Nixon-Agnew Team Embarks On Second Term

President Richard M. Nixon and Vice President Spiro T. Agnew will take the oath of office for their second term in office on Jan. 20, 1973 on the east portico of the Capitol.

President Richard Milhous Nixon, the 37th President of the United States, was born at Yorba Linda, Calif., on Jan. 9, 1913.

He graduated from Whittier (Calif.) College in 1934 and Duke University law school, Durham, N C., in 1937. Mr. Nixon practiced law in Whittier for five years and, after serving as attorney in the Office of Emergency Management in Washington, D. C., January through August 1942, was commissioned at lieutenant junior grade in the U. S. Navy.

Following his release from active duty in 1946 as a lieutenant commander, he was elected as a Republican representative from California to the 80th Congress and re-elected two years later.

In 1950, Mr. Nixon became U.S. Senator from California and in 1952 was elected vice president of the United States.

He became the second youngest vice president in American history. (Only John C. Breckenridge at 35 in 1856 was younger).

During the eight years Mr Nixon was vice president, he visited 56 countries and five continents as a personal emissary of President Eisenhower.

On three separate occasions, while President Eisenhower was stricken with major illnesses, Mr. Nixon was called upon to carry on the country's affairs until the President's recovery.

After 1960, Mr. Nixon returned to law practice and other activities which again took him abroad for five separate trips plus a globe-circling tour of Western Europe and the Near and Far East in 1966.

A victory in the 1968 Presidential election put him in the White House for his first four-year tenure as President. (ANF)

Empire Sportsman

ROD COCHRAN

A New York Press Association Service

GIANT SALMON FOR NEW YORK ANGLERS

After a lot of dreams and a false start or two the New York State salmon introduction program is about to lift off the pad. With a realistic fish hatchery plan, fishing for giant west coast salmon could be in orbit within a few years. This is the opinion of William Pierce, who is in charge of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Fisheries Station at Cape Vincent.

Of course, a few anglers have been taking coho salmon for some time in New York waters. This past November and December witnessed a spawning run from Lake Erie into Cattaraugus, 18 Mile, and Chautauqua Creeks — and the fish ranged from four to ten pounds. These are trophy fish in anybody's book.

The situation was similar in Lake Ontario tributaries, with the Salmon River seeing some action this fall. Fishing from boats in front of tributary stream in both Erie and Ontario can produce outstanding results, as the salmon school up there preparatory to the spawning run.

The main problem with the salmon introduction program all along has been the depredations of lampreys, and paltry stocking of fish. The fantastic fishing in the upper Great Lakes was coupled with large-scale lamprey control. And, Michigan was prepared to produce huge quantities of smelts for stocking. The odds were just too great for New York to produce a similar salmon fishing bonanza.

But better days are ahead! Pierce reported to me recently that all New York streams flowing into Lake Erie and Ontario were treated for lamprey control this past summer. Financed through the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission, the monumental task has been called a success by spot checks on the streams. Canada treated all of its tributaries in these two lakes the previous summer.

Biologists have long known that lampreys were the main limiting factor for the salmon — adult cohos that have been caught have an average of 12 lamprey scars on each fish. The newer introduction, chinook salmon, have been averaging 13 scors each. It is difficult to believe how any of them survived to maturity.

The pattern of lamprey control has been well established in the upper lakes. In addition to the salmon, lake trout fishing has come back along with the lunker brown and rainbow trout. Pierce believes that continual checking of the tributary streams, and further treatment as necessary will reduce the lamprey population to a remnant level. Improved fishing for salmon and trout is bound to result.

The available food supply in Lake Ontario for the giant west coast salmon, has been a question in some corners. An extensive survey by Pierce's group this past year reveals the same concentrations of alewives (sawbellies) as produced the great fishing in the upper lakes. Ninety per cent of the fish in Lake Ontario are alewives, according to Pierce. Only 10 per cent are made up of species such as bass, pike, and perch. "The food is out there waiting," says Pierce, "just wait until you see what happens when the lamprey menace is removed."

What will happen is that giant salmon — cohos up to 10 pounds and chinooks up to 30 pounds will be in New York waters in really catchable numbers!

CONSERVATION COMMENTS

By Paul M. Kelsey

SNOWSHOE RABBITS

I like to think that not very much misses my attenion when I am out in the woods, but every once in a while something happens to remind me that mere humans can be hood-winked by the denizens of the woods without too much trouble. One such instance which comes back to haunt me is an experience with the grey ghost — the snowshoe rabbit.

Lady's distant baying indicated that she was bringing the hare back in my general direction. I changed my stand a little, to better intercept the oncoming hare. Closer and closer came the baying until Lady came in sight, still intently interested in what she was following. I had seen no rabbit come through ahead of her, so I went over to intercept her and see if we could get a fresh start. She was coming down a snowshoe hare track, one of which was superimposed on my own snowshoe track. It had slipped across the opening — unseen — not 50 feet from me.

What better camouflage could Mother Nature have given this hare that lives top-side in snow country all winter, than a white coat? From time to time she deals them a poor hand with periods of no snow. At times like that, their instinct to remain motionless and depend on their protective coloration can be fatal.

The varying hare, as it is more properly known, does not have the chameleon's ability to change color to automatically adapt to its background. Neither does the cold weather nor the snow trigger the reaction. The change is a long slow one, where the brown hair of its summer coat is replaced by the white hair of its winter coat triggered by the amount of sunlight that enters the snowshoe's eye.

The change to a white coat starts in late September and is not always completed until January, taking an average of 10 or 11 weeks. The change is first apparent on the feet and ears progressing up the legs and down the head and neck, and ending along its back.

The return to its brown coat in the spring is a little more rapid. Starting about the second week in March, the hair along the head and back is replaced. The change reverses the fall procedure, with the feet being the last to get the spring color.

In experiments to determine if light was the triggering agent for the moult, animals were exposed to controlled decreased and increased artificial light and changed color without regard to temperature or weather. Some were also masked for half of each daily period of light. Their response showed that it was the light that actually entered the eye which counted.

The varying hare came by the name "snowshoe" logically, for its enormous foot leaves a track about three and one half inches long and three inches wide when fully spread. During the winter a mat of hair on the bottom of the foot acts like the webbing on a snowshoe when the hare spreads its toes. This large surface floats its four-pound body so that even in fairly light snow it runs on the surface, while dogs and foxes chasing it may wallow and progress slowly. This hair has a dual function, also acting as insulation under the rabbit's feet, making it possible for one to sit on its feet in a "form" in the snow for hours on end.

Unlike the cottontail that holes up when the going gets tough, the snowshoe seems tireless and just keeps bouncing along. If hard pressed, it can cover 100 yards in five seconds. In addition to speed and stamina, it has other tricks in its bag to throw off the hounds — like backtracking and jumping sidewards.

The snowshoe was the original rabbit in western New York, but as the settlers cleared the forest, it was replaced by the cottontail. With the return of extensive forestland on our southern-tier hills, the stage was set for its return. Live-trapped hare were brought from the Adirondacks and released in the more remote sections of the State Reforestation Lands. Their progeny offer some excellent hunting.

Hasper To Aid Emery In Allegany

Assemblyman James J. Emery (R-Allegany, Livingston and Ontario counties) has announced that John Hasper of Belfast will be his Legislative Assistant for Allegany County. Emery, deputy majority leader of the Assembly, said that Hasper will be available to residents of Allegany County to discuss legislation and state-related problems, and see that appropriate action is taken as soon as possible.

"With the expanded assembly district," Emery, stated, "which stretches from Clarksville in the southwest to the City of Canandaigua on the northeast and covers two counties and a part of a third it becomes increasingly important for me to have legislative assistants who live and work in various parts of the district. This makes someone immediately available to constituents with problems and questions concerning legislation and state-related matters while I am in Albany on legislative business or during the Assembly session. I can assure you that these matters will be brought to my attention and will receive appropriate action as soon as possible.

"I have chosen John Hasper one of Allegany County's outstanding citizens, because of his legislative knowledge not only on a state level, but within Allegany County as a member of the Allegany County Board of Legislators. I am sure that I can count on John to handle problems and requests promptly and effectively and am very happy to have him as an addition to my staff".

Those who wish to contact Hasper on legislative matters may do so by calling in Belfast 365-1500 or 365-2204 or at his home in Belfast, 365-2520

Mr. Hasper represents District I on the Board of Legislators and is in the insurance business in Belfast. His father, Bert Hasper, is former Republican Chairman of Allegany County, and both of his parents were aides for leadership in the New York Legislature in previous years.