



DUCKS UNLIMITED (N.Z.) INCORPORATED
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FLIGHT 2/79 ISSUE 20

JUNE 1979

"FLIGHT"

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THOUGHT-PROVOKING COMMENT FROM THE U.S.A.



DUCKS UNLIMITED (NZ) INC - ANNUAL CONFERENCE 1979

The fifth annual conference of Ducks Unlimited (NZ) Incorporated will be held at the Shaw Savill Lodge, Kilbirnie, Wellington on Saturday, 7 July 1979 at 2.00 pm.

BUSINESS

1. 1.30 pm Registration and payment of conference fee.
2. 2.00 pm Official opening, welcome and apologies
3. 2.05 pm Minutes of 1978 annual conference, and Matters Arising
4. 2.15 pm President's report and annual financial statement presentation
5. 2.30 pm Election of four (4) directors from the floor, representing members
6. 2.40 pm Report on Operation "Pateke" (I.H. Pirani)
7. 2.50 pm Guest speaker - Mr K. Kuiper, Director, Wellington Zoo. "The Zoos' Role in the Propagation and Conservation of Endangered Species"
8. 3.30 pm Break for refreshment (President's "shout")
9. 3.45 pm Report on Operation "Gretel" (P.B.C. Pirani)
10. 3.50 pm Report on Operation "Branta" (P.M. McLeod)
11. 3.55 pm Guest speaker - Dr Murray J. Williams of the Wildlife Service. "The Biology of the New Zealand Paradise"
12. 4.35 pm General business
13. 4.50 pm Film (Sir Peter Scott)
14. 5.20 pm Refreshments
15. 6.30 pm Annual dinner
16. 7.30 pm Annual auction
17. 8.30 pm Refreshments

A copy of the Rules of Ducks Unlimited (NZ) Incorporated will be available for perusal by any member at the conference. All members, and friends, of Ducks Unlimited (NZ) Incorporated are invited to attend.

P.B.C. Pirani
Acting Secretary,
P.O. Box 74, Hamilton

BE SURE YOU ATTEND THE DUCKS UNLIMITED ANNUAL CONFERENCE AND AUCTION!
 BID FOR TRULY MAGNIFICENT AUCTION ITEMS WHICH YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS
 AND AT THE SAME TIME RAISE FUNDS TO BENEFIT NEW ZEALAND WATERFOWL

Interesting speakers, highlights of DU's year, a Peter Scott film, auction items from the practical to the unusual - all promise an exciting and enjoyable experience and a gathering as stimulating and informative as previous year's programmes!

Registration fee: The fee this year is \$ 12 per head which will cover a delicious buffet dinner from the restaurant kitchen of the Shaw Savill Lodge. Members are most welcome - and why not bring a friend? The cost for each guest is also \$ 12. There will be an opportunity for those who have not renewed their DU subscription to do so and to enrol their friends, and new members.

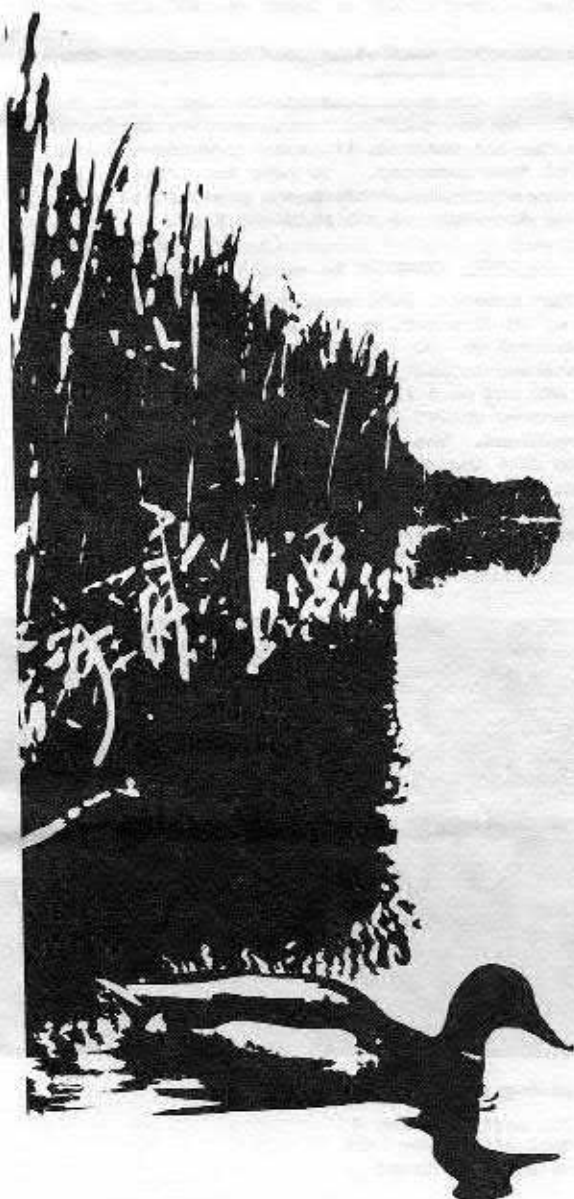
Pottery, ammunition, waterfowl art, handsome volumes of the history of Ducks Unlimited in the U.S.A. and Canada - plus many others form the basis of the auction. Among donations from members and friends of Ducks Unlimited (NZ), our affiliated organisation in the United States has generously donated some superb items - artists proofs by the DU Artist of the Year, series of waterfowl prints by talented and well-known artists, boxes of note cards with cover designs by nature artists, plus DU "history books" - "A Singleness of Purpose"; "Ducks and Men" and "A Saga of Duck and Goose Hunting" - these volumes are signed and numbered "collector's items" not to be missed.

Another special item of waterfowl art is a framed waterfowl print by New Zealander, Raymond Ching - "The Mallard". These and many other interesting items (something for everyone!) are available.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT DU'S WATERFOWL PROJECTS FOR 1979/80!

Sales of "T" shirts and DU lapel badges will also be conducted at the annual conference.

THIS IS OUR MAJOR FUNDRAISING EFFORT OF THE YEAR -
 MAKE IT A MEMORABLE OCCASION (FOR YOU AND FOR THE
 WATERFOWL IN NEW ZEALAND WHO WILL BENEFIT!)



DU PROJECT REPORTS

OPERATION GRETEL

A working party (to erect 25 Grey Teal nest boxes) will be held at the Kurau Dam, Masterton, on Sunday, 1 July 1979 (refer photograph 1 this page). Members and friends interested in giving a hand should meet at the Wellington Acclimatisation Society's Hatchery at Pownall Street, Masterton at 10 am. Bring hammers, stepladders, 5 inch galvanised nails, waders, lunch and refreshments! Neil Hayes will be co-ordinating the working party and if you have any queries, please telephone him at Wellington 646-622.

Another working party (to erect 25 boxes at Matthew's Lagoon in the Wairarapa) will be held later in July.

BARTON'S LAGOON: Some maintenance was carried out on boxes over Easter and it was good to see well over 60 Grey Teal using the lagoon. At present the Catchment Board are carrying out some work around the lagoon but we are hopeful that they will have completed this before the next breeding season. The work being done actually looks like making the area more attractive to waterfowl. We now have 30 boxes erected at Barton's with scope for a further 20 in the future.

FLEXMAN'S, POKENO: Mr Tony Flexman advises that during April, when he was spraying weed on the pond where the Grey Teal nest boxes are sited, he noticed a Grey Teal emerge from a box. A closer inspection revealed 9 eggs in an advanced stage of incubation - a late, or early, starter?



photograph 1

A view of
Kurau Dam, Masterton

OPERATION PATEKE - BROWN TEAL "EXPORT"

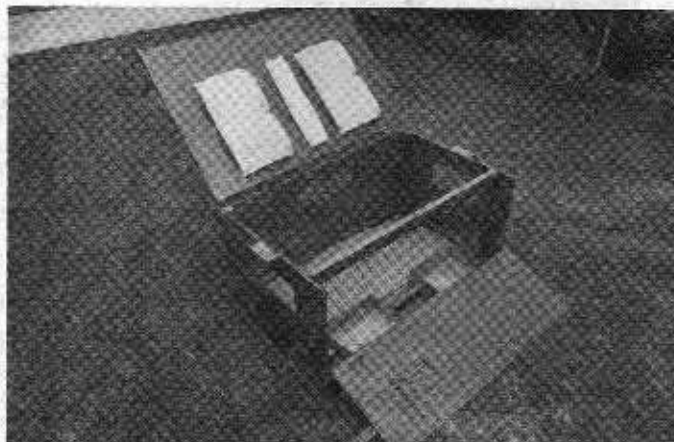
The "export" of two Brown Teal females, whose destination is the Wildfowl Trust, (refer the March issue of FLIGHT) should have taken place by the time members received this edition of FLIGHT.

A slight delay was caused by the quarantine facilities at Slimbridge being full until early June. The Brown Teal could have been placed at another Wildfowl Trust centre, but Mr Mike Lubbock, the Assistant Director of the Wildfowl Trust, was particularly keen to have them at Slimbridge where he can personally keep an eye on them.

A special crate was constructed to transport the birds - this can be seen in photograph 2 below. The design, the specifications for which were supplied by the Wildfowl Trust, enables the birds to be fed and watered, in transit, without the risk of them escaping. To keep the Brown Teal company, DU is also sending one pair of New Zealand Grey Duck to the Wildfowl Trust.

EARLY OR LATE? (again!)

Mrs June Bronger, DU's membership secretary and wife of DU director, Mr Sig Bronger, announced the arrival on 30 April of 3 Brown Teal chicks at Matakana Island! The Brown Teal "mother" laid AND SAT on 6 eggs - however 3 eggs mysteriously disappeared whilst Sig and June were on a visit to the mainland. The remaining 3 hatched successfully and to date the chicks are doing well. Operation Pateke is off to a good start again this season and 30 April is an auspicious date - we hear that member Laurie Piper of Christchurch heralded the arrival of 4 Brown Teal chicks on this day!



photograph 2

Crate for airfreighting 2
Brown Teal and 2 Grey Duck
to the Wildfowl Trust

DU PROJECT REPORTS

OPERATION BRANTA

On Monday, 23 April, Wellington directors Neil Hayes and Bud Jones, together with Jim Campbell (DU member and Wellington Acclimatisation Society Council member) representing Ducks Unlimited and the Wellington Acclimatisation Society, presented submissions to Wairarapa Federated Farmers concerning Canada geese in the region.

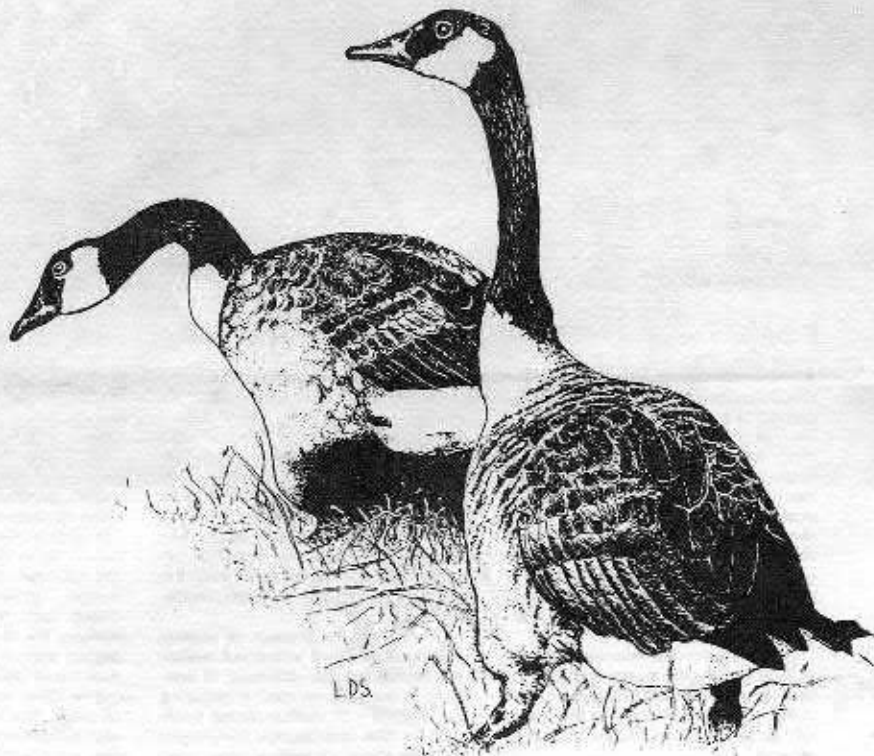
Ducks Unlimited has asked Federated Farmers to give approval to permitting Canada geese which are reared in the Wairarapa to remain fullwinged. At present, a requirement of their release in the area is that all birds must be pinioned.

No decision was reached at the meeting but Ducks Unlimited was given a good hearing, which is encouraging. We will report further on developments in future issues of FLIGHT.

SUBMISSIONS ON RARE AND ENDANGERED SPECIES AND THEIR HABITAT

In March the Nature Conservation Council called for submissions from interested parties on rare and endangered species of wildlife and their habitat in New Zealand. DU welcomed the opportunity to comment - because one of the major reasons for the group's existence is its concern for our rare waterfowl.

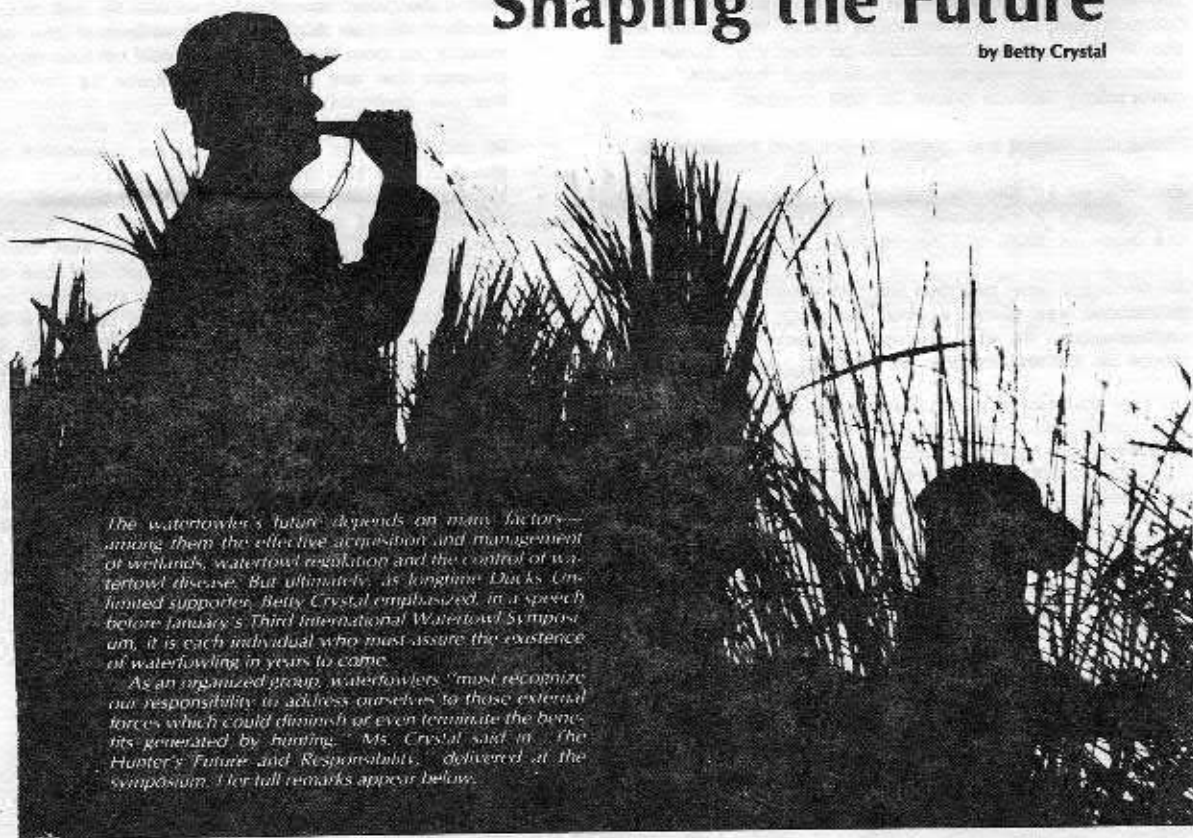
DU made what it considers to be important submissions to the Council which dealt with its concern for the Brown Teal and Blue Duck; the aviculture of both species; need for habitat preservation; hydro-electric dams and their effects on wildlife; legislation and the need for better balanced laws; plus research and management. If members wish to obtain a copy of the submissions, please forward \$ 1-50 to cover printing/postage to P.O. Box 74, Hamilton.



THE FOLLOWING STIMULATING AND THOUGHT-PROVOKING ADDRESS APPEARED IN A RECENT ISSUE OF THE AMERICAN 'DUCKS UNLIMITED MAGAZINE'. ITS COMMENTS ARE SO RELEVANT THAT WE REPRINT THE ENTIRE ARTICLE HERE AS TO EDIT SAME WOULD DESTROY ITS IMPACT. MEMBERS WILL APPRECIATE THAT THE FACTS RELATE TO THE NORTH AMERICAN SCENE AND LEGISLATION. NEVERTHELESS THE VALUABLE MESSAGE CONTAINED IN THESE COMMENTS IS CLEAR:

Shaping the Future

by Betty Crystal



The waterfowler's future depends on many factors—among them the effective acquisition and management of wetlands, waterfowl regulation and the control of waterfowl disease. But ultimately, as longtime Ducks Unlimited supporter, Betty Crystal emphasized, in a speech before January's Third International Waterfowl Symposium, it is each individual who must assure the existence of waterfowling in years to come.

As an organized group, waterfowlers "must recognize our responsibility to address ourselves to those external forces which could diminish or even terminate the benefits generated by hunting," Ms. Crystal said in "The Hunter's Future and Responsibility," delivered at the symposium. Her full remarks appear below.

I believe a strong case could be made that the topic assigned me is the most important one of this entire meeting. The other two sessions discussed the management of waterfowl and waterfowl habitat respectively and it is difficult to discuss this topic without recognizing the part hunting-related activities play in generating public and private funds for management. Moreover, we must recognize that in the U.S., the vast majority of viable wetland habitat is privately owned and maintained largely for hunting and hunting-related purposes.

So, when we address ourselves to the future of the hunter and his or her responsibility, I believe we are in a very real way discussing the future of our precious waterfowl resource as well.

To evaluate what might happen in the future, we often begin by studying the past. In the case of waterfowl and other species, I believe we need to make a distinction between profit

hunting and not-for-profit hunting. There is no denying that at certain periods in our history, in certain areas of the country, some devastating systems were developed for killing waterfowl for profit. The pictures and accounts of the market hunting days are available and certainly make handy fodder for anyone who is predisposed to dislike hunting. Furthermore, there is no doubt this type of harvesting of a public resource had something to do with the population decline of North American waterfowl.

Of course, the impact of market hunting diminishes when we realize that the systematic drainage of wetlands in the U.S. resulted in reducing the original 127 million acres available in the contiguous forty-eight states to about 72 million acres presently. Market hunting of waterfowl was outlawed in 1900. I do not think there is any foreseeable circumstance under which it will ever be allowed again, so, when we evaluate

the historical behavior of the hunter, I want to make it clear that we are discussing only the not-for-profit hunter or the individual who hunts out of love for the activity and the resource.

This may seem like an obvious point that does not need to be made, particularly before an audience as sophisticated as this one and yet, one of the biggest problems the hunter faces in the future is continuing adverse public opinion. As a hunter, I grow weary of being associated with the elimination of the buffalo, the demise of the passenger pigeon and all of the other sins that may have been committed against our wildlife resources in the pursuit of profit. The hunter who has continued to hunt when all profit possibilities were outlawed is the hunter I want to examine, and I think we must agree that historically the hunter's concern for and stewardship of the waterfowl resource has been remarkable.

HONEYEATERS' NESTS



1979
Annual Report

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE : IAN H. PIRANI

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to again review the operations for the past year. A few people have made the comment to me "What is Ducks Unlimited achieving?". As each year passes, Ducks Unlimited makes positive progress - not perhaps as rapidly as we would wish when comparisons are made with some conservation activities but the achievements are solid and permanent. During our fifth year of operation, we established a broad base on which to build the future. These are "pioneer" years in the history of Ducks Unlimited (New Zealand) - pioneering has never been easy, but when the objective is worthwhile and promises so much, the task appears "easier" and the burden lighter.

I do not propose to comment on the various projects and their progress as these have been publicised fully during the year in FLIGHT and members will be familiar with the excellent and encouraging results achieved. We view the coming year with great expectations!

We did, however, record some notable highlights this past year namely, we received permission from the Wildlife Service to "export" Brown Teal to the Wildfowl Trust, Slimbridge as part of our Operation Pateke activities. The generosity of Air New Zealand Limited makes this shipment possible and sincere thanks to them for allowing the birds to travel free to the United Kingdom. We anticipate that, with the expertise of the Slimbridge personnel, a nucleus of this endangered species will be established and maintained in the United Kingdom and we look forward eagerly to the Trust's participation in the Pateke project.

Another highlight was the receipt of funds in the form of a grant from the Ministry of Recreation and Sport, funds which are gratefully acknowledged and were placed to effective use in the Grey Teal nestbox programme, enabling work to be accelerated and extended to the South Island earlier than originally planned. We were delighted to learn this year that the Wildlife Service intend undertaking a longterm study of the Ducks Unlimited Grey Teal nestbox project, beginning at Pokeno in Auckland. This recognition of DU's efforts by the Wildlife Service is encouraging and we look forward to the outcome of their investigations in due course. We anticipate that much valuable data will become available as a result of this official study. DU also made submissions on various proposed schemes throughout the country which would have an effect on waterfowl - a stimulating exercise involving hard work, and we await the outcome of these submissions with a great deal of concern and interest.

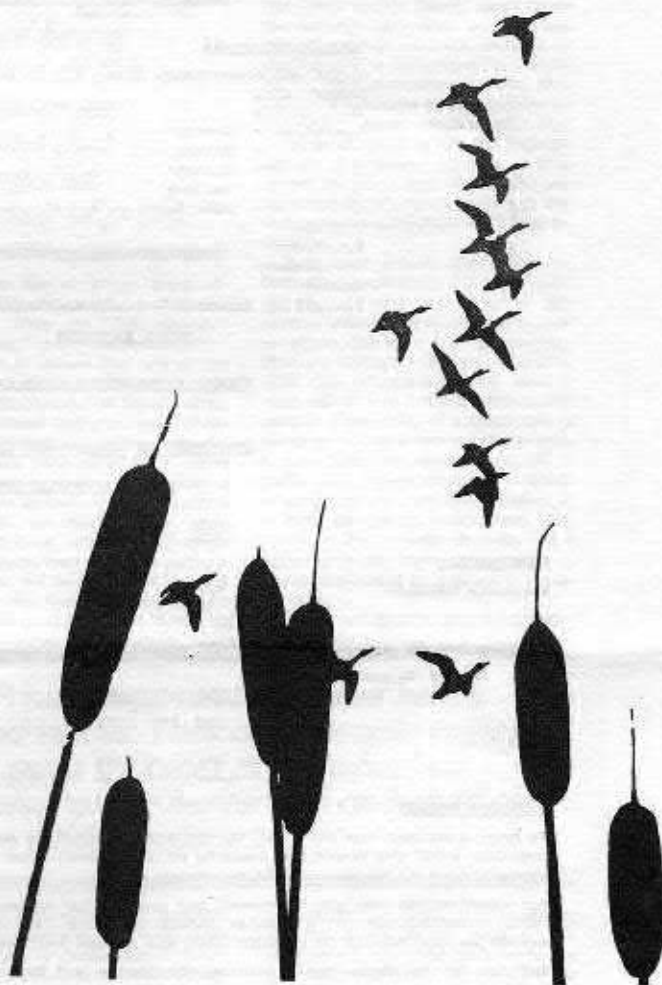
The audited financial accounts are presented herein. Once again a considerable proportion has been spent on promotional advertising and this figure includes the production costs of FLIGHT newsletter which your directors regard as a valuable publicity tool. Your directors view the continuing level of advertising expenditure in the future as essential during the establishment (or pioneering) period. Large sums were also expended with project work, and in particular Operation Gretel - this year made possible to an even greater degree because of the Ministry grant mentioned earlier. The financial situation generally, however, does not appear to show signs of rapid or major improvement which is a reflection of the depressed economic conditions of concern to all New Zealanders just now. However, this should not deter the plans Ducks Unlimited has for the coming years and I stress here that many costs, such as transportation, time and materials, labour etc are donated - without this support from our friends in industry, commerce, farming etc we just could not proceed at the rate to date. Thankyou everyone!

We have recorded a few changes at Board level this past year. After many years serving the Board on behalf of members, Mr Kelvin Mackie was not available this year - however, he continues to contribute at field work level and his energetic and practical attitude to "getting the job done" continues to benefit the organisation. We also farewelled Murray Dench after the last annual meeting - although his term was brief, his contribution on behalf of members is no less appreciated. In their place, we welcomed Miss Diane Pritt, representing members, and Mr Julian Nelson-Parker, both of whom bring many years of experience with waterfowl breeding, organisational expertise and wetlands management. Diane Pritt is the second female member of the Board, a trend viewed with enthusiasm within the Board. I appreciate the support and co-operation I have had from the retiring directors and am confident the new members will continue the pattern, and examples set. Thankyou fellow directors and key members of the organisation - much of the work put in by these individuals goes unnoticed by the majority. Their magnificent contribution in terms of time and expertise is voluntary (sometimes out of all proportion to the casual observer) but maintained because of their sincerity, skill and determination to ensure that the future for waterfowl in this country is assured. It is impossible for me to express sufficiently the gratitude I feel toward my fellow directors and key people in Ducks Unlimited (New Zealand) for their outstanding and consistent labours.

Farmers, businessmen and industry, the Wildlife Service personnel, acclimatisation societies - all these people and groups have co-operated in a generous way to DU affairs. These supporters form a vital part of our structure for success and without them our task would be so much more difficult. A special word too for our friends in the Ducks Unlimited organisations in the United States, Canada and Mexico - the measure of their support in terms of advice, encouragement, generous gifts for our auctions, advice and moral support just cannot be counted in monetary or other terms; suffice to say it is a remarkable example of international co-operation to benefit waterfowl - New Zealand's waterfowl in this case. Thankyou.

Finally, we - and the ducks - could not survive without our members, both in New Zealand and abroad. These volunteers are aware of the impetus that allows them to raise more funds, recruit new members and participate actively at a personal level, if they wish, in wetland management and other projects in all parts of the country. DU members provide the vitality, stamina and strength needed to "get the job done" - and raise the dollars, despite difficult economic times. If funds cannot be found for a particular project, ingenuity comes to the fore and donations of time, materials, transportation etc appear in order to enable specific project completion. The country's financial circumstances do not appear to promise improvement for some years - nevertheless the spirit with which our volunteers accept the tasks ahead is paramount and is the key to the future of waterfowl here.

What is Ducks Unlimited achieving? It is impossible for a group such as yours to achieve results without an underlying source of motivation. DU's motivation stems, as it has since its formation five years ago, from its noble purpose - the restoration, preservation and maintenance of New Zealand's waterfowl habitat - a purpose which is simple, yet essential, and is the key factor in the business of protecting the future for our waterfowl and for coming generations of New Zealanders, whether they are interested in the challenge of shooting, of matching wits with waterfowl, of capturing their natural beauty on film or canvas or just knowing the birds are there!



WILKINSON HILL & CO.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
NEW ZEALAND

DUCKS UNLIMITED (N.Z.) INC.
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1979

	1979	1978
<u>INCOME</u>		
Subscriptions:		
Life	250	358
Active	1689	1540
Supporter	520	485
Junior	16	22
Trade	120	120
<u>TOTAL SUBSCRIPTIONS</u>	2595	2525
<u>PLUS OTHER INCOME</u>		
Donations	565	340
Conference Income	1004	1135
Profit (Loss) T. Shirt Sales	(45)	13
Profit (Loss) Lapel Badge Sales	(149)	32
Sundry	86	39
Grant - Internal Affairs	500	-
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u>	4556	4084
<u>LESS EXPENDITURE</u>		
Audit and Accountancy Fees	76	40
Advertising	1132	1026
Duplicating	17	-
Operation - 'Gretel'	1557	235
- 'Pateke'	147	-
- 'Branta'	150	120
- 'Harlock'	-	15
- 'Blue Duck'	-	360
Postage	345	431
Printing	842	667
Stationery	338	220
Sundry	137	121
Travelling Expenses - Board Meetings	606	256
<u>TOTAL EXPENSES</u>	5347	3491
<u>EXCESS EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME</u>	\$ 791	\$ (593)
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STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

AS AT 31 MARCH 1979

	1979	1978		1979	1978
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			<u>ASSETS</u>		
Accounts Payable	101	77	Bank of New South Wales	121	628
<u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u>			T. Shirt Stocks	215	372
Balance 1.4.78	1071	478	Lapel Badge Stocks	45	148
<u>Less</u> Excess Expenditure over Income	791	(593)			
	280	1071			
	\$ 381	\$ 1148		\$ 381	\$ 1148
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AUDITORS REPORT

We have examined the attached Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities together with the books and records of the Association and have obtained such information and explanations as we considered necessary.

Our examination has not disclosed any unrecorded Income or unauthorised Expenditure but in common with other organisations of a similar nature complete internal control is not practicable and for this reason we are unable to certify that all Income has been recorded and Expenditure authorised.

Subject to the above qualification the Income and Expenditure Account and the Statement of Assets and Liabilities present fairly the results of the Association's activities for the year ended 31 March 1979.

June 1979
.....1979
Hamilton

W. H. Hill & Co.
.....
Chartered Accountants

SHAPING THE FUTURE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

It was the hunter who first called for action on the part of the U.S. Federal government when drought and drainage drove waterfowl to an all-time low in the 30s. It was the hunter who demonstrated the concern for the disappearance of the critical Canadian breeding grounds through the formation of Ducks Unlimited in 1937. It was the hunter who was instrumental in banning, under the Lacey Act of 1900, market hunting for profit. It was the hunter

ipate being left to his own devices.

It is at this point that we must move to a discussion of the hunter's future responsibilities. If we conclude that legal not-for-profit hunting is in the best interest of our wildlife resource and the national economy, then we must recognize our responsibility to address ourselves in an organized fashion to those external forces which could diminish or even terminate the benefits generated by hunting.

"As a hunter, I grow weary of being associated with the elimination of the buffalo, the demise of the passenger pigeon and all of the other sins that may have been committed against our wildlife resources in pursuit of profit."

who called for responsible management of the waterfowl and other wildlife resources through the establishment of the Federal and state fish and game agencies. It was the hunter who provided for the funding of these management efforts through fish and hunting license fees, excise taxes on hunting-related equipment and private contributions.

The most recent figures available on hunting-related activities showed that of the 184.3 million people nine years of age or older residing in the U.S. in 1975, 20.6 million participated in hunting. Their expenditures for licenses, tags and stamps were \$277.47 million and the expenditure on hunting equipment was more than \$1.86 billion. In addition, hunters spent \$1.2 billion on food, drink and refreshments, \$227 million on lodging and \$2.1 billion on transportation. For anyone keeping a running account, that totals \$4.25 billion invested by hunters in their activities in 1975 and, of course, those figures do not relate to the millions of dollars voluntarily contributed by hunters to private conservation efforts working on behalf of our wildlife resource.

If we are to reach any conclusion about the future of the hunter based on past history, we must conclude, that left to his own devices, the hunter will continue to spearhead the effort to protect, manage and perpetuate our precious North American wildlife resources.

The catch phrase, of course is, "if left to his own devices." The fact is, the hunter does not exist in a vacuum; therefore he really cannot antic-

I would like to group these responsibilities into what I would call the "I's." They are "information," "incentives," and "involvement."

We are all aware that one of the problems facing the hunter is adverse public reaction to his activities. Most of these opinions result from lack of information. Why does the public lack information? In some cases, we must recognize that a good many people are like vacuums waiting to be filled. They have grown up in an urban or suburban circumstance. They have no particular feel for the land or wildlife and they have not had a hunting experience. Having no particular loyalty to

combination of factors, including loss of habitat and market hunting. It is ludicrous to discuss nonprofit hunting in that context. It is a little like saying modern jet travel is detrimental and should be halted because the Hindenberg crashed. But, this is the public image hunters have been saddled with. They are terminators, destroyers, cruel spoilers and it will be our responsibility in the future to change that image.

I am not so naive as to believe I can ever convince someone who has been raised totally apart from the hunting experience, but who fully understands violence and death that hunting is something he should do, or, for that matter even like. But, I do think we have a responsibility to convince those individuals that whether or not they like the individual act of a hunter, as long as it is within the law, nonprofit hunting per se, is beneficial and necessary to the maintenance of healthy wildlife populations.

And, there is one other bit of information, perhaps a bit more subtle, that I think we need to get across. When journalists, legislators or others call for a ban on hunting, they are calling for the revulsion of a right that is constitutionally ours. I must admit that I don't understand people whose idea of a good time is jumping out of a moving plane with a parachute or hang-gliding off a rocky cliff. When someone is killed in pursuit of this type of recreation, it is hard for me to understand, but never in my wildest dreams, do I consider it my right to organize a group dedicated to outlawing those pursuits.

The idea behind this nation is that

"Private organizations need hands and voices. They need people willing to put a shoulder to the wheel on behalf of the hunter and on behalf of the wildlife resource."

hunting or knowledge of its benefits, these people are not difficult to sway by someone in possession of some facts and that is exactly what is happening. They are being swayed by someone in possession of some facts.

I earlier mentioned my weariness at being somehow held responsible for those predisposed to dislike hunting for the annihilation of many species which are, in fact, lost to a

we are free to pursue our happiness as long as we do not tread on the rights of others. If we, as hunters, are providing the funds for most of the wildlife management in this country and if we are paying the bill for the activity we pursue and if we are, in fact, systematically increasing the population of the species we pursue, whose rights are we infringing on?

We need to get the idea across that you don't necessarily have to

SHAPING THE FUTURE (FROM PAGE 11)

like us, but you do have to respect our rights.

We are still a nation that is ruled by what people think and what people think will reflect on their political choices. Those political choices that are ultimately good or bad for the wildlife resource must be the concern of every responsible hunter.

The second item concerning the hunter's future is *incentives*. According to FES7554, the Environmental Impact Statement for the Issuance of Annual Regulations Permitting the Sport Hunting of Migratory Birds, the National Wildlife System encompasses approximately 1.6 million acres of waterfowl production area. State conservation agencies control about 4.5 million acres of land and water of major value to waterfowl. Privately-owned waterfowl hunting clubs, some 11,000 of them in the U.S., control a minimum of 5.2 million acres of land. An additional 400,000 acres of wetlands are owned or leased in the U.S. by private conservation organizations.

I am suggesting that it is the hunter's responsibility to do what he can to influence those in possession of responsibility over habitat to allow the maximum incentives possible so long as those incentives are in the best interest of the waterfowl resource. This simply means: If hunting is beneficial to the waterfowl resource, it is the hunter's responsibility to encourage it.

In a sense, the third "I", *involvement*, is simply a summary of the first two. We hunters cannot be content to rest on our laurels or to simply nod in agreement with those who tell us that we are pretty good guys. We have to become involved in the political process at the local, state and Federal level that affects the resource we hold so dear. We must become involved with those who are seeking to overcome the information problems that I spoke of earlier. I think we must have an involvement in our activities so deep that we require higher standards of behavior for ourselves than even the law requires. We must not feed one more ounce of fuel to the anti-hunting fire by being misusers of firearms, trespassers, game law violators or other delinquents. It would be our responsibility in the future to be the first to point out those type of individuals in our midst and divorce ourselves from them. In the same vein, I think we will have a responsibility to begin at the earliest stages to teach our children firearm safety, wildlife identification, ethics and courtesy so that these virtues will be instilled in them, as well as their children.

And finally, we must step up our involvement with private organizations that are working so hard on our behalf and on the behalf of wildlife resources that mean so much to us. There are so many of these organizations I won't try to mention them, but some of them are dedicated to

ity. My message is simply this: the not-for-profit hunter has always demonstrated responsibility toward that which he hunts. I believe we will continue to do so in the future. The challenge of the future, however, will be to organize at every level, to influence those external forces

"I must admit that I don't understand people whose idea of a good time is jumping out of a moving plane . . . when someone is killed in pursuit of this type of recreation, never in my wildest dreams, do I consider it my right to organize a group dedicated to outlawing these pursuits."

the critical task of maintaining and increasing habitat. Others are involved in regard to this important informational value I spoke of. I am involved with enough of these organizations to know that they need more than just a check, although that is of critical importance. They need hands and voices. They need people willing to put a shoulder to the wheel on behalf of the hunter and on behalf of the wildlife resource. This involvement should be the personal responsibility of every single individual that considers him or herself an ethical hunter.

As you know, my topic is the hunter, his future and his responsibility

which threaten to minimize the good work that the hunting fraternity stands ready to do.

About the Author: Born in Sardis, Mississippi, Betty Crystal has been waterfowling since her youth, when she joined her father and brother on hunting excursions. More recently, she has become part owner of a duck camp on the Mississippi Delta. A resident of Jackson and an active DU member, she serves on the Mississippi DU Committee and has organized the state's Sponsor Program. She recently was appointed chairperson of DU's National Women's Committee.

Courtesy - Ducks Unlimited Magazine



SUBSIDIES FOR NEW PONDS

For some time now the North Island Council of Acclimatisation Societies has been operating a pond subsidy scheme which is designed to encourage interested persons to construct dams and wetlands suitable for waterfowl. This is an excellent scheme, and these artificial wetlands are going some way toward replacing some of the wild wetlands which have been drained. Figs 3, 4 and 5 show typical waterfowl areas created under the subsidy scheme.

Fig 3 is a 5 acre lagoon on Mr Jim Campbell's property at Masterton. Jim, a keen DU member, has fenced off about 10 acres, and the lagoon has formed a very impressive swamp at the top end. Constructed three years ago, at a total cost of \$ 1,500, the area has already become a Paradise Shelduck moulting site and is attracting many species of waterfowl.

Fig 4 shows a view from the top end of a new dam constructed in February 1978 by Wellington directors, Neil Hayes and Bud Jones, and DU member Mr Allan Elliot, a farmer at Ekatahuna. This pond cost \$ 1,100 to construct. \$ 400 towards its cost came from the subsidy scheme, plus a further \$ 200 subsidy for fencing. The area is already providing excellent habitat and is also expected to be used by Paradise as a moulting site. We hope to also place a few pairs of Canada geese on the dam.

Fig 5 shows one of farmer Mike Moore's dams at Homewood in the Wairarapa. Eight Canada geese were placed on this pond in March 1979.

Applications for a pond subsidy must be made through your local acclimatisation society prior to any construction work being done. The society, along with a game management officer from the Wildlife Service, will inspect the area for suitability and make appropriate recommendations to the acclimatisation society council. The degree of subsidy will depend entirely on the proposed area's suitability as wildlife habitat. After the pond has been constructed, it is inspected again and, if thought satisfactory, recommendation for a subsidy payment will be made.

For large dams a Water Rights Application may have to be made under the Water & Soil Conservation Act. Wildlife Service and Acclimatisation Society staff will be able to advise on this aspect at the time of inspection.

continued page 14



Fig 3



Fig 4



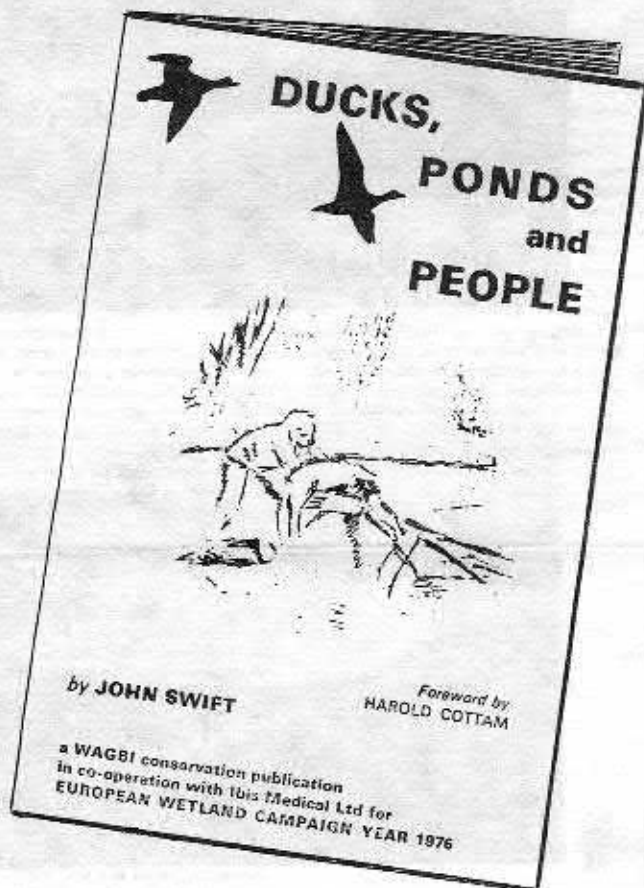
Fig 5

SUBSIDIES FOR NEW PONDS - continued from previous page

So, if you think you know, or are, a farmer with a suitable pond site, some serious thought should be given to the construction of a pond. There are some quite inexpensive pamphlets and booklets available on pond construction. An excellent publication is "Ducks Ponds & People" which is available from Ducks Unlimited (see below).

As already mentioned, Ducks Unlimited considers the pond subsidy scheme is worthwhile and a real incentive for interested people to construct very valuable wildlife habitat. Criticism is sometimes made that these subsidised ponds do not always provide acclimatisation society members with the opportunity to shoot on them, even though it is their funds which are used to finance the ponds. Ducks Unlimited does not support this criticism in any way - without continuing construction of new habitat, the game waterfowl population would be in severe difficulties!

'RECOMMENDED READING' FOR DUCK PEOPLE



Ducks Unlimited (N.Z.) again has copies available of the excellent publication "DUCKS, PONDS AND PEOPLE" by John Swift of W.A.G.B.I.

This book covers all fundamental aspects of pond construction, planting, conservation etc. It is a must for every D.U. member's bookshelf!

Cost is only \$ 3-95 including postage.

REPORT FROM DUCKS UNLIMITED, INC - U.S.A.: DU SURVEYS WETLANDS HABITAT RACE

Ducks Unlimited in New Zealand received the following press release from Ducks Unlimited, Inc:

"Chicago --- Ducks Unlimited officials have announced that nationwide fund-raising efforts conducted by its volunteers during 1978 generated a record \$ 16,152,274 as a guarantee that the fight to save critical North American waterfowl breeding habitat will continue to be fought. But the waterfowl conservation organisation also made it clear that many more dollars are needed if the race to save fast-disappearing Canadian wetlands is ever to be won.

'As pleased as we're bound to be about the 16-million-plus dollars our 1,200 committees and 285,000 members produced during 1978,' said DU Executive Vice President Dale E. Whitesell, 'I can't help but feel apprehensive when I consider the stakes involved in the Canadian wetlands habitat race. I think there are far too many conservationists in this country who just don't realise that 70 per cent of North America's waterfowl are produced in Canada's prairie wetlands habitat. If we should ever sag significantly in the race to preserve and restore these wetlands, the repercussions would be felt acutely by an entire U.S. conservation-oriented public. There simply would no longer be the numbers of waterfowl we've been accustomed to seeing. And this fact, I think, would eliminate a sense of joy whose importance might be far greater than what we imagine.'

Dale Whitesell pointed out that the 11.1 million Canadian dollars which Ducks Unlimited Inc made available to DU (Canada) during 1978 resulted in the completion of 122 wetland projects encompassing 101,643 acres and 552 new miles of nesting shoreline. He explained, too, that the 16-million-plus dollars generated in the U.S. by Ducks Unlimited Inc during 1978 pushed the organisation's 41 year old track record to a total of \$ 88 million --- \$ 68 million of which has been made available to Canada where the critical North American habitat race is run.

'I'll admit that \$ 88 million total sounds like a lot of money,' said Whitesell, 'when you first think about how much money it should take to keep wild waterfowl flying from one year to the next. But what spooks me about where we really stand in the Canadian habitat race stems from the federal money being spent right here in our backyard. The U.S. government, for instance, is spending \$ 20 million a year just to acquire -- not develop -- wetlands in our country which sustain only 20 per cent of North America's waterfowl production. At this rate, conservationists should be spending a staggering \$ 70 million annually in Canada where 70 per cent of North America's waterfowl production takes place'. Ducks Unlimited is waging, in short, a private-sector-funded fight in a ring of government-sized proportions,' said Whitesell 'And to tell you the truth, I don't know how long we can continue to do that alone.'

(issued 10 April 1979)

Ducks Unlimited (New Zealand) congratulates Ducks Unlimited, Inc on this magnificent annual result but echoes its reservations and apprehension - the race is far from being won in North America. I am sure DU members in New Zealand will watch Ducks Unlimited Inc's progress in this "race" with much admiration and interest.

DUCKS UNLIMITED (NZ) EXTENDS A WARM WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS ...

Aiken, Andrew	(S)	Hansen, Julian	(J)	Odey, David	(F)
Buckley D.M.	(F)	Johnson, David J.	(F)	Pack, Miss Jocelyn	(F)
Caddel C.	(F)	Jones, Cliff	(J)	Satherley R.	(S)
Chetwin	(S)	Lovell-Smith, James	(F)	Singers B.	(S)
Cuneo, Richard	(F)	Meads, Ross	(F)	Smith D.G.	(F)
Fotheringham, Brett	(J)	Nelson, R.	(S)	Terry D.	(S)
Gould, John T.	(S)	Neville P.	(S)	Thorpe, Malcolm	(F)

Note: (F) denotes Full membership; (S) Supporter; (J) Junior

MEMBERS: ASSIST WITH DU FUNDRAISING - ORDER YOUR LAPEL BADGE!

ALL SALE PROCEEDS BENEFIT DU PROJECTS. PRICE: ONLY \$ 2-95 EACH!
(size - 5/8" diameter)

YOUR DU MEMBERSHIP . . . THE OTHER RENEWABLE RESOURCE

ANY BOOK ABOUT DUCKS AND GEESE WILL TELL YOU WATERFOWL ARE A RENEWABLE RESOURCE GIVEN GOOD HABITAT PROTECTION DURING REPRODUCTIVE TIMES ETC ETC, FOOD, WATER AND SPECIAL COVER ARE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS IN THIS 'GOOD HABITAT' BUT, FIRST, SOMEONE MUST ASSURE THERE WILL BE HABITAT TO BEGIN WITH. THAT'S WHAT YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN DUCKS UNLIMITED IS ALL ABOUT.



AT DU WE CONSIDER YOUR MEMBERSHIP A RENEWABLE RESOURCE TOO. WHEN YOU RENEW, YOU GUARANTEE THE COMPLETION OF WATERFOWL PROJECTS ALREADY UNDER WAY FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR AND PROVIDE FOR NEW PROJECTS. SO - JUST AS FOOD, WATER AND COVER ARE WHAT GOVERNS HABITAT QUALITY REGULAR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE WHAT GOVERN HABITAT DEVELOPMENT.

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1979/80 ARE NOW DUE - HAVE YOU RENEWED ?

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