

NATIONAL GRANGE BACKS HAWK AND OWL PROTECTIVE LEGISLATION

A letter from H. Everest (Hi) Clements of Rochester tells of his recent important work in the field of conservation. Although many Federation members are probably already acquainted with the contents of his "blue letter," it will be summarized here. It is well that we all know of this work.

Directed by Grange Master Herschel D. Newsom of Columbus, Indiana, Mr. Clements took the matter of hawk and owl protection to the Grange's National Welfare Committee. On November 13, he appeared before this committee and with the help of George A. Spidel of Lincoln, Nebraska secured passage of a resolution supporting such protection. In closed session on November 21, this resolution was passed by delegates of the Grange without change or opposition:

Resolution — Hawk and Owl Legislation

The National Grange endorses the principle of Model Hawk and Owl Laws which are in effect in the States of Connecticut, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Utah.

Under such State Game Laws, all hawks and owls are protected except provision is made that the owners or occupants of land may kill hawks or owls when in the act of harassing or destroying poultry or other property on the land of such owners or occupants.

The National Grange feels such legislation improves law enforcement and better protects this valuable wildlife resource.

Quoting directly from the Clements letter: "We, who are particularly interested in the conservation and protection of hawks and owls and in State Model Hawk and Owl Laws, now have the approval and support of the important and respected organization, The National Grange. This Hawk and Owl Resolution is now National Grange policy on behalf of its over 850,000 members.

"With this backing, may each of us in our various states and with the help of interested conservation organizations work for support and passage of Model Hawk and Owl Laws in the remaining forty-three states and Alaska (all wild birds are protected in Hawaii).

"In my opinion, one of the first things to do is to contact your State Grange, Farm Bureau, your State Legislators and Legislative Conservation Committees and your State Fish and Game Department so that proper bills can be drafted and introduced in your State Legislature at the earliest possible moment." GRR