



# FEDERAL ACTIONS



## Department of the Interior

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

#### TWO ASSISTANT DIRECTORS NAMED FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE:

Appointment of two Assistant Directors for the Fish and Wildlife Service was announced today by the Acting Secretary of the Interior.

Robert H. Johnson, presently Director of the Division of Fish and Game of the State of Massachusetts, has been named Assistant Director for Wildlife, a post long vacant.

Lester Bagley, Wyoming State Game and Fish Commissioner, has been appointed Assistant Director for Field Operations. He succeeds Ernest F. Swift who resigned in August.

In announcing the appointments, Acting Secretary Fred Aandahl said:

"Conservation and development of the Nation's fish and wildlife resources are a major responsibility of the Department of the Interior. The Department has initiated a number of long-range programs designed to assure wise use of these resources while affording them full protection for the future.

"The appointment of the two new Assistant Directors of the Fish and Wildlife Service--one from the Rocky Mountain region and one from the East Coast--will strengthen our vital conservation programs and give them impetus. Both men are highly experienced in this field."

A native of Massachusetts, Johnson has held his post there since February of 1948. For three years prior to that time he was a wildlife project leader for the Massachusetts Fish and Game Division. His earlier experience in this

field was as a wildlife technician for the State of Maine, prior to which he spent two years as a forestry foreman in New Hampshire for the United States Forest Service.

Johnson was educated at the University of Idaho and the University of Maine. He has a bachelor of science degree in forestry and a master of science degree in wildlife management. He is a member of the International Association of Game, Fish, and Conservation Commissioners.

Bagley's career in fish and wildlife work dates from 1919, when he became a Deputy Game Warden in Wyoming. He was State Game Warden from 1938 until 1944, and has been State Game and Fish Commissioner since the latter year. He was born in Idaho, and taught school in northwestern Wyoming before starting work in his present field.

Bagley studied education and engineering in Idaho and Utah, at the Fielding Academy in Idaho, and at Brigham Young and Utah State in Utah. He was in the Army Air Corps during World War I.

In addition to his position as Game and Fish Commissioner, Bagley also is a member of the Wyoming State Resources and Planning Board, the Water Pollution Board, and the State Park Board. He is a member of the Wildlife Society, the American Fisheries Society, the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners, the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners, and the National Wildlife Federation.

Bagley was President of the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners in 1942 and 1955, and of the International Association of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in 1947.

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#### NEW ASSISTANT TO FISH AND WILDLIFE DIRECTOR NAMED:

Secretary of the Interior Douglas McKay announced November 16 the appointment of Robert A. Wells, former secretary of the New York State Department of Conservation, as assistant to the director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

A newspaperman and conservation writer for 20 years before joining the New York Department of Conservation in 1946, Wells will advise and assist the Fish and Wildlife Service director in many phases of the activities necessary to a progressive program of fish and game development and conservation, Secretary McKay said.

Wells joined the staff of the Watertown, N. Y., Daily Times in 1926, and later became State editor of that newspaper.

He was one of the organizers of the Northeastern Waterfowl Association, which has been credited with effective work in the preservation of waterfowl in the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River region, Secretary McKay commented.

As secretary of the New York State agency, Wells was identified with a conservation organization regarded as one of the Nation's outstanding groups in this field. His duties with the State agency embraced all phases of conservation activity.



### Department of State

#### UNITED STATES TO PARTICIPATE IN TENTH SESSION OF THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO GATT:

The United States participated in the Tenth Session of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (the GATT) which began October 27 in Geneva, Switzerland, an October 20 news release from the U. S. Department of State reports.

The Tenth Session was expected to last about five weeks. There were consultations about the discriminatory import restrictions of five countries, the United Kingdom, Ceylon, Australia, New Zealand, and the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. The consultations included a broad examination of (1) the impact on trade of the restrictions in question and (2) the basis for their retention. During this review, the United States Delegation will have the opportunity to seek information regarding the operation of the import controls of these countries and to press for relaxation of those which appear to be unduly or unnecessarily severe.

The United States Delegation also intends to hold informal talks with the delegations of several other countries with a view to securing a relaxation of certain of their import controls adversely affecting American products.

Procedures are expected to be discussed for the next round of tariff negotiations among the GATT countries starting at Geneva in January. These procedures are expected to be substantially the same as those used during the previous tariff negotiations at Geneva, Annecy, and Torquay.

The Tenth Session is marked by the participation for the first time of Japan as a contracting party to the General Agreement. Japan's participation during the last two sessions was on a provisional basis. Adherence by Japan was voted by the GATT countries during the summer and became effective on September 10, 1955.



### Eighty-Fourth Congress (First Session)

Listed below are public bills and resolutions introduced and referred to committees or passed by the Eighty-Fourth Congress (First Session) and signed by the President that directly or indirectly affect the fisheries and allied industries.

Public bills and resolutions are shown in this section when introduced and, if passed, when signed by the President; but also shown from month to month are the more pertinent reports, hearings, or chamber actions on some bills.

RADIATION STERILIZATION OF FOODS: (Hearing Before the Subcommittee on Research and Development of the

Joint Committee on Atomic Energy), May 9, 1955, 84th Congress, 1st Session, 62 pp., printed. Contains biographical sketches of witnesses, statements by various Federal officials, and a list of exhibits. Among the many subjects discussed in the report with reference to the radiation sterilization of foods are chemical reactions in irradiated food, prospects for future, irradiation costs, nonsterilizing radiation applications on food, radiation of frozen food, extension of refrigerated shelf life, test diet on human beings, and vitamin loss.



### SPERMACETTI FROM THE WHALE'S HEAD

Spermacetti is the commercial name for the clear oil found within an immense bag or "case" in the front of a sperm whale's head. When whalers make an incision in this bag (known as "tapping the case"), the oil pours forth and in contact with the air solidifies into a soft white wax. One whale may yield as much as 15 barrels of spermacetti oil. The substance is used in making candles, in the dressing of fabrics, for medicinal purposes, cosmetics, etc. The function of the "case" is not known, but it is believed to aid in lending buoyancy to the whale, as well as to press tightly against the nostrils and so close them when the sperm whale dives to great depths in search of squid, its natural food. Usually the left nostril only is functional in the sperm whale, the right nostril passage being diverted under and around the spermacetti "case" and joining the left just below the single, off-center blowhole.

--Sea Secrets, July 20, 1954,  
The Marine Laboratory,  
University of Miami,  
Coral Gables, Fla.

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