching of conservation of natural resources in the schools. Although it was said that such laws would not alone assure the job to be done, surely here will be found the beginning inspiration and support for such programs as Wakelin McNeil's Junior Rangers, Fred Trenk's Forestry Extension, Trees for Tomorrow, the Audubon Camp, school forests and camping--and many new teaching guides prepared by curriculum experts. At this time, Walter Rowlands and others were pioneering in the first educational efforts for rural county zoning. In 1936, E. M. Dahlberg of Ladysmith, who also was Secretary of the Conservation Commission and a teacher, published the first edition of his text on the "Conservation of Renewable Resources." He credits help in preparation from both H. J. Parmley, chairman of the Faculty Conservation Committee of Boy's Technical High School in Milwaukee as well as from another teacher from there, S. W. Strothman. Other pioneers included W. T. Calhoun, I. O. Hembre, Roy S. Ihlenfeldt and Fred Schmeackle. The Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin published its first issue in mimeographed form in 1936 and it is still going strong to almost 100,000 addresses each two months over 30 years later! In addition, Fred Luening, in cooperation with the Milwaukee Journal, published his seven "Conservation Essays" in 1930--aimed at a national audience and far ahead of the crowd.

So many new programs began in this period that my time will not allow for details. Over thirty landmark dates are on the appended list which is available for distribution, and not the least of these were the first comprehensive plans for resource use and conservation. Also available are copies of a tape recording secured from Bill Aberg several years ago in which he tells his experiences in setting up the new Conservation Commission in cooperation with Frank Graass and Aldo Leopold, work with the IWLA fighting for legislation and funds for conservation work, the battle for Horicon Marsh restoration led by Louis "Curly" Radke, and many other experiences including some political machinations which are not new to conservation matters. Bill Aberg worked closely with J. N. "Ding" Darling in setting up the National Wildlife Federation and was a founder of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation at the close of this decade. A favorite quotation from "Ding" Darling bears repeating here: "The trouble with conservation is the Democrats and the Republicans." Spelled out clearly, he simply meant that partisan politics had no place in decisions for wise management of natural resources.

Not to mention the first Commercial Forestry Conference held in Milwaukee in 1928 would be near to sacrilege, for it recognized the multiple uses of forests and the great stake Wisconsin's forest-based industries had in this resource. Everyone of importance was on the program and again the Milwaukee Journal played not only a publicity role, but also aided in the conference planning. Mastermind and hardest worker of all was D. C. Everest of the Marathon Corporation, whose total contribution to Wisconsin conservation programs--and especially those related to forestry--may never be fully known. It is said he could pick up the telephone and secure financial support for worthy projects from many sources in no time at all. He was a real leader in the conservation movement and a firm supporter for the State Historical Society's work as well.

Probably the highlight of the eighth decade was passage of the Pittman-Robertson Act producing financial aid to wildlife management, research and land acquisition. These were the federal funds eventually used to purchase land in Horicon Marsh which later was flooded. This also resulted in establishment of the extensive Conservation Commission projects for deer, pheasant, grouse and waterfowl research led by Feeney, Buss, Grange and Zimmerman. Not so incidentally, it also won me a raise in salary as I was given the job of supervising this research work but refused to accept unless I at least was paid as much as the men I was to supervise! Substantial published reports from all of these projects now are available, and in revised form all still are being pursued.

Another highlight of great significance was raising of the Forestry Mill tax to its maximum 2/10ths and earmarking a substantial amount for purchasing lands in the southeastern Wisconsin Kettle Moraine. Today these properties are worth many times what they cost in 1937 and only such farsighted planning could have saved the day for this great outdoor recreation and open space program to take care of the Metropolitan Milwaukee area. The first Soil Conservation Districts were established at this time in an extensive grass roots program sponsored by the U. S. Soil Conservation Service.

The most important development of the ninth decade was the Namekagon Supreme Court case settled in favor of preserving public rights in navigable waters in an historic decision written by Justice George Currie. IWLA Pres. V. J. Muench, with extensive aid from Attorney A. D. Sutherland, Assistant Attorney General Roy Tulane and Wisconsin Conservation Department personnel, played a major role in this battle. The Federal Power Commission supported this decision to protect

wild river scenic beauty the following year. Also the Natural Resources Committee of State Agencies was formed at the insistence of the Wisconsin Federation of Conservation Clubs and other groups anxious for better coordination in conservation matters. This was the time when members of the Citizens Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin and others fought for a wilderness core along the river in the Flambeau River State Forest, and Mrs. F. L. Larkin of Milwaukee collected thousands of dollars to see that the Wisconsin Audubon Camp was established at Sarona. The gift of 300 acres of land for this purpose from Frances Andrews of Minnesota deserves mention here.

Probably it is well that less is said about the most recent years such as the final decade, as most of those listening have lived through these times and are aware of the tremendous problems caused by increasing populations and new uses for our natural resources. Also, there have been some substantial legislative changes such as the formation of the Department of Resource Development and its recent reconstitution to include most all programs for water quality, control and enhancement.

Most encouraging in this period is the rapid growth of enthusiasm in such groups as the John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Wisconsin Nature Conservancy and reawakening of the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation and State Division of the IWLA. In fact, this latter group will host their national convention in Milwaukee this summer and much of importance will be discussed.

Specifically, the rising tide of support for preservation of unspoiled natural areas and wild rivers for which Paul Olson and Joe Mills deserve mention respectively, gives the hope that Wisconsin will retain some of these amenities for the future.

In this last decade, and by way of conclusion, reference must be made to the wonderful results achieved with funds from the 1961 Outdoor Recreation Act Program (ORAP) based on Governor Gaylord A. Nelson's proposal of a 1¢ tax on each pack of cigarettes. A 45th report published by the Conservation Department last month reveals that 1,874 parcels of land have been acquired by them with these funds--including 367 conservation easements. Approximately 137,000 acres of land costing about 13 1/2 million dollars was purchased, but most important of all was the 580 miles of frontage on lakes and streams--counting both sides of the streams. In addition, these funds built several youth camps, tourist information centers, recreational lakes in southwestern Wisconsin, access to public waters and assured more scenic beauty along our state highways. All that is needed now--and urgently--is at least a doubling of these funds to step up the speed of this program and improve its effectiveness.

One of the most deserving recognitions for a century of conservation reporting and communications went to the Milwaukee Journal recently when they received the Pulitzer Prize for their series on water pollution in Wisconsin. Over the years they have carried the torch from the top editorial staff right down to the individual reporters, and such men as Fred Luening, Russ Lynch, John Baker, Gordon MacQuarrie and the late Lindsay Hoben are still remembered affectionately by many here today.

Back in 1948 when Wisconsin celebrated its Centennial of Statehood, a conference was called to talk about natural resources and Dr. A. W. Schorger produced a beautiful booklet called "A Tribute to Wisconsin Conservation Leaders."

It contained essays about Lapham, Van Hise, Wehrwein and Leopold, and I have chosen to close my presentation with the final paragraph of his tribute to Aldo:

"No great social movement of lasting effect can arise which does not appeal to the emotions. No leader realized better than Aldo Leopold that success in conservation would not come until a genuine love and appreciation of nature was developed in the hearts of the people. This consummation reposed at the end of a tortuous and stony trail but the result would be consonant with the effort."

Wisconsin Conservation Department

May 11, 1967

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A CENTURY OF WISCONSIN CONSERVATION: 100 Landmark Dates
Prepared by Walter E. Scott
(Preliminary draft appendix to paper for
Conservation Centennial Symposium, May 6, 1967)

1867 - 1876

1. 1867 - Legislature established first Forestry Commission (Lapham, Crocker, and Knapp) and published their report.
2. 1868 - Legislature passes act authorizing "bounties" in the form of tax exemptions for tree planting on farms.
3. 1870 - Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters chartered by the Legislature.
4. 1871 - Disastrous "Peshtigo Fire", with action by the Legislature the following year outlawing the burning of marshes, fields and woodlots during certain prescribed seasons.
5. 1872 - First fish propagation by state (California Mountain Trout) in private ponds and liberation in Lake Geneva and Madison lakes. This same year Dr. P. R. Hoy published research on "The Deep Water Fauna of Lake Michigan" and F. H. King started work on his "Economic Relations of Wisconsin Birds" (published in 1879).
6. 1874 - First State Fish Commission appointed by Governor and their annual report published in which reference is made to a "state association for the preservation of game" with R. H. Strong of Baraboo, its President.
7. 1875 - Edward A. Birge joins staff of University of Wisconsin and Increase Lapham dies while fishing - and after completing first hydrographic and aquatic research of Oconomowoc and nearby lakes in Waukesha County.
8. 1876 - First state fish hatchery established at Madison and Thure Kumlien publishes his article "On the Rapid Disappearance of Wisconsin Wild Flowers". Also, State Board of Health given responsibility over water supply and disposal for municipalities.

1877 - 1886

9. 1877 - Legislature enacts law to protect "Wild Pigeon" nests and roosting areas.
10. 1878 - Legislature establishes 50,000-acre "Northern State Park" in Vilas County vicinity and Birge's first paper on aquatic life.
11. 1879 - T. C. Chamberlain publishes "Soils and Subsoils of Wisconsin" with atlas plates in the Geology of Wisconsin.
12. 1882 - Lucius W. Nieman founded the Milwaukee Journal, vital to conservation communications. N. W. Agr. Expt. Station started following year.
13. 1885 - Three "fish wardens" appointed to watch over Great Lakes fisheries and Dr. Hoy published "Man's Influence on the Avifauna of Southeastern Wisconsin".

1887 - 1896

14. 1887 - Legislature empowers Governor to appoint several game wardens to enforce fishing and hunting laws, \$600.00 annual salary plus \$250.00 maximum expenses. Secretary of State published first compilation of game laws.
15. 1889 - Professor William Trelease published article on the "Working" of the Madison Lakes (algae problems!)
16. 1890 - Office of Chief Fish and Game Warden established by Legislature.
17. 1893 - Professor J. J. Blaisdell of Beloit College delivered talk to the Wisconsin Horticultural Society urging the organization of a Wisconsin Forestry Association.
18. 1894 - Henry C. Campbell joined the Milwaukee Journal staff as an editor and he played a significant role over many years. This year also F. H. King published pioneering University of Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station report on "Wind Erosion in Wisconsin."
19. 1895 - Legislature established Commission for Interstate Park on Dalles of the St. Croix and Chief Clerk of the State Land Office made ex officio State Fire Warden in charge of Town Fire Wardens (Phillips Fire was the previous year).

1897 - 1906

20. 1897 - First hunting licenses required of all deer hunters, Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey organized and second Forestry Commission established by the Legislature.
21. 1898 - Filbert Roth's report on "Forestry Conditions of Northern Wisconsin" made as well as report of the State Forestry Commission. Also, the State Supreme Court ruled in favor of the public for fishing in navigable waters: "Willow River Club vs. Wade".
22. 1899 - Wisconsin Natural History Society formed with central focus at the Milwaukee Public Museum.
23. 1900 - First park land acquisition by state at Dalles of the St. Croix.
24. 1903 - Legislature set aside a 40,000-acre "forest reserve" in three northern counties and established a state Department of Forestry, E. M. Griffith (first state forester) appointed the following year. Also, this was the first year the barter or sale of game birds and venison was prohibited.
25. 1905 - State Board of Forestry established with Charles Van Hise as Chairman and 194,000 acres more added to the forest reserve this year plus first money from the State General Fund for forestry - \$10,000. Forester Griffith attended the first American Forestry Congress and returned with enthusiastic plans.
26. 1906 - Professor Birge (member of State Fish Commission) presented a paper to the American Fisheries Society "On the Oxygen Dissolved in the Waters of Wisconsin Lakes".

1907 - 1916

27. 1907 - First State Park Board established by Legislature and gift of 2,840 acres for Brule River State Forest from Frederick Weyerhaeuser in liquidating Nebagamon Lumber Co. Also, Wisconsin Valley Improvement Co., Incorporated, and Professors Birge and Juday published "Inland Lakes of Wisconsin."
28. 1908 - Governor James O. Davidson appoints first Conservation Commission on return from Washington D.C. "Conference of Governors" at which he spoke, as well as Professors Chamberlain (on soil erosion) and Van Hise.
29. 1909 - First State Park Commission submits John Nolen's classic report on "State Parks for Wisconsin", recommending Devil's Lake, Peninsula, Wyalusing and other areas.
30. 1910 - Senators Paul O. Husting and Henry Krumery submit significant minority report for protection of public rights as a result of hearings by Special Legislative Committee on Water Powers, Forestry and Drainage. U. S. Forest Products Laboratory established in Madison and Professor Van Hise's book on "The Conservation of Natural Resources in the United States" published.
31. 1911 - First state forest ranger school and tree nursery started at Trout Lake and first forest planting nearby (with purchased stock). Also Oneida County starts first "county agent" program. State Board of Forestry published reports on taxation of forest lands, headwaters storage reservoirs and wood-using industries in Wisconsin.
32. 1912 - Over 600 islands in northern Wisconsin lakes given to state by the federal government and forestry headquarters built at Trout Lake in addition to several fire lookout towers. Also, first game wardens' school held at Madison.
33. 1913 - First state game refuge program initiated in cooperation with private parties as well as on state land in Vilas County. John Muir published "The Story of My Boyhood and Youth." Legislature starts investigation of legality of forest reserve program.
34. 1914 - Conservation wardens begin educational work with schools, farmers' institutes and public meetings.
35. 1915 - Supreme Court holds state forest reserve policy unconstitutional and Forester Griffith leaves Wisconsin. Legislature established a new working Conservation Commission which pulls together all other boards and commissions covering parks, forests, fish, game and law enforcement.
36. 1916 - First farm bulletin on soil erosion by Professors Whitson and Dunnewald, "Keep Our Hillside from Washing". Col. Gustav Pabst makes first successful pheasant stocking in Waukesha County.

1917 - 1926

37. 1917 - Conservation Commission given first regulatory powers to close seasons if necessary. Legislature made it illegal to throw any manufacturing refuse or any substance harmful to fish life into streams and a group led by Judge Asa K. Owen urged establishment of a "Northern Lakes Park" on the Flambeau River.
38. 1918 - Passage of the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This year was important to control illegal traffic in waterfowl.
39. 1919 - Conservation Department began publication of The Wisconsin Conservationist.
40. 1920 - Conservation front page "editorials" started in the Milwaukee Journal, "On Wisconsin" column. Also, "Friends of Our Native Landscape" organized. (Jens Jensen). League of Women Voters organized.
41. 1921 - Milwaukee's C. B. Whitnall published an article on zoning of watercourses for parkways in the Wisconsin Conservationist. Wisconsin Forestry Association, founded to support a progressive forestry program.
42. 1922 - Izaak Walton League of America founded and Wisconsin Division started at Appleton meeting on June 4, with 500 present and "everyone joined." First chapters at Fond du Lac, Milwaukee and Stevens Point. Both Fred W. Luening and Russell G. Lynch joined the Milwaukee Journal staff this year.
43. 1924 - Public votes 2 to 1 in referendum favoring constitutional amendment to permit a state forestry program and federal aid for forest fire control expanded. Congress established the Upper Mississippi Wildlife and Fish Refuge and Aldo Leopold came to Madison as Associate Director of Forest Products Laboratory.
44. 1925 - Legislature passed initial act to permit establishment of National Forests in Wisconsin. Also established this year: Northern Highlands State Forest, Trout Lake Limnological Laboratory and Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation with Professor Harry Steenbock's assistance. Legislature created committee on stream pollution with \$10,000 budget.
45. 1926 - Milwaukee Chapter IWLA purchased Moon Lake Refuge in Fond du Lac County which later became the nucleus of the Kettle Moraine State Forest.

1927 - 1936

46. 1927 - Legislature enacted "Conservation Act" establishing The Wisconsin Conservation Commission in its present basic form as worked out by . . . W. J. P. Aberg, Frank Graess, Aldo Leopold and others.
47. 1927 - Forest Crop Tax Law also passed and voters again ratified the forestry amendment to the state constitution.
48. 1927 - Legislature created the State Committee on Water Pollution and the State Board of Health published its first extensive report on "Stream Pollution in Wisconsin".

49. 1927 - Legislature also passed bill for building a dam on the Rock River at Horicon, strengthened forest fire control so districts could be established and set the stage for creation of the Kettle Moraine State Forest.
50. 1927 - First Land Economic Survey (Bayfield County), Woodsman's Short Course at University of Wisconsin and Information and Education Division in Wisconsin Conservation Department.
51. 1928 - First Commercial Forestry Conference held in Milwaukee was very successful and Proceedings published the same year.
52. 1928 - Conservation Commission established first game "Research Bureau" with primary work on prairie grouse and Wallace Grange proposed a five year program of game research. Wisconsin Conservation Department begins first state game farm (in Door County) and starts publishing mimeographed Monthly Survey.
53. 1928 - State Board of Health published its first "Wisconsin Lake and Stream Shore Platting Code".
54. 1929 - Legislature broadened county zoning law to authorize rural zoning for forestry, recreation and agriculture.
55. 1929 - Forestry Mill Tax Law passed by Legislature for 1/20th mill. It was related to report of Interim Committee on Forestry and Public Lands which also recommended improved forest protection laws and authority for counties to engage in forestry.
56. 1929 - First legislation requiring Public Service Commission to consider scenic beauty values in permits for hydropower dams, and first publication of series of reports on the "Flora of Wisconsin", first quail research fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, first conservation work by State Federation of Women's Clubs, first county forest established (Marinette) and establishment of U. S. Forest Service Lake States Regional Headquarters at Milwaukee.
- * 57. 1930 - Other landmark publications this year included: Dr. Alfred O. Gross' "Progress Report of the Wisconsin Prairie Chicken Investigation", Fred W. Luening's seven "Conservation Essays" (with cooperation of the Milwaukee Journal), C. B. Whitnall's "Open Letters" urging a Milwaukee County river parkways program and "Soil Erosion - A Local and National Problem" by Professors Zeasman and Bates.
58. 1931 - First state Regional Planning Committee formed for zoning of river valleys, University of Wisconsin purchased a farm near La Crosse for soil conservation research work; and Legislature gave Conservation Commission right to regulate seasons on upland game birds.
59. 1931 - Both Leopold's "Game Survey of the North Central States" and Professor N. C. Fassett's "Spring Flora of Wisconsin" published as well as a second progress report of the State Committee on Water Pollution and Professor O. R. Zeasman's leaflet, "Control Soil Erosion by Crops, Terraces and Dams."
60. 1931 - Milwaukee Journal leads fight over cutting of timber by Land Commission in Flambeau River State Forest established the previous year. (See also addenda at end)

61. 1932 - First University of Wisconsin (Madison) Arboretum Committee appointed by President Glenn Frank and both Brule River State Forest and Griffith State Nursery (Wisconsin Rapids) established.
62. 1932 - Important publications included Lawrence Martins' "Physical Geography of Wisconsin", F. G. Wilson's "Wisconsin County Forest Program" and George S. Wehrwein's "Recreation as a Land Use".
63. 1933 - Emergency Conservation Camps (later called CCC) were established and federal Soil Erosion Service (later called SCS) was formed. Wisconsin's Coon Valley Soil Conservation project started - one of first in nation.
64. 1933 - Legislature gave Conservation Commission authority to regulate seasons on all fish and game. First "County Hearings" held on game only throughout state but also expanded to statewide hearing and foundations of elected "Conservation Congress" the following year.
65. 1933 - Resident rod and reel fishing license required and State Game Farm moved to Poynette.
66. 1933 - Aldo Leopold appointed to Chair of Game Management established by WARF for a five year period and his book on "Game Management" published.
67. 1933 - Other important publications included Albert Fuller's, "Orchids of Wisconsin," Walter A. Rowland's "County Zoning for Agriculture, Forestry and Recreation in Wisconsin" and E. R. Jones' "Erosion Handbook for CCC." (See also addenda)
68. 1934 - First comprehensive Wisconsin state planning report produced with all agencies cooperating on a "Regional Planning Committee" appointed by the Governor. Also, first John Bordner "Land Economic Inventory" report produced with interagency committee assisting. (See addenda)
69. 1934 - Federal Duck Stamp Act passed and because of drought, relief program builds about 300 drainage control and flood control structures in Central and Northern Wisconsin.
70. 1934 - During these CCC days large crews were available (also WPA) for deer drives, fire fighting and soil erosion control, but also under leadership of Otis S. Bersing supervising lake and stream improvement in the north, some of first work was done on establishing benchmarks, hydrographic mapping installation of lake and stream fish structures and streamside tree and shrub planting.
71. 1934 - E. J. Vanderwall was appointed Chief Forest Fire Warden and significant improvement was made in equipment, program and organization with help of Ralph Immell and others.
72. 1935 - Legislature orders the teaching of "Conservation of resources in schools" and two important regional conferences are held: Lake States Conservation Conference (Madison) and Midwest Wildlife Conference (Urbana, Ill.)
73. 1935 - "Firsts" included statewide forest inventory, legal diversion of "surplus water", bow and arrow deer season, approval of locks and dams on upper Mississippi River by Congress and WPA work projects on many Wisconsin Conservation Department buildings. Deer starvation found prevalent and Save Wisconsin Deer begins publication.

74. 1936 - Both national and Wisconsin Wildlife Federation founded with two new State publications starting: The Wisconsin Sportsman and Wisconsin Outdoors. Gordon MacQuarrie started work with Milwaukee Journal and began special column and Sunday outdoors page. Also, Wisconsin Conservation Bulletin started publishing.
75. 1936 - Horicon Marsh battle has been raging over closing of dam and this year Supreme Court rules state must purchase the lands before flooding. Milwaukee Chapter IWLA "gives" Moon Lake (now Mauthe Lake) property in Kettle Moraine to state for \$10,000.
76. 1936 - University of Wisconsin Science Inquiry started by President Glenn Frank with subsequent separate publications on University of Wisconsin and erosion, forestry, waters and wildlife.
77. 1936 - Wisconsin State Planning Board reports include "A Conservation and Recreational Plan for Southeastern Wisconsin" and the first University of Wisconsin bulletin on "Rural Zoning Ordinances in Wisconsin", was published.

1937 - 1946

78. 1937 - Public Service Commission for first time refused a permit to erect a hydrodam on the grounds that it would destroy part of the beauty of a waterfall on Potato River in Ashland and Iron Counties.
79. 1937 - Federal bills affecting the state included passage of three acts: Pittman - Robertson (Wildlife aid), Soil Conservation Districts Aid and Cooperative Farm Forestry Aid. State legislation raised forestry mill tax two-tenths with money earmarked for Kettle Moraine land acquisition, establishment of Water Regulatory Board and the Voluntary Sportsmen's License.
80. 1938 - First Soil Conservation District established on Beaver Creek Watershed in Trempealeau County, first public hunting ground leased by Wisconsin Conservation Department and informal interagency committee formed by Executive order on algae and weed control in lakes.
81. 1938 - Wisconsin Wildlife magazine launched by the Wisconsin Wildlife Federation with broadly based support from many groups including Statewide Federation of Women's Clubs and Garden Club Federation.
82. 1939 - Wisconsin Society for Ornithology organized and began publishing The Passenger Pigeon. Also, Necedah National Wildlife Refuge established and first "Inventory of Northern Wisconsin Lakes" published by Land Economic Inventory of State Planning Board.
83. 1940 - Wisconsin Conservation Department begins purchasing Horicon Marsh lands with Pittman - Robertson funds and Wildlife research projects on deer, pheasants, grouse and waterfowl begun by Wisconsin Conservation Department. Horicon Natural Wildlife Refuge established the following year.
84. 1944 - Trees for Tomorrow, Inc., organized and first full scale use of Professor Fred Trenk's tree planting machine. The Badger Sportsman becomes new name for "Save Wisconsin Deer" publication.

1947 - 1956

85. 1947 - Important articles and publications include Leopold's "Ecological Conscience," Fassett's "Natural Areas Preservation," Albert Fuller's "Saving Wisconsin Wild Flowers" and Ed Hein's popular series on "Outdoor Housekeeping" explaining Wisconsin Conservation Department research and management programs.
86. 1948 - Conservation Commission begins a continuing "Rivers Survey Project". Also first federal water pollution control act with aids to states.
87. 1949 - Wisconsin Federation of Conservation Clubs organized by Leslie Woerpel and two years later they began publishing The Wisconsin Conservationist at the same time a Natural Resources Committee (of State Agencies) was established with their encouragement.
88. 1950 - Citizen's Natural Resources Association of Wisconsin organized and Dingell-Johnson's Act (for federal aid to fisheries) started. Significantly John Curtis published his "Vegetation of Wisconsin" the following year when the State Board for Preservation of Scientific Areas was created by the Legislature.
89. 1952 - Namekagon Supreme Court case settled in favor of preserving public rights in navigable waters in historic decision written by Justice George Currie. Izaak Walton League President Virgil J. Muench, with extensive aid from Attorney A. D. Sutherland, Assistant Attorney General Roy Tulane and Wisconsin Conservation Department personnel, played a major role in this battle. The Federal Power Commission supported this decision to protect wild river scenic beauty the following year.
90. 1953 - Wisconsin's Silver Anniversary Forestry Conference was held at Milwaukee with strong support for good forest management. Conservation Commission adopts a "Wilderness core" policy for managing the Flambeau River State Forest after considerable public support and a four-agency state and federal agreement signed for better community watershed management. Significantly, the federal small watershed protection act was passed the next year.
91. 1955 - Wisconsin Audubon Camp established at Sarona in Washburn County.
- X 92. 1956 - Besides publication of "Ideal Goals" by Conservation Department, several important publications included James Larsen's "Wisconsin's Renewable Resources", The NRCSA report on "Natural Resources of Wisconsin", and two Wisconsin Conservation Department books on "A Century of Wisconsin Deer" and "The White-tailed Deer in Wisconsin".

1957 - 1966

93. 1957 - Proceedings were published from a significant conference at Madison on "Water Management in Soil Conservation Districts". There was concern and some controversy over water rights and especially rights to divert surface waters for agricultural irrigation. The Conservation Commission adopted its "Policy on the Protection, Development and Use of Water."

94. 1958 - Prairie Chicken Foundation of the Dane County Conservation League with the leadership of Paul Olson started to aid management program at Buena-Vista Marsh and since then, with help of Willis Sullivan's Society of Tympanuchus a total of over \$300,000 has been contributed for land purchases. The Conservation Department's new series of Technical Bulletins started this year with Donald R. Thompson's "Field Techniques for Sexing and Aging Game Animals".
95. 1959 - Conservation Department given responsibility by Legislature to start an inventory of surface waters and related problems. The Nekoosa - Edwards Case decided by Supreme Court clarified question of water diversion and public rights in navigable waters.
96. 1960 - Natural Resources History Project started jointly by State Historical Society and Conservation Department to include all agencies and resources. Forest Products Laboratory Golden Anniversary. Wisconsin Chapter of Nature Conservancy formed this year - they have purchased lands valued at about one-quarter million dollars since that time. Also, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission created.
97. 1961 - Outdoor Recreation Act Program (ORAP) created by Legislature with funds from 1 cent per pack of cigarettes as proposed by Governor Gaylord A. Nelson. Department of Resource Development created to do statewide planning of all activities including outdoor recreation and natural resources use. Also, Wisconsin Resource Conservation Council formed a "People's Lobby".
98. 1963 - University of Wisconsin Water Resources Committee formed and establishment of a Water Resources Center recommended, Wisconsin's historic place in water and aquatic life research detailed in "North American Limnology" edited by Wisconsinite David G. Frey.
99. 1964 - Wisconsin's John Muir Chapter of the Sierra Club and IWLA promote a Wild Rivers Conference at Madison and spearhead the state's interest and work in this field.
100. 1965 - Legislature established a reconstituted Department of Resources Development by passage of "Water Quality Resources Act" which transferred duties of the State Committee on Water Pollution. The Public Service Commission (after July, 1967) and the State Board of Health to them as well as creating new powers in waterway zoning pollution control planning and coordination. In future years the quality of our environment will depend much upon both new technology and the reduction of population growth rates.

Addenda

- (1) 1931 - Fred M. Wylie, Deputy Attorney General of Wisconsin at the request of the Wisconsin Legislative Committee on Forest Fires and Delinquent Taxes wrote his now famous opinion on the Constitutionality of Rural Zoning Ordinances, Section 59.97 of the Wisconsin Statutes as amended in 1929.

- (2) May 16, 1933 - The first comprehensive County Zoning Ordinance was enacted by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors under Section 59.97 of the Wisconsin Statutes as amended.
- (3) August 1, 1934 - L. G. Sorden was selected as Project Manager for the Northern Wisconsin Isolated Settler Relocation Project. Under this project some five hundred isolated settlers and their families (non-conforming users of land) located in the restricted forest and recreation use districts under County Zoning Ordinances were voluntarily relocated to better agricultural lands in established rural communities or to urban centers. This project resulted in direct financial savings to towns, counties and the state in school-road, public health and relief costs. Most important of all it brought new hope and new opportunities to the families involved. It also eliminated a serious fire hazard both to the settler and his family and to the forest. The Federal Government under Title III of the Jones Bankhead Farm Tenant Act provided half a million dollars to the state during the five-year period 1934 - 1939. No other state ever developed such a project.

Note: Recent years are not completely covered by any means and do not reflect such important developments as creation of the Wisconsin Council on Natural Beauty (1966) or the new coordinated University of Wisconsin Conservation Education Program (1966).

Wisconsin Conservation Department
Madison, Wisconsin 53701

A CENTURY OF CONSERVATIONISTS (One-Hundred Retired)

Selected by Walter E. Scott

(Prepared for appendix to paper for
Conservation Centennial Symposium, May 6, 1967)

1. Wm. J. P. Aberg
2. J. H. H. Alexander
3. John G. Baker
4. Ira L. Baldwin
5. W. D. Barnard
6. Otis Bersing
7. C. A. Bontly
8. George M. Briggs
9. C. W. Cartwright
10. Noble Clark
11. Melvin H. Cohee
12. Ralph C. Conway
13. H. T. J. Cramer
14. E. M. Dahlberg
15. William DeYoung
16. Walter H. Ebling
17. E. W. Erdlitz
18. Wm. S. Feeney
19. Henry Ford
20. E. B. Fred
21. Albert M. Fuller
22. Frank Graass
23. Wallace B. Grange
24. Robert A. Gray
25. Owen J. Gromme
26. George S. Hadland
27. Edward N. Hein
28. I. O. Hembre
29. Edwin Hill
30. Douglas Hunt
31. Ralph Immell
32. Joseph W. Jackson
33. Dr. M. L. Jones
34. Thomas M. Kelly
35. Geo. F. Kilp
36. Lyle Kingston
37. Harry Klemme
38. T. F. Kouba
39. Mrs. F. L. Larkin
40. Robert E. Lee
41. Louis W. Lembcke
42. Mrs. Aldo Leopold
43. G. William Longenecker
44. Russell C. Lynch
45. H. W. MacKenzie
46. Stuart B. McCoy
47. Harley T. McKeague
48. Joe Mills
49. N. E. Minshall
50. Arthur M. Molstad
51. Wm. Morris
52. Lew Morrison
53. O. J. Muegge
54. Virgil J. Muench
55. M. Starr Nichols
56. Harry Nohr
57. Lowell E. Noland
58. John W. Ockerman
59. Wm. A. Ozburn
60. Dr. Otto V. Pawlisch
61. Alvin M. Peterson
62. Miss Pearl Pohl
63. Alonzo W. Pond
64. Russell Pyre
65. Fred B. Reber
66. Warren H. Resh
67. Dr. J. A. Riegel
68. A. J. Riker
69. Paul Romig
70. Walter A. Rowlands
71. Phil H. Sander
72. Fred L. Schmeeckle
73. Mrs. Max Schmitt
74. Dr. Hugo Schneiders
75. A. W. Schorger
76. Clarence Searles
77. Leonard Seyberth
78. Charles F. Smith
79. L. G. Sorden
80. Harry Steenbock
81. Geo. P. Steinmetz
82. William Stemmler
83. Newell O. Stephenson
84. Truman E. Stone
85. Webster H. Stone
86. A. D. Sutherland
87. Milo K. Swanton
88. Ernest F. Swift
89. Alvin L. Throne
90. Miss Emma Toft
91. Fred Trenk
92. Harvey A. Uber
93. E. J. Vanderwall
94. Carl Welby
95. Russell Williams
96. Fred G. Wilson
97. Harold C. Wilson
98. Leslie Woerpel
99. Earl G. Wright
100. O. R. Zeasman

A CENTURY OF CONSERVATIONISTS (One-Hundred Deceased)

Selected by Walter E. Scott

(Prepared for appendix to paper for
Conservation Centennial Symposium, May 6, 1967)

1. C. M. Baker
2. Joseph Stannard Baker
3. W. E. Barber
4. Eloy T. Baxter
5. Ernest F. Bean
6. Folke Becker
7. Edward Asahel Birge
8. George Blanchard
9. John S. Bordner
10. Thomas Evans Brittingham
11. Charles E. Broughton
12. Charles E. Brown
13. Edward L. Browne
14. Ernest Brunken
15. Edwin Eustace Bryant
16. George B. Burrows
17. W. T. Calhoun
18. Henry Colin Campbell
19. T. C. Chamberlain
20. E. L. Chambers
21. Leon Jacob Cole
22. James Corcoran
23. Hans Crocker
24. John T. Curtis
25. James O. Davidson
26. Barney Devine
27. John S. Donald
28. Lyman Copeland Draper
29. James T. Ellarson
30. Peter Engelmann
31. D. C. Everest
32. Norman Carter Fassett
33. Louis C. French
34. E. M. Gilbert
35. R. B. Goodman
36. Sid W. Gordon
37. E. M. Griffith
38. W. F. Grimmer
39. C. L. Harrington
40. Louis M. Hobbins
41. Dr. P. R. Hoy
42. John W. Hoyt
43. Paul Husting
44. Roy S. Ihlenfeldt
45. Vico Isola
46. Jens Jensen
47. Chancey Juday
48. Adolph Kanneberg
49. Franklin H. King
50. Joseph G. Knapp
51. Ludwig Kumlien
52. Thure Kumlien
53. Dr. Victor Kutchin
54. Mrs. Wilhemina LaBudde
55. Philip La Follette
56. Robert M. La Follette, Sr.
57. Increase Allan Lapham
58. Paul A. Lawrence
59. Aldo Leopold
60. Fred Luening
61. Phil MacDonald
62. Wakelin MacNeil
63. Gordon MacQuarrie
64. John S. Main
65. W. H. Markham
66. Dwight Marsh
67. William Mauthe
68. Earl W. May
69. I. N. Mitchell
70. F. B. Moody
71. James Nevin
72. Lucius W. Nieman
73. Haskell Noyes, Sr.
74. Michael B. Olbrich
75. John M. Olin
76. Melvin J. Olson
77. Judge Asa K. Owen
78. Jay H. Price
79. Henry C. Putnam
80. Louis Radke
81. Henry R. Russell
82. Benjamin F. Rusy
83. Joseph Schaefer
84. Franklin J. Schmidt
85. Marvin Schweers
86. Charles S. Slichter
87. Clyde B. Terrell
88. E. W. Tinker
89. Martin Torkelson
90. Charles R. Van Hise
91. George Wagner
92. Jesse T. Walker
93. E. M. Weaver
94. George S. Wehrwein
95. Larry C. Whiffen
96. C. B. Whitnall
97. A. R. Whitson
98. C. P. Winslow
99. A. J. Wojta
100. Raymond T. Zillmer