THE NEW WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

S. B. Coley
Raleigh, N. C.

Dan M. Furr
Asheville, N. C.

R. Floyd Crouse
Sparta, N. C.

Frank T. Erwin
Durham, N. C.

Harry A. Greene
Raeford, N. C.

George W. Keesee
Gastonia, N. C.

D. K. Sing
Charlotte, N. C.

Thomas J. White
Kinston, N. C.

J. R. Winslow
Robersonville, N. C.
SEPANATION WAS A GREAT VICTORY! The makeup of the new Wildlife Resources Commission is equally significant.

Undoubtedly Governor R. Gregg Cherry could have chosen many other individuals in North Carolina equally as capable as those he did choose, but it is very doubtful that a better average group could have been appointed.

The Wildlife Federation hoped that the Commission members would be men who believed in two things: (1) Organized hunters and fishermen, and (2) A separate game and fish department. As will be seen by the biographical sketches past performances definitely qualify favorably eight of the nine appointees on these two points. Six of the nine men are or have been Federation directors, one is a past vice-president, and another was vice-president when he was appointed to the Commission, and four of the nine are Federation life members—that is a good batting average for the Federation.

The Wildlife Federation clubs wholeheartedly cooperated with Governor Cherry in the selection of the Commission members. Shortly after the General Assembly adjourned Governor Cherry asked that the Federation clubs in each district choose suitable Commission candidates and submit their names to him. This procedure was followed. Meetings were held in each district early in April and about April 15 Federation President P. K. Gravely submitted the list of Federation approved candidates to the Governor.

Federation leaders firmly believe that wildlife restoration will not be realized without a strong supporting federation of hunters, fishermen, and other wildlife enthusiasts, BUT we do not believe that all wildlife enthusiasts do or must belong to the Federation. We are convinced, however, that a very large portion of the people in position to be wildlife leaders do belong to our organization for they are the ones who have been sufficiently interested to pay dues and support in various ways the local and state-wide organizations.

The district candidates were chosen and submitted to Governor Cherry with the understanding, of course, that only one would be chosen from each district. In very few cases did any of the candidates actively seek to be recommended, and in general the attitude was that they would serve if chosen, but that their active support of the wildlife program would continue whether chosen or not.

Such has been the attitude of these wildlife from the very start of the Federation; such procedure has been responsible for much of the Federation's success. Already several of those chosen by the various districts have called, come by, or written to assure us of their continuing all-out support. Those fellows are true sportsmen. They will be good timber for future consideration as Commission members.

The candidates whose names were submitted to Governor Cherry by President Gravely are herewith listed:

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<th>District One</th>
<th>W. B. Foreman, Elizabeth City</th>
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<td>L. F. Byrum, Edenton</td>
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<td>Mike Pugh, New Bern</td>
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<td>R. J. Stevens, Lenoir</td>
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<td>Dan M. Furr, Asheville</td>
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<td>T. N. Massie, Sylva</td>
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<td>*Walt Mauney, Murphy</td>
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*These men were recommended by local clubs and submitted to Governor Cherry subsequent to the original list.
Gov. Cherry Speaks After Swearing In Ceremonies

(See Front Cover)

GOVERNOR R. GREGG CHERRY announced his appointments on the new Wildlife Resources Commission on June 11. He asked all the members to come to Raleigh on June 18 to be sworn in. Associate Justice M. V. Barnhill administered the oath of office.

After the brief swearing-in ceremonies Governor Cherry talked briefly to the new Commission. His remarks packed plenty of punch and plenty of good news for the hunters, fishermen, and other wildlife enthusiasts of North Carolina. He apprised the members of the bigness of the undertaking before them and assured them of his full cooperation and of his confidence in them. He assured them that he was not interested in dictating personnel and policy matters, that he wanted the best game and fish program possible for North Carolina. He suggested that the group seek quarters separate and apart from the Department of Conservation and Development. It was a great send-off. We could not have asked for a better one.

After leaving Governor Cherry’s office the new Commission met in executive session, and elected Commissioner S. B. Coley of Raleigh as chairman, and Commissioner Dan Furr of Asheville as vice-chairman. These two men are outstandingly well qualified for these positions.

The new Commission offices are located on the 5th floor of the Education Building in Raleigh. The Commission took over administration of the Wildlife Resources on July 1.

In order that all wildlife club folks may know better the Wildlife Resources Commission members there follows a brief story of each. The sketches in general are far from complete as far as the conservation activities of these men are concerned.
MEET YOUR NEW COMMISSIONERS

DISTRICT NUMBER 1
Commissioner J. R. Winslow, Robersonville, N. C.

Although Mr. J. R. Winslow, of Robersonville, was not recommended by the assembled club delegates of District One he was recommended by the Martin County Wildlife Club and many other club members of the district individually. He was a strong supporter of "separation" and he strongly believes that the wildlife clubs hold the key to success of the program. He is a Federation friend. He will do his best to represent all wildlife interests of District 1.

Mr. Winslow has been a staunch supporter of wildlife conservation for many years and was an active cooperator of the N. C. Farm Program for seven years. He is president of the Rainbow Hunt Club and has served on many of the club's committees.

Farming is the principal occupation of Mr. Winslow. He is a Director of the State Farm Bureau and served as County AAA Chairman for several years. Presently he is Commander of the Robersonville Post of the American Legion. He has served as District Commander and other positions in the Legion. He has held no elective or appointive political office. His age is 54 years.

DISTRICT NUMBER 2
Commissioner Thomas J. White, Kinston, N. C.

Thomas J. White was born at Concord, North Carolina, in 1903 and graduated from Concord High School in 1920. He studied agriculture and business administration at North Carolina State College, and law at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. In 1927 Mr. White was admitted to the Bar and after a few months with a law firm in Durham he moved to Kinston and continuously since has engaged in the general practice of law. Since 1938 he has been county attorney for Lenoir County.

Since boyhood Mr. White has been interested in the outdoors, the habits of wildlife, and in hunting, fishing, farming, and forestry and in stream pollution as it pertains to game and fish. Many years ago he helped organize the Wildlife Club of Lenoir County, one of the oldest clubs in the state. He has held several positions in the Lenoir Club and has been most active in organizational work throughout eastern North Carolina. He was the principal speaker at the organization meeting of the Wake County Wildlife Club in 1933. Also in that year he gave wildlife conservation lectures in all consolidated schools of Lenoir and Jones Counties and helped conduct wildlife essay contests in those counties. He wrote and sponsored the three-shelled limit shotgun law for small game.

Tom White was second of the fifteen original life members of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation; he helped organize our Federation, has served as director, and contributed in an outstanding way as chairman of the Federation's Legislative Committee. He was in charge of the public hearing on our "separation" bill before the joint House and Senate Conservation Committee of the 1947 General Assembly and had much to do with its enactment into N. C. Wildlife Resources Law.
DISTRICT NUMBER 3
Commissioner S. B. Coley, Raleigh, N. C.

There will be no attempt in this short sketch to enumerate all of Mr. S. B. Coley's business achievements or his efforts in behalf of wildlife conservation in North Carolina. From a business standpoint suffice it to say that shortly after the Durham Life Insurance Company was organized in 1907 Mr. Coley left his farm home in northern Wake County to become one of the company's agents. In 1916 he became president of the company and has remained in this position since.

Previous to enactment of the first state-wide game law in 1927 Mr. Coley was one of the comparatively few people who at that time realized the necessity of a game and fish conservation program. In the early 1920's he helped organize and became first president of the Wake County chapter of a state-wide Isaac Walton League. A few years later he was elected president of the state-wide League and had an important part in bringing about enactment of the 1927 game and fish law. At that time Mr. Coley and the League advocated a separate game and fish agency.

Although there was disappointment because of lack of progress under the 1927 state-wide law, Mr. Coley never lost interest in the game and fish problems.

In 1945 when a separate game and fish agency was advocated in the General Assembly Mr. Coley again joined with the wildlife leaders in support of the program. He helped organize the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, is a life member and has served as one of its vice-presidents and as a director since its inception. He is very active in the Wake County Wildlife Club.

The new Commission members have chosen Mr. Coley as chairman of their group. They could not have made a better selection.

DISTRICT NUMBER 4
Commissioner Harry A. Greene, Raeford, N. C.

Honorable Harry A. Greene of Raeford was Hoke County's very active member of the North Carolina 1947 General Assembly.

Although Mr. Greene, who was appointed to the Wildlife Resources Commission from District Four, was one of nine members of the House of Representatives' Committee on Conservation and Development that voted against our separation bill, it is understood from many sources that he was not an active opponent of separation. Many General Assembly friends have assured Federation officials that Harry Greene will be a great asset on the new Commission.

The wildlife club in Mr. Greene's home county of Hoke is one of about ten clubs that has failed to develop as anticipated. We are sending Mr. Greene several back issues of FRIEND O' WILDLIFE and placing his name on our mailing list. It is hoped that through Mr. Greene's influence the Hoke County Club will be revived and developed into one of the leading clubs in the State.

Mr. Greene, who is 49 years of age, is in the Fertilizer, Cotton and Insurance business. He is widely known in his district and is a member of three or four local hunting and fishing clubs and has been a hunter and fisherman since a young boy.

Undoubtedly Mr. Greene's legislative experience will be of considerable benefit to the Wildlife Resources Commission, especially when it comes to future legislative problems.

As in all other districts there will be need for close cooperation between the Commissioner and the wildlife clubs. Some of our best clubs are in District Four and we anticipate active cooperation and participation.
DISTRICT NUMBER 5

Commissioner Frank T. Erwin, Durham, N. C.

At forty-one years of age, Frank T. Erwin of Durham, who represents District Five, is the youngest member of the Wildlife Resources Commission. According to his close friends he has been a hunter and fisherman since the age of ten, and his own statement is: "The conservation of wildlife has been one of my interests as long as I can remember."

When the Durham County Wildlife Club was formed Frank Erwin helped organize it and became the first vice-president. At the end of the first year he was elected president, and holds the position in his local club now. He was very active in our "separation" program. He has said he would not serve on the Commission were it not for the organized hunters and fishermen and the cooperation anticipated from them.

Frank Erwin was born and reared on a farm in Mecklenburg County. After attending Davidson College he farmed for a few years and then entered the oil distribution business. He moved from Mecklenburg County to Greensboro in 1933 and left Greensboro for Durham in 1936. In 1945 Mr. Erwin formed the Erwin Oil Company, Inc., and is president and treasurer of that organization.

The Erwins have two sons, ages five years and ten years, who are ardent fishermen. "My hope is," says Mr. Erwin, "that through the program which we are now undertaking, my boys and the other boys and girls of our state will be able to hunt and fish and enjoy the wildlife resources in the future."

Frank Erwin has held no previous elective or appointive public office.

DISTRICT NUMBER 6

Commissioner D. K. Sing of Charlotte, N. C.

Commissioner D. K. Sing of Charlotte was born and reared on a farm in Mecklenburg County. He is 53 years old. Reliable reports indicate that his hunting and fishing activities began at the age of ten and through the years have extended from the mountains to the coast. He is a charter member and one of the organizers of the N.C.W.F. (North Carolina Wildlife Federation). He served as vice-president and director of the Federation during its first year of existence and helped organize several other clubs in the Charlotte area.

The Mecklenburg Wildlife Club was organized several years before the State Federation was formed. D. K. Sing is a charter member. He served twice as president of his local club, and at other times has been vice-president, educational chairman, and several terms as director. During Mr. Sing's first term as president of the Mecklenburg Club he inaugurated the club's educational program wherein county school children were enlisted in a program of wildlife conservation. This program has been carried on for several years and several other local clubs have undertaken similar programs.

Commissioner Sing has been most active in amateur field trial clubs. He has served as North Carolina's representative for the National Amateur Field Trial Clubs of America, and as secretary and treasurer of both the Tar Heel Field Trial Club and the Carolina Amateur Field Trial Club. He has campaigned bird dogs in field trials in nearly every state and in Canada where bobwhite quail, pheasants, and prairie chickens are to be found.

In the way of business Mr. Sing is principal owner of Douglas and Sing Funeral Home, Charlotte; owner of Tyvola Kennels and Charlotte Skeet Club.
DISTRICT NUMBER 7
Commissioner R. Floyd Crouse, Sparta, N. C.

Floyd Crouse is another Commission member who has chalked up more than two decades in support of more adequate wildlife restoration and conservation. He helped promote the first state-wide game law in 1927. He was a member of the State Senate in 1931. In 1933 as a representative of several Isaac Walton League Clubs he advocated before the General Assembly a separate Game and Fish Commission.

When the present state-wide Wildlife Federation was first talked about Floyd Crouse was among those doing the talking. He attended the early organization meetings and was one of the original Federation directors. He helped organize the Alleghany County Wildlife Club and several other clubs in his section of the state.

The following is quoted from a letter from Mr. Crouse: "I feel keenly the responsibility that goes with appointment to the Wildlife Resources Commission, and have no delusions about the tasks and problems that confront us. The truth is, if it were not for the Federation I would not accept the appointment. . . . Without continued support of the wildlife clubs the new Commission cannot succeed. The clubs are the real foundation of the whole program."

Mr. Crouse is a native of Alleghany County. He received an A.B. degree from the University of North Carolina, and L.L.B. degree from Harvard Law School. For many years he has practiced law in Alleghany and surrounding counties.

DISTRICT NUMBER 8
Commissioner George W. Keesee, Gastonia, N. C.

In George W. Keesee District Eight is represented by one of the most ardent sportsmen of western North Carolina. He was one of the founders of the North Carolina Wildlife Federation, an original director and is a life member. He helped organized the Gaston County Wildlife Club and has taken an active part in both his local and the state-wide organizations. During the war when typewriters were unobtainable and we were needing one badly he robbed his company office of one and sent it to us. He was active during the "separation" push.

Mr. Keesee has spent considerable time in other states, especially in the west, hunting, fishing and studying their conservation programs. He is an ardent trout fisherman, and quail and deer hunter. For several years he trained and handled bird dogs. He is anxious, especially as a member of the Commission, to encourage wildlife education among the younger groups and to promote game and fish law observance.

George Keesee was born, reared and attended high school at Bristol, Virginia. He studied engineering at Newark, N. J., and in New York City. Since 1940 Mr. Keesee has been owner and manager of the Keesee Belting and Supply Company of Gastonia. Before that he had spent more than twenty years in the leather business.
Dan Farr needs no introduction to a vast majority of western North Carolina’s hunters and fishermen. Almost as far back as game and fish conservation has been talked about Mr. Farr has been one of those doing the talking, and not only talking but doing something. In 1938, when an effort was made to organize the sportsmen state-wide, he took an active part, and clearly realized back in those days that organized hunters and fishermen is the first requirement for successful wildlife restoration. He was president of the previous state-wide organization in 1939.

From its beginning Dan Farr has been interested in the North Carolina Wildlife Federation. He helped plan and organize the Buncombe County Wildlife Club and was its first vice-president. He has attended all of the District Nine meetings and has actively promoted the State Federation. He has studied game and fish problems in the mountains for many years. He believes there is a place for every type of hunting and fishing and as long as he is Commissioner the folks of western North Carolina will be sure of fair play and good judgment.

For many years Mr. Farr has been interested in highway construction work. In 1944 he joined the Asheville Paving Company and is now vice-president of that organization.

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NORTH CAROLINA GAME & FISH PROBLEMS

NEW WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION

RAUL LINEBERGER