

TENTATIVE BIOGRAPHY OF GEORGE SHIRAS 3RD, AS PREPARED FOR "WHO'S WHO", 1940-41.

SHIRAS, George 3rd, lawyer, law-maker and faunal naturalist. b. Allegheny, Pa. (now North Side of Pittsburgh), Jan. 1, 1859; s. George Jr. and Lillie E. (Kennedy) S.; A.B., Cornell, 1881; LL.B., Yale Univ., 1883; (Sc. D., Trinity College, 1918); m. Frances P. White, of Marquette, Mich., Oct. 31, 1885; children — Ellen Kennedy (Mrs. Frank J. Russell), George Shiras 4th (dec). Admitted to bar State of Pa., 1883; associated in practice with his father until apmnt. of latter to U.S. Supreme bench, 1892; mem. law firm of Shiras & Dickey, Pittsburgh, until 1904. Elected to Pa. Ho. of Rep. for term 1889-90, as anti-ring candidate, becoming next to youngest of all 204 members of House. App. only new member of Judiciary General Committee. Author of extensive legislation and widely known as successful opponent of monopolies and machine politics. Elected to the 58th Congress (1903-05), as an avowed Republican, on an independent ticket; declined renomination, as indicated at time of election, to study governmental problems and the scientific work of a biologist. Writer since 1905, upon biol. subjects and legal questions connected with federal jurisprudence; pres. Kawbewgam Hotel Co., (Mich.). Noted as amateur photographer of wild animals; student of natural history; invented methods for taking pictures of wild animals at night by flashlight; promoter of legislation for protection of wild animals and birds. Author of bills putting under federal control migratory birds and migratory fish—the former becoming a law Mar. 4, 1913. Author Shiras Gun Law, passed by Michigan Legislature in 1925, prohibiting carrying of guns in hunting areas during closed season. Awarded gold medal at Paris Expn., 1900 (highest award for single exhibitor), and grand prize at St. Louis World Fair, 1904, for flashlight photographs of wild animals, in form of bromide enlargements and glass transparencies. V. p. Am. Game Protective Assn. since 1912; mem. advisory bd. Migratory Bird Treaty, Regulations, Dept. Agr., 1914—; trustee Nat. Geog. Soc., 1908—; discoverer in 1908-09 of new species of moose on Upper Yellowstone River, named Shiras Moose in his honor; just as in 1913 a new and permanent black phase of Great Brown Bear of Alaska was later named in honor of his son, George 4th. In summer of 1911, when twelve years old, with younger bro. Winfield and led by their Indian guide, discovered Whitefish Lake (Mich.), in a wilderness about twenty miles S. E. of Marquette. Here deer were hunted successfully for many years; and here, later, George Shiras 3rd invented his various methods for taking daylight and flashlight pictures of wild animals. Clubs: Boone and Crockett, Explorers' (New York); Cosmos (Washington); Rotary of Marquette, Mich. (hon.). Presented a club house to Marquette Fed. of Women's Clubs, with a small endowment, which accommodates fifteen auxiliary associations; also Picnic Rocks Park, with thousand feet of frontage on beach, and bordered by recreational forest; also in 1921, one of largest and best equipped outdoor municipal swimming pools in the country; also, with Mrs. Shiras and friends, a modern fireproof hotel (the Northland) regardless of profit, overlooking Lake Superior; also a Rock and Water Garden at mouth of Dead River, illuminated at night during summer months. Donor, with Mrs. Shiras, of trust fund called The Shiras Institute, incorporated in 1938, for beautification, recreational and cultural activities of city of Marquette and vicinity. Author: Hunting Wild Life with Camera and Flashlight, 2 vols., 1st ed., 1935, 2nd ed., rev. and cor., 1936. Contributor of many articles on wild life to various magazines prior to initial publication in National Geographic in 1906. Home: (Permanent), 460 East Ridge St., Marquette, Mich. George Shiras Sr. b. Pittsburgh, Pa., 1805; George Jr. b. Pittsburgh 1832; George 3rd, b. Allegheny, 1859; George 4th, b. Marquette, 1889. There was an important period when these four Georges were all living at the same time and often in the same household. Hence, the adoption of the numeral 3rd and 4th for the two younger Georges, to avoid confusion.

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Aug 2, 1881

TENTATIVE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF
GEORGE SHIRAS 3rd

George Shiras 3rd - lawyer, law[^]maker, and faunal naturalist - was born in Allegheny, Pa., (now the North Side of Pittsburgh) on January 1, 1859. Son of George Shiras Jr. and Lillie E. (Kennedy) Shiras, both of Pittsburgh, he was descended from a Scottish ancestor, Peter Shiras, who came to America and settled in Mt. Holly, N.J., about 1765, later removing to Pittsburgh. George Shiras Sr., grandson of Peter Shiras and grandfather of George Shiras 3rd, was married to Eliza Herron, daughter of the Rev. Francis Herron, famed third pastor, from 1811-1850, of Pittsburgh's First Presbyterian Church. Two of his sons, George Shiras Jr. and Oliver Perry Shiras, eventually become distinguished jurists - the former being appointed straight from his practice of law in Pittsburgh to the United States Supreme Court by President Harrison in 1892, the latter settling in Dubuque, Iowa, where he served for twenty-one years as United States District Judge.

Early in his career, George Shiras 3rd determined to follow his father, George Jr., into the practice of law. Entering Cornell University from Phillips Exeter Academy in 1877, he graduated in the course of "History and Political Science" in 1881, choosing as his thesis a study of the United States Constitution. It was at Cornell that he became an intimate friend of Colonel E. M. House, a classmate and brother member in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, who was later to be famous as President Woodrow Wilson's personal representative in Europe during the World War.

In the Fall of 1881, George Shiras 3rd entered the Yale Law School, where, in his Senior Year, he was honored with the election to the presidency of the debating society known as the Kent Club. Much to the astonishment of his classmates, however, he declined the office, declaring that he preferred to remain active on the floor. At that time the Tariff was a subject of nation-wide discussion, and it was upon this theme that most of the debates had raged for several years among the members of the society. It was therefore not surprising that Mr. Shiras, upon his graduation from the Yale Law School in 1883, chose as his thesis: "The Constitutionality of the Protective Tariff". Returning to Pittsburgh in the same year, he was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar and began the practice of law with his father. When the latter was appointed to the U. S. Supreme Court, the younger man assumed his father's business and became the senior member of the law firm of Shiras and Dickey, in which he continued until he retired from practice in 1904.

MEMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE, 1889-1890

Meanwhile, politics had begun to command his attention, principally because of his aversion to the ruthless political machine that dominated Pennsylvania. His pamphlet attacking the pending nomination to the United States Senate of Colonel M.S. Quay in 1887 caused a sensation throughout the State. He was elected to the ^{Pennsylvania} ~~Pittsburgh~~ House of Representatives for the term 1889-1890 on an anti-ring ticket, the next-to-youngest of all

the 204 members of that body. Here his term of office was notable for its authorship of extensive legislation, its successful opposition to monopolies and machine politics. His appointment as the only novitiate member to the Judiciary General Committee was in itself a signal honor. He was also one of the three new members of the House to be awarded a chairmanship - that of Federal Relations; and he was made Secretary of Geological Survey and a member of the Committee on Banks. One of the first measures to be pushed through both branches of the Legislature was the High School Bill, whose prompt passage by the House was secured by Mr. Shiras, thus ensuring the completion of the handsome building on Sherman Avenue, Allegheny. Mr. Shiras also succeeded in securing for the Home for the Friendless of Allegheny an appropriation of \$6,000 - one of the few county bills for charitable institutions neither cut down nor vetoed by the executive. He introduced and passed a bill extending and renewing the Charters of State Banks, upon which depended the corporate life of the famous old Bank of Pittsburgh. Of wider interest to the State at large was the bill passed by him enabling State Banks to become National Banks, with functions more in keeping with the needs of the time. He was in charge of an important measure enlarging the jurisdiction of the Orphans Court, providing for the safe transfer of trust funds to Trustees in another State or Territory, wherever the persons beneficially interested had removed to such State or Territory to permanently reside. And he was responsible, virtually single-handed and in the face of threats against his own projects, for

the defeat of the notorious "Grade Crossing Monstrosity" (House Bill No. 52), which was considered the greatest corporation grab of the session. This measure, purporting to be for the "protection of life and property in cities of the first and second class", was in fact a scheme to prevent the building of any more rival railroads in the State, and further, to compel the cities to spend millions in the behalf of existing corporations. Mr. Shiras was the first to sound the alarm the instant the nature of the bill was detected. After his bitter denunciation of the measure on the floor of the House (and he alone spoke against it on final passage), the large commercial exchanges in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh became aroused to its dangers and passed resolutions condemning it. Beyond a doubt, it was owing largely to the courageous speeches and effective work of Mr. Shiras, that the taxpayers of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Philadelphia were saved millions of dollars, and their communities freed from a measure that made new railroad enterprises an impossibility. Followed the defeat through Mr. Shiras' efforts, of the bill for Female Superintendents in public hospitals; and lastly, his resolution for the impeachment of Judge J.W.F. White, (Why?) and the adjournment of the Legislature in order to avoid same, with its aftermath of ten years of political controversies.

THE CONTROVERSY WITH BAYNE AND STONE

On retiring from the Legislature in 1890, Mr. Shiras, moved by an ulterior motive, (What motive?) unexpectedly announced his candidacy for his party's nomination to Congress against Colonel Thomas M. Bayne, (Why not name party?) in what

was then the 29th District, comprising the north side of Allegheny County. Congressman Bayne had been for seventeen years one of the most prominent and apparently popular leaders in the State. As the period remaining before the Congressional primaries was then very short, about three weeks, Mr. Shiras had little time to set up his delegates; and few believed that the youthful candidate could defeat his more experienced opponent. However, the contest was much closer than expected, for while Bayne had the majority of the delegates to the convention, Mr. Shiras had the majority of the popular vote. Mr. Shiras thereupon announced that a motion would be made to declare the nomination of his opponent unanimous.

But when the convention assembled, there occurred one of the most disgraceful political coups ever recorded in American politics. After receiving and accepting the nomination, Bayne suddenly announced his withdrawal, requesting that the convention nominate Colonel William A. Stone, United States District Attorney, who, with a powerful organization behind him, had long cherished the ambition to succeed Bayne upon the latter's retirement. At the time this political theft took place, a third of Mr. Shiras' delegates had refused to attend the convention, as they had been definitely elected to oppose Col. Bayne's continuance in office. And during the uproar following, a number of Bayne's own delegates denounced the deal; so that if all Mr. Shiras' delegates had been present, it would probably have been defeated, and Mr. Shiras himself nominated. The two strongest supporters of Col. Bayne's renomination had been the morning and

afternoon party newspapers. (Again, why not name party?) Each now denounced the steal in the most virulent editorials, one commenting: "Like two pick-pockets in a crowd, they [Bayne and Stone] had agreed to raise a racket, and in the excitement, get away with the wallet which they coveted. Bayne snatched the prize, and in the twinkling of an eye, passed it over to his pal, Stone, who stowed it away". So incensed, in fact, was the whole community, that a mass-meeting of five thousand party supporters at Carnegie Hall roundly denounced the substitution of a candidate who had never previously been before the people.

The final result was that the County Committee compelled Colonel Stone to relinquish his fraudulent nomination and run again. At first Mr. Shiras refused to enter into another contest, but understanding better than the uninitiated voter the importance of the next election, he yielded when the people insisted upon an opportunity of registering their protest against such political trickery. Before the new primaries, which he had contrived to get postponed until September, hoping that the scandal might "blow over", Stone had actively enlisted in his own behalf the entire city and county organizations and practically every office-holder, aggregating more than 3000 voters, in addition to local corporation, contractors, and the usual ring beneficiaries. Behind Mr. Shiras were the manufacturers, merchants, mechanics, and most of the young Republican workers. It is significant that at the primaries Mr. Shiras had a majority of twenty-four delegates and received a popular majority of almost

three thousand votes, notwithstanding nearly every election board, particularly in the city of Allegheny, was against him, and in many instances threw out his majority and awarded the credentials to the opposing delegates. In fact, just previous to the meeting of the convention, it was accurately ascertained that nineteen of his delegates were either counted out or their credentials transferred to friends of Stone after the election.

Contests were now entered and notice immediately served; but when the convention met, the Chairman refused to refer these contests to the committee provided for under the party rules, or to permit any testimony to be taken, although fifty witnesses were present. After vain effort to obtain free play, Mr. Shiras' delegates attempted to leave the hall, but Stone, fully aware of what would be the result of rejecting the above contests, had ordered a squad of policemen stationed at the doors, which were finally thrown open only after the latter's nomination had been rushed through in the face of a gathering riot.

Again the community was in an uproar, and again the people protested against such an outrage - a protest which subsequent investigation proved to be fully justified. Mr. Shiras' delegates met and unanimously nominated him as an independent candidate against Stone; and although it seemed certain that this nomination, with an aroused public at the polls, would result in his election, Mr. Shiras felt impelled to decline it and resume his private practice of law. Many, however, were the repercussions following Stone's fraudulent nomination and subsequent

election. Mayor Wyman of Allegheny, convicted of having accepted \$10,000 to betray Mr. Shiras, was sentenced to the penitentiary - a sentence which, after a personal appeal to Mr. Shiras, was commuted to a term in the Work House. The Assistant Postmaster and Internal Revenue Collector were removed. Postmaster-General Wanamaker of the Harrison Cabinet was threatened with impeachment. And that same autumn, Colonel Bayne, brooding over his betrayal of his party, committed suicide in Washington. William M. Kennedy, an uncle of Mr. Shiras, was elected Mayor in Wyman's place, insuring Mr. Shiras' nomination to Congress the following year, had the latter desired it.

ELECTION TO THE 58th CONGRESS, 1902.

Upon the appointment of his father to the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Shiras formed the law firm that largely succeeded to the former's practice, refusing thereafter to consider the solicitations of his friends to re-enter public life. In 1902, however, he was tendered the nomination to Congress by the newly formed anti-ring Citizen's Party, organized for the defeat of the corrupt local machine in Allegheny County. "This nomination comes to me unsought," he wrote in his letter of acceptance, "and brings with it a very serious responsibility. My own personal wishes, I may say to you frankly, are strongly against a further participation in active public life. To refuse, however, to cooperate with you to such an extent as I may have the ability, at this time, would be to turn my back upon the principles which have been dear to me all my life and upon the friends whose associations I value more highly than I can

express." His opponent was W. H. Graham, who engineered the deal that made Stone the nominee in 1890, and who succeeded Stone when the latter became Governor. The fall elections resulted in the choice of the entire Citizen's ticket and in the permanent downfall of the local machine. In accepting the nomination and election, Mr. Shiras made it clearly understood that he would serve for a single term only, at the end of which he would be free to resume his activities in natural history and his study of governmental problems.

The 58th Congress (1903-05) to which Mr. Shiras was elected as an avowed Republican was conspicuous for several reasons. "Uncle Joe" Cannon of Illinois, long a political leader, was elected for the first time Speaker of the House; and among the members were such notables and future notables as _____ (G.S. 3rd to fill in names he wants here.) At the head of the National Administration was the indomitable figure, Theodore Roosevelt, who had recently succeeded to the Presidency upon the tragic death of William McKinley. At that time, as at present, (?) there was no standing committee on game protection in the House; therefore Mr. Shiras applied for and received appointment on the Public Lands Committee, part of whose jurisdiction included the creation of national parks and monuments in which he was particularly interested. He wrote the report of the committee recommending the passage of the Cushman bill creating Elk National Park, later the Olympic National Monument in the Olympic Forest Reserve, Washington, and another report favoring setting aside the unique petrified forest of Arizona. Both of these areas were afterwards made national monuments.

During his second year on the Public Lands Committee there arose a persistent demand in the East for the extension of Yellowstone Park southward into Wyoming in order to protect the larger game animals in the Upper Yellowstone Valley, where the animals from the Park were the target of many hunters. As the only eastern member on this Committee, Mr. Shiras undertook to bring about this proposed extension. Due to strong opposition, a compromise was finally agreed upon, ^{providing for the creation} ~~enabling the Wyoming~~ ^{by the Wyoming Legislature of} ~~ing legislature to create~~ a permanent game refuge on the lands adjoining the Park. This proposition was accepted by Mr. Shiras, and thus were brought about the main objectives to be covered in the proposed bill. ^A Meanwhile, in the summer of 1904, Mr. Shiras had visited Yellowstone Park for the purpose of familiarizing himself with the situation. There he heard rumors that several moose had been seen on the southern boundary of the Park; and as this animal was not supposed to exist at that time in the Rockies south of Canada, he decided to investigate. Ascending the Upper Yellowstone by canoe in three successive seasons, he found a large number of moose sequestered in the broad valley where forests, marshlands, streams, and little lakes provided an excellent all-the-year home. On his final visit, Mr. Shiras estimated the moose in this little known district to number probably more than 2000, which was a surprise to the Park authorities, as well as to the outside world. Thus the newly established game refuge in northern Wyoming was just in time to give protection and enlarged quarters to the increasing moose.

THE MIGRATORY BIRD BILL

As his time in Congress approached an end, Mr. Shiras prepared and introduced the revolutionary bill that was destined to link his name forever with the cause of conservation - the now famous Migratory Bird Bill. Briefly, this bill provided for the prohibition of spring shooting at a time when tens of thousands of mated wildfowl were slaughtered each season while on their way to their breeding grounds. At the same time a stop was to be put to the devastating activities of hordes of market hunters who were solely interested in turning ducks into dollars. Shooting seasons were also to be materially shortened and the bag limits reduced to meet the needs of the time. This measure was introduced with no expectation or desire that it should be given consideration in the concluding days of that particular Congress. The idea of its author was to lay before sportsmen and the country generally a proposition requiring long and careful consideration. As Mr. Shiras explained, the States lacked extraterritorial jurisdiction and would not agree nor bring about by themselves uniform laws and enforcement. It had become clear to him that a situation had arisen that could be handled only by the Federal Government.

The Migratory Bird Bill quickly received nation-wide support. Among its early advocates was the Chief Executive, who wrote the following terse approval from the White House on February 1, 1905:

My dear Mr. Shiras

I am very much pleased with your bill and am very glad we have in Congress a man taking so great an interest in the preservation of our birds and Nature generally. I particularly wanted wild fowl to be protected.

With hearty congratulations,
Sincerely yours,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

In several succeeding terms Congressman Weeks of Massachusetts reintroduced the bill. Extended hearings were held on it, and on March 4, 1913, it was enacted. When the Act came before the Federal Courts, only two out of eight lower-court judges decided against its unconstitutionality. To meet future contingencies and to broaden its purpose, the essential provisions of the Act were incorporated in a Migratory Bird Treaty with Great Britain, signed August 16, 1916. The constitutionality of this treaty was later sustained by the United States Supreme Court on briefs by Mr. Shiras and other lawyers, thus confirming the right of our National Government to exercise its effective jurisdiction over migratory birds, and at the same time providing Canada with a similar jurisdiction over its vast domain.

HEALTH MEASURES AND MONOGRAPHS

During his time in Congress Mr. Shiras strongly advocated Federal control both of contagious diseases and epidemic conditions, also control of the pollution of interstate waters, as well as more extended medical research throughout the country to safeguard the public health in many ways in which the separate States lack power. To this end he prepared and introduced a bill to create a National Department of Public Health with cabinet representation, in the expectation that by reason of the needed additional functions a broader jurisdiction would be established than then existed in the scattered health agencies of the general government. This would give it the same effective

authority to protect man as has been given to the Department of Agriculture to foster and protect the useful and control the harmful plant and animal life of the nation. He also urged the negotiation of international treaties for the protection of whales and other pelagic mammals threatened with extinction.

After his retirement from Congress, Mr. Shiras wrote to educate the public in the foregoing ideas, a series of monographs on the regulatory powers of the Federal Government. The series included: 1. The Character and Extent of National Police Power; 2. The Constitutionality of the Migratory Bird Law; 3. The Health Jurisdiction of the Federal Government; 4. The Constitutionality of the Protective Tariff (suggesting a new theory for its maintenance); 5. An American League of Nations; 6. The Unconstitutionality of the Canadian Reciprocity Tariff (the pet measure of the Taft administration, later quoted freely in the congressional debates); 7. History of the Original Migratory Bird Bill. Other similar papers dealt primarily with the regulatory jurisdiction of the Government and its relations to foreign nations in regard to such matters.

EARLY VISITS TO MARQUETTE

Aside, however, from his introduction of the Migratory Bird Bill, it was as a faunal naturalist and amateur photographer of wild animals that Mr. Shiras gained his world-wide reputation. His love of wild life and the wilderness dated far back beyond the above events in his Congressional career. It was his at birth, a heritage from his paternal ancestors. His great-grandfather, George Shiras, had been a noted hunter and fisherman in

the forested region about Pittsburgh. He had shown his tastes and his adventurous disposition in 1811 by putting the first steamboat on the Ohio and its tributary headwaters. It was a small craft, which he christened the Izaak Walton and which he and his friends used for fishing in the local waters. And Mr. Shiras' paternal grandfather, George Shiras, born in Pittsburgh in 1805, was also a lover of the out-of-doors, being especially devoted to trout fishing. Having heard marvelous tales of the fine speckled trout along the south shore of Lake Superior, he went there in the summer of 1849 and established vacation headquarters at the village of Marquette. This was before locks had been built around the Sault Sainte Marie, and only a few scattered settlements existed in the entire region. The excellent sport he enjoyed and the beauties of the primitive wilderness lured him back each following season until his 89th year. And it was in 1859 that Mr. Shiras' father, George Shiras Jr., made his first trip to this fisherman's paradise. ~~Like his own father~~ ~~he~~ he was delighted with the country, to which he thereafter made many pilgrimages until he was 92 years of age.

When George Shiras 3rd was ~~eleven~~ eleven years old, in the summer of 1870, he was first taken to Marquette by his father. Here, at the mouth of Dead River, with three boy companions between the ages of nine and twelve, he pitched his first overnight camp. During the night the four intrepid adventurers were nearly put to route by the noise of an onrushing "forest fire", which turned out to be a falls further inland, and by the intrusion of "bears", which turned out to be a stray Indian dog. The

following summer, accompanied by Jack La Pete, an Indian guide who had been first employed by his grandfather in 1850, George Shiras 3rd and his younger brother Winfield made a two days' journey on foot to a beautiful little lake hidden in the forest about twenty miles east of Marquette. There Jack had gone a year or two before, as a mail carrier on a railroad survey, finding in this virgin section many deer, fur-bearing animals and fish. To this secluded spot, which he named Whitefish Lake, and near which he later established a family camp, George Shiras 3rd returned for upwards of seventy years. "The natural beauties of this woodland haven," wrote Mr. Shiras, "and the interesting wild life inhabiting the surrounding forest undoubtedly had a governing influence in developing my career as a sportsman-naturalist. It was there that, as a youthful hunter, I shot my first deer. There I took my first daylight and flashlight photographs of wild life, and there I became an observing field naturalist. Born and reared in Pennsylvania's greatest industrial center, I lived during most of my early years beneath a sun often obscured by clouds of smoke. At night that part of the Ohio Valley resembled an inferno from the glare of blast furnaces, coke ovens, and many standpipes shooting lurid flames far overhead in wasteful consumption of the natural gas from adjoining oil fields. The contrast between such surroundings and those of my vacation periods beneath azure skies in a remote forest retreat sufficiently accounts, I believe, for the overpowering desire that finally caused me to give up the exactions of a professional life that I might be free to interpret the laws of nature rather than those of man."

It was in Marquette, in 1885, that Mr. Shiras married Frances P. White, daughter of Peter White, one of Michigan's most famous pioneers as well as founder and liberal benefactor of the city. There his two children were born, (?) a son and a daughter. The son, George Shiras 4th, like his father, developed in early life a deep love for the wilds and became a skillful hunter, fisherman and photographer. For about four years after his birth there was a remarkable period when four generations of George Shirases were all living at the same time and often under the same roof. Hence the adoption of the numerals 3rd and 4th for the two youngest Georges, to avoid confusion. The untimely death of George Shiras 4th, in 1915, broke the family succession and ended the promise of a brilliant career.

INVENTOR OF FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY OF WILD LIFE

About 1889, Mr. Shiras began to lay aside his gun and experiment with a camera, in an attempt to obtain permanent records of the wild life about Whitefish Lake. As the result of these early and persistent endeavors he became recognized as the father of wild life photography. He originated and was the first to advocate the pastime of hunting with the camera in daytime and at night. His beautiful flashlight pictures, taken at a date when photographic equipment was comparatively crude, were of such unique and startling interest that when the United States Government was preparing the material for its part in the World Exposition to be held in Paris in 1900, the privilege of using a set of bromide enlargements of them, as well as glass transparencies,

was officially requested. At this Paris Exposition, the judges in the Forestry Division expressed the general appreciation of this exhibit by the highest award, the Gold Medal and diploma. On learning of the display and visiting it, the international jury in the Photographic Division asked permission and awarded their highest prize, a silver medal, to Mr. Shiras, who had not entered his work in their exhibit. Four years later, in 1904, at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, the Shiras photographs of wild life received the Grand Prize.

Briefly stated, George Shiras 3rd, the original advocate of wild life photography, was (1) the first to photograph in daytime wild animals or birds from a canoe or blind; (2) the first to get automatic daylight pictures of wild animals by their touching a string across a trail or pulling on bait attached to a string operating the shutter of a camera; (3) the first to operate the camera at a distance by a string running from a blind; (4) the first to invent a means for picturing animals from a canoe by hand flashlight; (5) the first to invent a means to obtain automatic flashlight photographs for which the animals or birds fired the flash; (6) the first to use two flashlights and two cameras, one set picturing the animal when quiescent and the other set, a second later, showing the animal in action when alarmed by the explosion of the first flashlight; (7) the first to photograph wild life, by day or night, with a double-lensed camera for the purpose of obtaining stereoscopic pictures; and (8) the first to practice wing shooting with the camera by means of a specially devised apparatus by which wild fowl and shore birds can be photographed when flying from 50 to 75 miles an hour.

All of Mr. Shiras' basic inventions were covered by broad patents taken out in the United States and several other countries, and then dedicated to the free use of the public, to prevent their commercial exploitation. But the slow response of mankind to new ideas is illustrated by the fact that despite the beauty of those early wild like flashlight photographs, it was some twelve years after he had revealed his methods and their results, that others began to emulate his efforts. Among his marked characteristics, and one that may be noted as rather uncommon, was the sympathetic and generous friendliness with which he always viewed the work of others in the field he had made particularly his own. And although he always appreciated the permanent scientific value of his photographic and other studies as contributions to the life histories of many species, he was especially pleased by their effect on the public from a recreational point of view. He felt that one of the most valuable results of his work was to promote a greater general interest in the out-of-doors.

FIELD TRIPS, DISCOVERIES AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Mr. Shiras scrupulously made it a point not to photograph animals in parks or reservations, the only exception being in the case of the wilderness valley of the Upper Yellowstone. Prior to his initial and widely acclaimed publication in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, in 1906, he contributed to many magazines and periodicals. Thereafter, as a steady contributor of profusely illustrated articles ^{to} in the GEOGRAPHIC, his field trips covered many thousands of miles, from Alaska to Panama, and from Newfoundland to the Rockies. Taking photographs and making notes, whether

of animals or of birds, he made one or more journeys to the wilds of New Brunswick and Ontario, the eastern shore of Virginia, Currituck Sound in North Carolina, Cumberland Island in Georgia, the Bahamas, the Louisiana marshes, Eastern Mexico, Gatun Lake in the Canal Zone, the Yellowstone National Park region, the Kaibab Plateau in Arizona, and the Kenai Peninsula and Admiralty Island, both in Alaska. Often tempted to visit the big game fields of East and Central Africa, Mr. Shiras was always convinced, on second thought, that his foremost duty lay in acquainting the people of the United States with the wild life of their country, and of the continent as a whole, and in interesting them in it to such an extent that they would desire to maintain and upbuild it.

In 1908-09 he discovered a new species of moose on Upper Yellowstone River, which Dr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, named Alces americana shirasi in his honor - just as in 1913 a new and permanent ^{black} phase of the Great Brown Bear of Alaska was discovered by his son George Shiras 4th, and later named Ursus shirasi by the eminent authority, Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Between expeditions, Mr. Shiras continued to study and photograph wild life at his summer home in Marquette, his forest-ringed cottage in Wesley Heights, Washington, D. C., and his winter home in Ormond, Florida. A painstaking habit of making accurate notes, formed as early as 1875, together with a remarkable ability to draw conclusions from observed data, added immeasurably to the permanent value of his work, which he leavened with a keen sense of kindly humor. His eight GEOGRAPHIC articles, contributed over a period of twenty-six years, were as follows:

Photographing Wild Game with Flashlight and Camera. July, 1906.

One Season's Game-Bag with the Camera, June, 1908.

A Flashlight Story of an Albino Porcupine and of a Cunning
but Unfortunate Coon. June, 1911.

White Sheep, Giant Moose, and Smaller Game of the Kenai
Peninsula, Alaska. May, 1912.

Wild Animals That Took Their Own Pictures by Day and by
Night. July, 1913

Nature's Transformation at Panama: Remarkable Changes in
Faunal and Physical Conditions in the Gatun Lake
Region. August, 1915.

The Wild Life of Lake Superior, Past and Present; The Habits
of Deer, Moose, Wolves, Beavers, Muskrats, Trout, and
Feathered Wood-folk Studied with Camera and Flash-
light. August, 1921.

Wild Life of the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts: A field Naturalist's
Photographic Record of Nearly Half a Century of Fruit-
ful Exploration. September, 1932.

LETTERS FROM GILBERT GROVESNOR AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT

As Mr. Shiras' collection of negatives resulting from
his field work grew to large proportions, he decided that the
entire series of about 2,400 subjects should be preserved and made
useful to others in the future. For this purpose he presented
the collection to the National Geographic Society, where it has
been made available to the Society's great educational work. In
accepting this invaluable contribution, Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor,
President of The Society, wrote in part on November 17, 1928:

"We realize the tremendous historic and scientific value of your collection of negatives which you have made during a period of nearly forty years in all parts of North America. For future generations desiring to study natural life as it was in the original wilderness, your superb and unique collection of pictures will be indispensable. The first collection of pictures which you gave this Society enabled it to print that historic number 'Photographing Wild Game with Flashlight and Camera', in July, 1906 and started the organization on a path of usefulness in the promotion of public interest in the natural scenic and wild-life resources of the United States that brought The Society much credit and has also greatly assisted in conserving these treasures."

From about the time the first Geographic article appeared, Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the United States, became especially interested in Mr. Shiras' work as a field naturalist and repeatedly insisted, in conversations and in letters, that the remarkable store of information possessed by such an experienced naturalist must be published. His first letter on the subject was written from Oyster Bay on July 14, 1906:

My Dear Shiras:

I have been looking through your photographs in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE. Now, my dear sir, no other work you can do (not even going to Congress: still less, writing articles for pamphlets or magazines utterly evanescent in character) is as important as for you to write a big book - a book of bulk as well as worth, in which you shall embody these pictures and the results of all your invaluable notes upon the habits, not only of game but of the numerous other wild creatures that you have observed. I feel strongly

that this country stands much more in need of the work of a great outdoor faunal naturalist than of the work of any number of closet specialists and microscopic tissue-cutters. Do go ahead and do this work!

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

FRIENDSHIP WITH THEODORE ROOSEVELT

This letter paved the way to an intimate friendship between Mr. Shiras and Colonel Roosevelt which continued until the latter's death in 1919. Much of it was occupied with personal discussion and correspondence about American wild life and its protection. In 1907, this pair of eminent naturalists united in denouncing the works of certain nature-fakers, and particularly those of the Rev. William J. Long, whose misleading statements regarding the habits of North American animals, in the form of popular stories, seemed likely to undo much of the educational work achieved by conscientious observers. At the National Progressive Conventions of 1912 and 1916, Mr. Shiras supported the nomination of Col. Roosevelt by becoming a delegate-at-large from Michigan and a member of the Committee on Resolutions and Platform.

The Roosevelt - Newett libel case in 1913 marked another important milestone in their friendship. George ^(?) Newett, a newspaper editor in Ishpeming, Michigan, had publicly accused Col. Roosevelt, on hearsay evidence, of being an habitual drunkard; whereupon the Colonel, with his customary energy and wisdom, decided to go straight to the heart of the matter by suing Newett for libel. The trial took place in Marquette in May, and throughout

the days of its proceedings, Mr. Roosevelt and a number of his witnesses were guests of Mr. Shiras at the latter's house on Ridge Street. The remaining members of the party were quartered with other members of the family. Colonel Roosevelt's friends had urged him to retain as counsel a well-known eastern lawyer; and it is a tribute to his brilliant insight that he preferred a local attorney as the man who could put his case most effectively before a local jury. His witnesses, most of them friends of long standing and prominent in national affairs, included _____ G.S. 3rd, fill in list of names you want here. As the testimony proceeded, the flimsiness of the defendant's case became increasingly apparent, until at length Mr. Newett stood up in open court, retracted his charges and apologized. Feeling himself amply vindicated, Col. Roosevelt waved the question of damages and accepted requested? a verdict of six cents - a gracious gesture which added to the popular approval of his victory.

An amusing incident occurred on the second or third evening of the trial, when Col. Roosevelt and a number of his party were dining with Mr. Shiras. During a discussion of the day's testimony, in which witness after witness had testified to Colonel's abstemious habits, Mr. Shiras remarked quietly: "Colonel, if this evidence keeps up much longer, you will ^{begin} ~~begin~~ to believe it yourself!" Col. Roosevelt looked startled for a moment, then joined in the roar of laughter that followed. Roosevelt's characteristic thoughtfulness was instanced on another occasion when Mr. Shiras, entering the library, found his guest busily at work

upon a letter. "Shiras", said the latter, "I'll bet you can't guess to whom I'm writing!" "You're writing to your good wife", was the reply. "Well, you're right in one way", agreed the Colonel, "except that you've got the wives mixed. I'm writing to your good wife!" Whereupon a charming bread-and-butter letter was duly dispatched to Mrs. Shiras in Ormond. (Washington?)

PUBLICATION IN BOOK FORM OF LIFE'S WORK
AS A NATURALIST

It is a pity that Col. Roosevelt could not have lived to see the completion of the great work that Mr. Shiras had assured him would eventually be published in book form. In October, 1935, appeared the first edition, in two volumes, of "Hunting Wild Life with Camera and Flashlight. A Record of Sixty-five Years' Visits to the Woods and Waters of North America." Published by the National Geographic Society, and illustrated with 950 photographs by the author, it was issued with the generous consent on the part of Mr. Shiras to waive all royalties, in order that a moderately priced work might reach as many readers as possible. Critic and public alike hailed it as a lasting monument to the life work and genius of its author. No more powerful argument for the appreciation and conservation of our vanishing American wild life could be devised. "His breadth of interest and his illuminating comments on what he has seen constitute such a charming whole that they frequently remind one of the classic records made by Gilbert White of Selbourne", wrote Dr. E. W. Nelson in the foreword. "Much of his ability to present so interestingly and logically his observations is due to his long training in the legal profession, combined with his gifts

as a naturalist". His photographic art was likened to the pictorial art of Audubon.

Unfortunately Mr. Shiras was traveling in the far west (?) when proofs of the first edition were addressed to him in Marquette, (Washington?) so that he was unable to make a large number of corrections he considered necessary in text, captions and arrangement. A revised second edition, however, published in September, 1936, did much to rectify these errors; and an enlarged third edition is now being contemplated, which will incorporate another five years' observations and pictures.

INTERESTS, HONORS AND PHILANTHROPIES

For many years after his retirement from Congress, Mr. Shiras was actively interested in Federal and state measures pertaining to game conservation. Aside from the Federal protection of migratory birds, he believed that his most effective practical work to this end was his early and persistent support of the "buck law" protecting does and fawns. Upon the general enactment of this law he felt the permanent supply of our antlered animals largely depends. He pointed out that "if a farmer had as many roosters as hens, or as many bulls as cows, and killed the same regardless of sex he would be regarded as one so lacking in common sense as to raise suspicion of his sanity". His final contribution to the cause of conservation was the so-called Shiras Gun Law in Michigan, which the State Legislature passed in 1925. It prohibits the carrying of a gun in any hunting area in the State in the closed season. It had been previously

estimated that at least half the deer killed in the State, and these mostly does and fawns, were shot during the closed season. This law made the convicting of violaters so simple that it had a prompt and satisfactory effect. It is the first law of the kind and should be enacted in other States; for under the usual statutes, convicting offenders who kill game out of season is difficult.

Among the many honors conferred upon Mr. Shiras during his lifetime was the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science, received from Trinity College, Hartford, in June, 1918. Another recipient of this degree, at the same time and in the same place, was Theodore Roosevelt; and the occasion marked the last meeting between the two old friends. Anecdote of first and last meeting with T.R. here, if desired. In April, 1921, a prominent group of Mr. Shiras' fellow workers in the conservation field presented him with a handsome and appropriately engraved silver service, accompanied by the following letter:

Dear Mr. Shiras:

You and I do not hold with the cynic's view that

"The evil that men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones."

We believe instead that somehow, sometime, the average man receives about all the credit due him for whatever he has done.

Nevertheless men's memories are short. Because today there is a Federal Migratory Bird Law which has greatly increased the numbers of our migratory birds, some people seem to take it for granted that this law was a normal outgrowth of the general effort for game protection, and accept it rather as a matter of course.

Those who have been long familiar with the progress of the work done to protect wild life, recognize, however, that it was your genius which discovered the

legal distinction between animals that are migratory and those that are sedentary, or local. Through this discovery we owe you the greatest single accomplishment ever made in wildlife protection. No man has rendered a service in this respect so great as yours.

We wish to give some slight material expression to the gratitude we feel for that service, and so we are sending you a personal reminder of the great work that you have done, which reminder is also an evidence that we forget neither the work nor him who performed it.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL

New York City, N.Y.
April 30th, 1921.

American Game Protective Association
Boone and Crockett Club
Camp Fire Club of America
National Association of Audubon Societies

Mr. Shiras served as a trustee of the National Geographic Society from 1908-40. He was Vice-president of the American Game Protective Association from 1912- --; a member of the Advisory Board of the Migratory Bird Treaty Regulations, Department of Agriculture, from 1914 ---; and president of the Kabawgam Hotel Co., Michigan. Dates? He belonged to the Boone and Crockett Club of New York, the Explorer's Club of New York, the Cosmos Club of Washington, and was an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Marquette. After the sudden death of his wife in September, 1938, he resided permanently in Marquette. Here, in spite of ill health occasioned by a progressive radium burn in the inner ear, he worked upon the many projects that absorbed his attention. Among these were a biography of his father, George Shiras, Jr.; an account of his friendship with Theodore Roosevelt; a volume describing his career as a lawyer and law-maker; and the

proposed third edition of his two-volume work on wild life.

It is perhaps as a cherished benefactor, even more than as a distinguished naturalist, that Mr. Shiras will always be remembered in Marquette. In 19-- he presented a club house to the Marquette Federation of Women's Clubs, with a small endowment, accommodating fifteen auxiliary associations. In 19-- he turned over to the city a beautiful tract of land known as Picnic Rocks Park, with a thousand feet of frontage on the beach and bordered by a recreational forest. Due also to his un-failing generosity was the construction of one of the largest and best equipped municipal swimming pools in the country, located at Presque Isle, and completed for public use in 1921. With Mrs. Shiras and a few friends, he financed the erection in 19-- of a modern fire-proof hotel, (The Northland) overlooking Lake Superior, more with the idea of increasing Mar- quett's attraction as a resort than of making a commercial profit. A Rock and Water Garden at the mouth of Dead River, illuminated at night during the summer months, and, incidentally, marking the site of his first camping trip as a boy in 1870, was another of his gifts. And he was the donor, with Mrs. Shiras, of a considerable trust fund called The Shiras Institute, incorporated in 1938 for the beautification, as well as the recreational and cultural activities, of Marquette and vicinity. (Dates, etc.)

TENTATIVE BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF
GEORGE SHIRAS 3rd

George Shiras 3rd - lawyer, law^{ma}ker, and faunal naturalist - was born in Allegheny, Pa., (now the North Side of Pittsburgh) on January 1, 1859. Son of George Shiras Jr. and Lillie E. (Kennedy) Shiras, both of Pittsburgh, he was descended from a Scottish ancestor, Peter Shiras, who came to America and settled in Mt. Holly, N.J., about 1765, later removing to Pittsburgh. George Shiras Sr., grandson of Peter Shiras and grandfather of George Shiras 3rd, was married to Eliza Herron, daughter of the Rev. Francis Herron, famed third pastor, from 1811-1850, of Pittsburgh's First Presbyterian Church. Two of his sons, George Shiras Jr. and Oliver Perry Shiras, eventually become distinguished jurists - the former being appointed straight from his practice of law in Pittsburgh to the United States Supreme Court by President Harrison in 1892, the latter settling in Dubuque, Iowa, where he served for twenty-one years as United States District Judge.

Early in his career, George Shiras 3rd determined to follow his father, George Jr., into the practice of law. Entering Cornell University from Phillips Exeter Academy in 1877, he graduated in the course of "History and Political Science" in 1881, choosing as his thesis a study of the United States Constitution. It was at Cornell that he became an intimate friend of Colonel E. M. House, a classmate and brother member in the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, who was later to be famous as President Woodrow Wilson's personal representative in Europe during the World War.

*"The photographic field studies of George Shiras
are wonderful..."*

In the Fall of 1881, George Shiras 3rd entered the Yale Law School, where, in his Senior Year, he was honored with the election to the presidency of the debating society known as the Kent Club. Much to the astonishment of his classmates, however, he declined the office, declaring that he preferred to remain active on the floor. At that time the Tariff was a subject of nation-wide discussion, and it was upon this theme that most of the debates had raged for several years among the members of the society. It was therefore not surprising that Mr. Shiras, upon his graduation from the Yale Law School in 1883, chose as his thesis: "The Constitutionality of the Protective Tariff". Returning to Pittsburgh in the same year, he was admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar and began the practice of law with his father. When the latter was appointed to the U. S. Supreme Court, the younger man assumed his father's business and became the senior member of the law firm of Shiras and Dickey, in which he continued until he retired from practice in 1904.

MEMBER OF PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE, 1889-1890

Meanwhile, politics had begun to command his attention, principally because of his aversion to the ruthless political machine that dominated Pennsylvania. His pamphlet attacking the pending nomination to the United States Senate of Colonel M.S. Quay in 1887 caused a sensation throughout the State. He was elected to the ^{Pennsylvania} ~~Pittsburgh~~ House of Representatives for the term 1889-1890 on an anti-ring ticket, the next-to-youngest of all

the 204 members of that body. Here his term of office was notable for its authorship of extensive legislation, its successful opposition to monopolies and machine politics. His appointment as the only novice member to the Judiciary General Committee was in itself a signal honor. He was also one of the three new members of the House to be awarded a chairmanship - that of Federal Relations; and he was made Secretary of Geological Survey and a member of the Committee on Banks. One of the first measures to be pushed through both branches of the Legislature was the High School Bill, whose prompt passage by the House was secured by Mr. Shiras, thus ensuring the completion of the handsome building on Sherman Avenue, Allegheny. Mr. Shiras also succeeded in securing for the Home for the Friendless of Allegheny an appropriation of \$6,000 - one of the few county bills for charitable institutions neither cut down nor vetoed by the executive. He introduced and passed a bill extending and renewing the Charters of State Banks, upon which depended the corporate life of the famous old Bank of Pittsburgh. Of wider interest to the State at large was the bill passed by him enabling State Banks to become National Banks, with functions more in keeping with the needs of the time. He was in charge of an important measure enlarging the jurisdiction of the Orphans Court, providing for the safe transfer of trust funds to Trustees in another State or Territory, wherever the persons beneficially interested had removed to such State or Territory to permanently reside. And he was responsible, virtually single-handed and in the face of threats against his own projects, for

the defeat of the notorious "Grade Crossing Monstrosity" (House Bill No. 52), which was considered the greatest corporation grab of the session. This measure, purporting to be for the "protection of life and property in cities of the first and second class", was in fact a scheme to prevent the building of any more rival railroads in the State, and further, to compel the cities to spend millions in the behalf of existing corporations. Mr. Shiras was the first to sound the alarm the instant the nature of the bill was detected. After his bitter denunciation of the measure on the floor of the House (and he alone spoke against it on final passage), the large commercial exchanges in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh became aroused to its dangers and passed resolutions condemning it. Beyond a doubt, it was owing largely to the courageous speeches and effective work of Mr. Shiras, that the taxpayers of Pittsburgh, Allegheny and Philadelphia were saved millions of dollars, and their communities freed from a measure that made new railroad enterprises an impossibility. Followed the defeat through Mr. Shiras' efforts, of the bill for Female Superintendents in public hospitals; and lastly, his resolution for the impeachment of Judge J.W.F. White, (Why?) and the adjournment of the Legislature in order to avoid same, with its aftermath of ten years of political controversies.

THE CONTROVERSY WITH BAYNE AND STONE

On retiring from the Legislature in 1890, Mr. Shiras, moved by an ulterior motive, (What motive?) unexpectedly announced his candidacy for his party's nomination to Congress against Colonel Thomas M. Bayne, (Why not name party?) in what

was then the 29th District, comprising the north side of Allegheny County. Congressman Bayne had been for seventeen years one of the most prominent and apparently popular leaders in the State. As the period remaining before the Congressional primaries was then very short, about three weeks, Mr. Shiras had little time to set up his delegates; and few believed that the youthful candidate could defeat his more experienced opponent. However, the contest was much closer than expected, for while Bayne had the majority of the delegates to the convention, Mr. Shiras had the majority of the popular vote. Mr. Shiras thereupon announced that a motion would be made to declare the nomination of his opponent unanimous.

But when the convention assembled, there occurred one of the most disgraceful political coups ever recorded in American politics. After receiving and accepting the nomination, Bayne suddenly announced his withdrawal, requesting that the convention nominate Colonel William A. Stone, United States District Attorney, who, with a powerful organization behind him, had long cherished the ambition to succeed Bayne upon the latter's retirement. At the time this political theft took place, a third of Mr. Shiras' delegates had refused to attend the convention, as they had been definitely elected to oppose Col. Bayne's continuance in office. And during the uproar following, a number of Bayne's own delegates denounced the deal; so that if all Mr. Shiras' delegates had been present, it would probably have been defeated, and Mr. Shiras himself nominated. The two strongest supporters of Col. Bayne's renomination had been the morning and

afternoon party newspapers. Again, why not name party? Each now denounced the steal in the most virulent editorials, one commenting: "Like two pick-pockets in a crowd, they [Bayne and Stone] had agreed to raise a racket, and in the excitement, get away with the wallet which they coveted. Bayne snatched the prize, and in the twinkling of an eye, passed it over to his pal, Stone, who stowed it away". So incensed, in fact, was the whole community, that a mass-meeting of five thousand party supporters at Carnegie Hall roundly denounced the substitution of a candidate who had never previously been before the people.

The final result was that the County Committee compelled Colonel Stone to relinquish his fraudulent nomination and run again. At first Mr. Shiras refused to enter into another contest, but understanding better than the uninitiated voter the importance of the next election, he yielded when the people insisted upon an opportunity of registering their protest against such political trickery. Before the new primaries, which he had contrived to get postponed until September, hoping that the scandal might "blow over", Stone had actively enlisted in his own behalf the entire city and county organizations and practically every office-holder, aggregating more than 3000 voters, in addition to local corporation, contractors, and the usual ring beneficiaries. Behind Mr. Shiras were the manufacturers, merchants, mechanics, and most of the young Republican workers. It is significant that at the primaries Mr. Shiras had a majority of twenty-four delegates and received a popular majority of almost

three thousand votes, notwithstanding ^{the fact that} nearly every election board, particularly in the city of Allegheny, was against him, and in many instances threw out his majority and awarded the credentials to the opposing delegates. In fact, just previous to the meeting of the convention, it was accurately ascertained that nineteen of his delegates were either counted out or their credentials transferred to friends of Stone after the election.

Contests were now entered and notice immediately served; but when the convention met, the Chairman refused to refer these contests to the committee provided for under the party rules, or to permit any testimony to be taken, although fifty witnesses were present. After vain effort to obtain free play, Mr. Shiras' delegates attempted to leave the hall, but Stone, fully aware of what would be the result of rejecting the above contests, had ordered a squad of policemen stationed at the doors, which were finally thrown open only after the latter's nomination had been rushed through in the face of a gathering riot.

Again the community was in an uproar, and again the people protested against such an outrage - a protest which subsequent investigation proved to be fully justified. Mr. Shiras' delegates met and unanimously nominated him as an independent candidate against Stone; and although it seemed certain that this nomination, with an aroused public at the polls, would result in his election, Mr. Shiras felt impelled to decline it and resume his private practice of law. Many, however, were the repercussions following Stone's fraudulent nomination and subsequent

election. Mayor Wyman of Allegheny, convicted of having accepted \$10,000 to betray Mr. Shiras, was sentenced to the penitentiary - a sentence which, after a personal appeal to Mr. Shiras, was commuted to a term in the Work House. The Assistant Postmaster and Internal Revenue Collector were removed. Postmaster-General Wanamaker of the Harrison Cabinet was threatened with impeachment. And that same autumn, Colonel Bayne, brooding over his betrayal of his party, committed suicide in Washington. William M. Kennedy, an uncle of Mr. Shiras, was elected Mayor in Wyman's place, insuring Mr. Shiras' nomination to Congress the following year, had the latter desired it.

ELECTION TO THE 58th CONGRESS, 1902.

Upon the appointment of his father to the United States Supreme Court, Mr. Shiras formed the law firm that largely succeeded to the former's practice, refusing thereafter to consider the solicitations of his friends to re-enter public life. In 1902, however, he was tendered the nomination to Congress by the newly formed anti-ring Citizen's Party, organized for the defeat of the corrupt local machine in Allegheny County. "This nomination comes to me unsought," he wrote in his letter of acceptance, "and brings with it a very serious responsibility. My own personal wishes, I may say to you frankly, are strongly against a further participation in active public life. To refuse, however, to cooperate with you to such an extent as I may have the ability, at this time, would be to turn my back upon the principles which have been dear to me all my life and upon the friends whose associations I value more highly than I can

express." His opponent was W. H. Graham, who engineered the deal that made Stone the nominee in 1890, and who succeeded Stone when the latter became Governor. The fall elections resulted in the choice of the entire Citizen's ticket and in the permanent downfall of the local machine. In accepting the nomination and election, Mr. Shiras made it clearly understood that he would serve for a single term only, at the end of which he would be free to resume his activities in natural history and his study of governmental problems.

The 58th Congress (1903-05) to which Mr. Shiras was elected as an avowed Republican was conspicuous for several reasons. "Uncle Joe" Cannon of Illinois, long a political leader, was elected for the first time Speaker of the House; and among the members were such notables and future notables as _____ (G.S. 3rd to fill in names he wants here.) At the head of the National Administration was the indomitable figure, Theodore Roosevelt, who had recently succeeded to the Presidency upon the tragic death of William McKinley. At that time, as at present, (?) there was no standing committee on game protection in the House; therefore Mr. Shiras applied for and received appointment on the Public Lands Committee, part of whose jurisdiction included the creation of national parks and monuments in which he was particularly interested. He wrote the report of the committee recommending the passage of the Cushman bill creating Elk National Park, later the Olympic National Monument in the Olympic Forest Reserve, Washington, and another report favoring setting aside the unique petrified forest of Arizona. Both of these areas were afterwards made national monuments.

During his second year on the Public Lands Committee there arose a persistent demand in the East for the extension of Yellowstone Park southward into Wyoming in order to protect the larger game animals in the Upper Yellowstone Valley, where the animals from the Park were the target of many hunters. As the only eastern member on this Committee, Mr. Shiras undertook to bring about this proposed extension. Due to strong opposition, a compromise was finally agreed upon, ^{providing for the creation} ~~enabling the Wyoming~~ ^{by the Wyoming Legislature of a permanent} ~~ing legislature to create a permanent~~ game refuge on the lands adjoining the Park. This proposition was accepted by Mr. Shiras, and thus were brought about the main objectives to be covered in the proposed bill. ¶ Meanwhile, in the summer of 1904, Mr. Shiras had visited Yellowstone Park for the purpose of familiarizing himself with the situation. There he heard rumors that several moose had been seen on the southern boundary of the Park; and as this animal was not supposed to exist at that time in the Rockies south of Canada, he decided to investigate. Ascending the Upper Yellowstone by canoe in three successive seasons, he found a large number of moose sequestered in the broad valley where forests, marshlands, streams, and little lakes provided an excellent all-the-year home. On his final visit, Mr. Shiras estimated the moose in this little known district to number probably more than 2000, which was a surprise to the Park authorities, as well as to the outside world. Thus the newly established game refuge in northern Wyoming was just in time to give protection and enlarged quarters to the increasing moose.

THE MIGRATORY BIRD BILL

As his time in Congress approached an end, Mr. Shiras prepared and introduced the revolutionary bill that was destined to link his name forever with the cause of conservation - the now famous Migratory Bird Bill. Briefly, this bill provided for the prohibition of spring shooting at a time when tens of thousands of mated wildfowl were slaughtered each season while on their way to their breeding grounds. At the same time a stop was to be put to the devastating activities of hordes of market hunters who were solely interested in turning ducks into dollars. Shooting seasons were also to be materially shortened and the bag limits reduced to meet the needs of the time. This measure was introduced with no expectation or desire that it should be given consideration in the concluding days of that particular Congress. The idea of its author was to lay before sportsmen and the country generally a proposition requiring long and careful consideration. As Mr. Shiras explained, the States lacked extraterritorial jurisdiction and would not agree nor bring about by themselves uniform laws and enforcement. It had become clear to him that a situation had arisen that could be handled only by the Federal Government.

The Migratory Bird Bill quickly received nation-wide support. Among its early advocates was the Chief Executive, who wrote the following terse approval from the White House on February 1, 1905:

My dear Mr. Shiras

I am very much pleased with your bill and am very glad we have in Congress a man taking so great an interest in the preservation of our birds and Nature generally. I particularly wanted wild fowl to be protected.

With hearty congratulations,
Sincerely yours,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

In several succeeding terms Congressman Weeks of Massachusetts reintroduced the bill. Extended hearings were held on it, and on March 4, 1913, it was enacted. When the Act came before the Federal Courts, only two out of eight lower-court judges decided against its unconstitutionality. To meet future contingencies and to broaden its purpose, the essential provisions of the Act were incorporated in a Migratory Bird Treaty with Great Britain, signed August 16, 1916. The constitutionality of this treaty was later sustained by the United States Supreme Court on briefs by Mr. Shiras and other lawyers, thus confirming the right of our National Government to exercise its effective jurisdiction over migratory birds, and at the same time providing Canada with a similar jurisdiction over its vast domain.

HEALTH MEASURES AND MONOGRAPHS

During his time in Congress Mr. Shiras strongly advocated Federal control both of contagious diseases and epidemic conditions, also control of the pollution of interstate waters, as well as more extended medical research throughout the country to safeguard the public health in many ways in which the separate States lack power. To this end he prepared and introduced a bill to create a National Department of Public Health with cabinet representation, in the expectation that by reason of the needed additional functions a broader jurisdiction would be established than then existed in the scattered health agencies of the general government. This would give it the same effective

authority to protect man as has been given to the Department of Agriculture to foster and protect the useful and control the harmful plant and animal life of the nation. He also urged the negotiation of international treaties for the protection of whales and other pelagic mammals threatened with extinction.

After his retirement from Congress, Mr. Shiras wrote to educate the public in the foregoing ideas, a series of monographs on the regulatory powers of the Federal Government. The series included: 1. The Character and Extent of National Police Power; 2. The Constitutionality of the Migratory Bird Law; 3. The Health Jurisdiction of the Federal Government; 4. The Constitutionality of the Protective Tariff (suggesting a new theory for its maintenance); 5. An American League of Nations; 6. The Unconstitutionality of the Canadian Reciprocity Tariff (the pet measure of the Taft administration, later quoted freely in the congressional debates); 7. History of the Original Migratory Bird Bill. Other similar papers dealt primarily with the regulatory jurisdiction of the Government and its relations to foreign nations in regard to such matters.

EARLY VISITS TO MARQUETTE

Aside, however, from his introduction of the Migratory Bird Bill, it was as a faunal naturalist and amateur photographer of wild animals that Mr. Shiras gained his world-wide reputation. His love of wild life and the wilderness dated far back beyond the above events in his Congressional career. It was his at birth, a heritage from his paternal ancestors. His great-grandfather, George Shiras, had been a noted hunter and fisherman in

the forested region about Pittsburgh. He had shown his tastes and his adventurous disposition in 1811 by putting the first steamboat on the Ohio and its tributary headwaters. It was a small craft, which he christened the Izaak Walton and which he and his friends used for fishing in the local waters. And Mr. Shiras' paternal grandfather, George Shiras, born in Pittsburgh in 1805, was also a lover of the out-of-doors, being especially devoted to trout fishing. Having heard marvelous tales of the fine speckled trout along the south shore of Lake Superior, he went there in the summer of 1849 and established vacation headquarters at the village of Marquette. This was before locks had been built around the Sault Sainte Marie, and only a few scattered settlements existed in the entire region. The excellent sport he enjoyed and the beauties of the primitive wilderness lured him back each following season until his 89th year. And it was in 1859 that Mr. Shiras' father, George Shiras Jr., made his first trip to this fisherman's paradise. ~~He~~ ~~was~~ ~~delighted~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~country~~, to which he thereafter made many pilgrimages until he was 92 years of age.

When George Shiras 3rd was eleven years old, in the summer of 1870, he was first taken to Marquette by his father. Here, at the mouth of Desd River, with three boy companions between the ages of nine and twelve, he pitched his first overnight camp. During the night the four intrepid adventurers were nearly put to route by the noise of an onrushing "forest fire", which turned out to be a falls further inland, and by the intrusion of "bears", which turned out to be a stray Indian dog. The

following summer, accompanied by Jack La Pete, an Indian guide who had been first employed by his grandfather in 1850, George Shiras 3rd and his younger brother Winfield made a two days' journey on foot to a beautiful little lake hidden in the forest about twenty miles east of Marquette. There Jack had gone a year or two before, as a mail carrier on a railroad survey, finding in this virgin section many deer, fur-bearing animals and fish. To this secluded spot, which he named Whitefish Lake, and near which he later established a family camp, George Shiras 3rd returned for upwards of seventy years. "The natural beauties of this woodland haven," wrote Mr. Shiras, "and the interesting wild life inhabiting the surrounding forest undoubtedly had a governing influence in developing my career as a sportsman-naturalist. It was there that, as a youthful hunter, I shot my first deer. There I took my first daylight and flashlight photographs of wild life, and there I became an observing field naturalist. Born and reared in Pennsylvania's greatest industrial center, I lived during most of my early years beneath a sun often obscured by clouds of smoke. At night that part of the Ohio Valley resembled an inferno from the glare of blast furnaces, coke ovens, and many standpipes shooting lurid flames far overhead in wasteful consumption of the natural gas from adjoining oil fields. The contrast between such surroundings and those of my vacation periods beneath azure skies in a remote forest retreat sufficiently accounts, I believe, for the overpowering desire that finally caused me to give up the exactions of a professional life that I might be free to interpret the laws of nature rather than those of man."

It was in Marquette, in 1885, that Mr. Shiras married Frances P. White, daughter of Peter White, one of Michigan's most famous pioneers as well as founder and liberal benefactor of the city. There his two children were born, (2) a son and a daughter. The son, George Shiras 4th, like his father, developed in early life a deep love for the wilds and became a skillful hunter, fisherman and photographer. For about four years after his birth there was a remarkable period when four generations of George Shirases were all living at the same time and often under the same roof. Hence the adoption of the numerals 3rd and 4th for the two youngest Georges, to avoid confusion. The untimely death of George Shiras 4th, in 1915, broke the family succession and ended the promise of a brilliant career.

INVENTOR OF FLASHLIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY OF WILD LIFE

About 1889, Mr. Shiras began to lay aside his gun and experiment with a camera, in an attempt to obtain permanent records of the wild life about Whitefish Lake. As the result of these early and persistent endeavors he became recognized as the father of wild life photography. He originated and was the first to advocate the pastime of hunting with the camera in daytime and at night. His beautiful flashlight pictures, taken at a date when photographic equipment was comparatively crude, were of such unique and startling interest that when the United States Government was preparing the material for its part in the World Exposition to be held in Paris in 1900, the privilege of using a set of bromide enlargements of them, as well as glass transparencies,

MADE IN U.S.A.

was officially requested. At this Paris Exposition, the judges in the Forestry Division expressed the general appreciation of this exhibit by the highest award, the Gold Medal and diploma. On learning of the display and visiting it, the international jury in the Photographic Division asked permission and awarded their highest prize, a silver medal, to Mr. Shiras, who had not entered his work in their exhibit. Four years later, in 1904, at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis, the Shiras photographs of wild life received the Grand Prize.

Briefly stated, George Shiras 3rd, the original advocate of wild life photography, was (1) the first to photograph in daytime wild animals or birds from a canoe or blind; (2) the first to get automatic daylight pictures of wild animals by their touching a string across a trail or pulling on bait attached to a string operating the shutter of a camera; (3) the first to operate the camera at a distance by a string running from a blind; (4) the first to invent a means for picturing animals from a canoe by hand flashlight; (5) the first to invent a means to obtain automatic flashlight photographs for which the animals or birds fired the flash; (6) the first to use two flashlights and two cameras, one set picturing the animal when quiescent and the other set, a second later, showing the animal in action when alarmed by the explosion of the first flashlight; (7) the first to photograph wild life, by day or night, with a double-lensed camera for the purpose of obtaining stereoscopic pictures; and (8) the first to practice wing shooting with the camera by means of a specially devised apparatus by which wild fowl and shore birds can be photographed when flying from 50 to 75 miles an hour.

All of Mr. Shiras' basic inventions were covered by broad patents taken out in the United States and several other countries, and then dedicated to the free use of the public, to prevent their commercial exploitation. But the slow response of mankind to new ideas is illustrated by the fact that despite the beauty of those early wild like flashlight photographs, it was some twelve years after he had revealed his methods and their results, that others began to emulate his efforts. Among his marked characteristics, and one that may be noted as rather uncommon, was the sympathetic and generous friendliness with which he always viewed the work of others in the field he had made particularly his own. And although he always appreciated the permanent scientific value of his photographic and other studies as contributions to the life histories of many species, he was especially pleased by their effect on the public from a recreational point of view. He felt that one of the most valuable results of his work was to promote a greater general interest in the out-of-doors.

FIELD TRIPS, DISCOVERIES AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES

Mr. Shiras scrupulously made it a point not to photograph animals in parks or reservations, the only exception being in the case of the wilderness valley of the Upper Yellowstone. Prior to his initial and widely acclaimed publication in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE, in 1906, he contributed to many magazines and periodicals. Thereafter, as a steady contributor of profusely illustrated articles ~~in~~^{to} the GEOGRAPHIC, his field trips covered many thousands of miles, from Alaska to Panama, and from Newfoundland to the Rockies. Taking photographs and making notes, whether

of animals or of birds, he made one or more journeys to the wilds of New Brunswick and Ontario, the eastern shore of Virginia, Currituck Sound in North Carolina, Cumberland Island in Georgia, the Bahamas, the Louisiana marshes, Eastern Mexico, Gatun Lake in the Canal Zone, the Yellowstone National Park region, the Kaibab Plateau in Arizona, and the Kenai Peninsula and Admiralty Island, both in Alaska. Often tempted to visit the big game fields of East and Central Africa, Mr. Shiras was always convinced, on second thought, that his foremost duty lay in acquainting the people of the United States with the wild life of their country, and of the continent as a whole, and in interesting them in it to such an extent that they would desire to maintain and upbuild it.

In 1908-09 he discovered a new species of moose on Upper Yellowstone River, which Dr. E. W. Nelson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, named Alces americana shirasi in his honor - just as in 1913 a new and permanent ^{black} phase of the Great Brown Bear of Alaska was discovered by his son George Shiras 4th, and later named Ursus shirasi by the eminent authority, Dr. C. Hart Merriam. Between expeditions, Mr. Shiras continued to study and photograph wild life at his summer home in Marquette, his forest-ringed cottage in Wesley Heights, Washington, D. C., and his winter home in Ormond, Florida. A painstaking habit of making accurate notes, formed as early as 1875, together with a remarkable ability to draw conclusions from observed data, added immeasurably to the permanent value of his work, which he leavened with a keen sense of kindly humor. His eight GEOGRAPHIC articles, contributed over a period of twenty-six years, were as follows:

Photographing Wild Game with Flashlight and Camera. July, 1906.

One Season's Game-Bag with the Camera, June, 1908.

A Flashlight Story of an Albino Porcupine and of a Cunning
but Unfortunate Coon. June, 1911.

White Sheep, Giant Moose, and Smaller Game of the Kenai
Peninsula, Alaska. May, 1912.

Wild Animals That Took Their Own Pictures by Day and by
Night. July, 1913

Nature's Transformation at Panama: Remarkable Changes in
Faunal and Physical Conditions in the Gatun Lake
Region. August, 1915.

The Wild Life of Lake Superior, Past and Present; The Habits
of Deer, Moose, Wolves, Beavers, Muskrats, Trout, and
Feathered Wood-folk Studied with Camera and Flash-
light. August, 1921.

Wild Life of the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts: A field Naturalist's
Photographic Record of Nearly Half a Century of Fruit-
ful Exploration. September, 1932.

LETTERS FROM GILBERT GROVESNOR AND THEODORE ROOSEVELT

As Mr. Shiras' collection of negatives resulting from
his field work grew to large proportions, he decided that the
entire series of about 2,400 subjects should be preserved and made
useful to others in the future. For this purpose he presented
the collection to the National Geographic Society, where it has
been made available to the Society's great educational work. In
accepting this invaluable contribution, Dr. Gilbert Grosvenor,
President of The Society, wrote in part on November 17, 1928:

"We realize the tremendous historic and scientific value of your collection of negatives which you have made during a period of nearly forty years in all parts of North America. For future generations desiring to study natural life as it was in the original wilderness, your superb and unique collection of pictures will be indispensable. The first collection of pictures which you gave this Society enabled it to print that historic number 'Photographing Wild Game with Flashlight and Camera', in July, 1906 and started the organization on a path of usefulness in the promotion of public interest in the natural scenic and wild-life resources of the United States that brought The Society much credit and has also greatly assisted in conserving these treasures."

From about the time the first Geographic article appeared, Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the United States, became especially interested in Mr. Shiras' work as a field naturalist and repeatedly insisted, in conversations and in letters, that the remarkable store of information possessed by such an experienced naturalist must be published. His first letter on the subject was written from Oyster Bay on July 14, 1906:

My Dear Shiras:

I have been looking through your photographs in the NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE. Now, my dear sir, no other work you can do (not even going to Congress: still less, writing articles for pamphlets or magazines utterly evanescent in character) is as important as for you to write a big book - a book of bulk as well as worth, in which you shall embody these pictures and the results of all your invaluable notes upon the habits, not only of game but of the ~~numerous~~ other wild creatures that you have observed. I feel strongly

that this country stands much more in need of the work of a great outdoor faunal natural-ist than of the work of any number of closet specialists and microscopic tissue-cutters. Do go ahead and do this work!

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

FRIENDSHIP WITH THEODORE ROOSEVELT

This letter paved the way to an intimate friendship between Mr. Shiras and Colonel Roosevelt which continued until the latter's death in 1919. Much of it was occupied with personal discussion and correspondence about American wild life and its protection. In 1907, this pair of eminent naturalists united in denouncing the works of certain nature-fakers, and particularly those of the Rev. William J. Long, whose misleading statements regarding the habits of North American animals, in the form of popular stories, seemed likely to undo much of the educational work achieved by conscientious observers. At the National Progressive Conventions of 1912 and 1916, Mr. Shiras supported the nomination of Col. Roosevelt by becoming a delegate-at-large from Michigan and a member of the Committee on Resolutions and Platform.

The Roosevelt - Newett libel case in 1913 marked another important milestone in their friendship. George (?) Newett, a newspaper editor in Ishpeming, Michigan, had publicly accused Col. Roosevelt, on hearsay evidence, of being an habitual drunkard; whereupon the Colonel, with his customary energy and wisdom, decided to go straight to the heart of the matter by suing Newett for libel. The trial took place in Marquette in May, and throughout

the days of its proceedings, Mr. Roosevelt and a number of his witnesses were guests of Mr. Shiras at the latter's house on Ridge Street. The remaining members of the party were quartered with other members of the family. Colonel Roosevelt's friends had urged him to retain as counsel a well-known eastern lawyer; and it is a tribute to his brilliant insight that he preferred a local attorney as the man who could put his case most effectively before a local jury. His witnesses, most of them friends of long standing and prominent in national affairs, included _____ (G.S. 3rd, fill in list of names you want here). As the testimony proceeded, the flimsiness of the defendant's case became increasingly apparent, until at length Mr. Newett stood up in open court, retracted his charges and apologized. Feeling himself amply vindicated, Col. Roosevelt waved the question of damages and accepted requested? a verdict of six cents - a gracious gesture which added to the popular approval of his victory.

An amusing incident occurred on the second or third evening of the trial, when Col. Roosevelt and a number of his party were dining with Mr. Shiras. During a discussion of the day's testimony, in which witness after witness had testified to Colonel's abstemious habits, Mr. Shiras remarked quietly: "Colonel, if this evidence keeps up much longer, you will ^{begin} ~~begin~~ to believe it yourself!" Col. Roosevelt looked startled for a moment, then joined in the roar of laughter that followed. Roosevelt's characteristic thoughtfulness was instanced on another occasion when Mr. Shiras, entering the library, found his guest busily at work

upon a letter. "Shiras", said the latter, "I'll bet you can't guess to whom I'm writing!" "You're writing to your good wife", was the reply. "Well, you're right in one way", agreed the Colonel, "except that you've got the wives mixed. I'm writing to your good wife!" Whereupon a charming bread-and-butter letter was duly dispatched to Mrs. Shiras in Ormond. Washington?

PUBLICATION IN BOOK FORM OF LIFE'S WORK
AS A NATURALIST

It is a pity that Col. Roosevelt could not have lived to see the completion of the great work that Mr. Shiras had assured him would eventually be published in book form. In October, 1935, appeared the first edition, in two volumes, of "Hunting Wild Life with Camera and Flashlight. A Record of Sixty-five Years' Visits to the Woods and Waters of North America." Published by the National Geographic Society, and illustrated with 950 photographs by the author, it was issued with the generous consent on the part of Mr. Shiras to waive all royalties, in order that a moderately priced work might reach as many readers as possible. Critic and public alike hailed it as a lasting monument to the life work and genius of its author. No more powerful argument for the appreciation and conservation of our vanishing American wild life could be devised. "His breadth of interest and his illuminating comments on what he has seen constitute such a charming whole that they frequently remind one of the classic records made by Gilbert White of Selbourne", wrote Dr. E. W. Nelson in the foreword. "Much of his ability to present so interestingly and logically his observations is due to his long training in the legal profession, combined with his gifts

as a naturalist". His photographic art was likened to the pictorial art of Audubon.

Unfortunately Mr. Shiras was traveling in the far west (?) when proofs of the first edition were addressed to him in Marquette, (Washington?) so that he was unable to make a large number of corrections he considered necessary in text, captions and arrangement. A revised second edition, however, published in September, 1936, did much to rectify these errors; and an enlarged third edition is now being contemplated, which will incorporate another five years' observations and pictures.

INTERESTS, HONORS AND PHILANTHROPIES

For many years after his retirement from Congress, Mr. Shiras was actively interested in Federal and state measures pertaining to game conservation. Aside from the Federal protection of migratory birds, he believed that his most effective practical work to this end was his early and persistent support of the "buck law" protecting does and fawns. Upon the general enactment of this law he felt the permanent supply of our antlered animals largely depends. He pointed out that "if a farmer had as many roosters as hens, or as many bulls as cows, and killed the same regardless of sex he would be regarded as one so lacking in common sense as to raise suspicion of his sanity". His final contribution to the cause of conservation was the so-called Shiras Gun Law in Michigan, which the State Legislature passed in 1925. It prohibits the carrying of a gun in any hunting area in the State in the closed season. It had been previously

estimated that at least half the deer killed in the State, and these mostly does and fawns, were shot during the closed season. This law made the convicting of violaters so simple that it had a prompt and satisfactory effect. It is the first law of the kind and should be enacted in other States; for under the usual statutes, convicting offenders who kill game out of season is difficult.

Among the many honors conferred upon Mr. Shiras during his lifetime was the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science, received from Trinity College, Hartford, in June, 1918. Another recipient of this degree, at the same time and in the same place, was Theodore Roosevelt; and the occasion marked the last meeting between the two old friends. (Anecdote of first and last meeting with T.R. here, if desired.) In April, 1921, a prominent group of Mr. Shiras' fellow workers in the conservation field presented him with a handsome and appropriately engraved silver service, accompanied by the following letter:

Dear Mr. Shiras:

You and I do not hold with the cynic's view that

"The evil that men do lives after them,
The good is oft interred with their bones."

We believe instead that somehow, sometime, the average man receives about all the credit due him for whatever he has done.

Nevertheless men's memories are short. Because today there is a Federal Migratory Bird Law which has greatly increased the numbers of our migratory birds, some people seem to take it for granted that this law was a normal outgrowth of the general effort for game protection, and accept it rather as a matter of course.

Those who have been long familiar with the progress of the work done to protect wild life, recognize, however, that it was your genius which discovered the

legal distinction between animals that are migratory and those that are sedentary, or local. Through this discovery we owe you the greatest single accomplishment ever made in wildlife protection. No man has rendered a service in this respect so great as yours.

We wish to give some slight material expression to the gratitude we feel for that service, and so we are sending you a personal reminder of the great work that you have done, which reminder is also an evidence that we forget neither the work nor him who performed it.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL

New York City, N.Y.
April 30th, 1921.

American Game Protective Association
Boone and Crockett Club
Camp Fire Club of America
National Association of Audubon Societies

Mr. Shiras served as a trustee of the National Geographic Society from 1908-40. He was Vice-president of the American Game Protective Association from 1912- --; a member of the Advisory Board of the Migratory Bird Treaty Regulations, Department of Agriculture, from 1914 ---; and president of the Kabawgam Hotel Co., Michigan. (Dates?) He belonged to the Boone and Crockett Club of New York, the Explorer's Club of New York, the Cosmos Club of Washington, and was an Honorary Member of the Rotary Club of Marquette. After the sudden death of his wife in September, 1938, he resided permanently in Marquette. Here, in spite of ill health occasioned by a progressive radium burn in the inner ear, he worked upon the many projects that absorbed his attention. Among these were a biography of his father, George Shiras, Jr.; an account of his friendship with Theodore Roosevelt; a volume describing his career as a lawyer and law-maker; and the

proposed third edition of his two-volume work on wild life.

It is perhaps as a cherished benefactor, even more than as a distinguished naturalist, that Mr. Shiras will always be remembered in Marquette. In 19-- he presented a club house to the Marquette Federation of Women's Clubs, with a small endowment, accommodating fifteen auxiliary associations. In 19-- he turned over to the city a beautiful tract of land known as Picnic Rocks Park, with a thousand feet of frontage on the beach and bordered by a recreational forest. Due also to his un-failing generosity was the construction of one of the largest and best equipped municipal swimming pools in the country, located at Presque Isle, and completed for public use in 1921. With Mrs. Shiras and a few friends, he financed the erection in 19-- of a modern fire-proof hotel, (The Northland) overlooking Lake Superior, more with the idea of increasing Mar- quett's attraction as a resort than of making a commercial profit. A Rock and Water Garden at the mouth of Dead River, illuminated at night during the summer months, and, incidentally, marking the site of his first camping trip as a boy in 1870, was another of his gifts. And he was the donor, with Mrs. Shiras, of a considerable trust fund called The Shiras Institute, incorporated in 1938 for the beautification, as well as the recreational and cultural activities, of Marquette and vicinity. (Dates, etc.)

THE FIRST AND THE LAST MEETING WITH THEODORE ROOSEVELT

An Interesting Coincidence

About the year 1907 a former college and fraternity associate, William Seymour Edwards, Speaker of the West Virginia House of Representatives, called on Mr. Shiras in Washington, and in talking about President Roosevelt, whom Edwards greatly admired, he asked: "Do you remember your first meeting with T.R.?"

Shiras replied, "Yes, quite readily. It was one evening in 1903 during a Congressional reception. As the large assembly passed by the President and received a brief ~~reception~~ handshake, I was gratified by the greeting: "I wish to congratulate you ancestrally, personally and politically, and hope to see more of you." It was some years later, however, before mutual interests brought us together in a more intimate way."

"Well", said Edwards, "You are entirely mistaken. For 28 years before this, you did Theodore Roosevelt a good turn in probably his first public appearance outside of his college activities. In the spring of 1879, you and I were appointed delegates by the Cornell Chapter to the general convention of Alpha Delta Phi, at Rochester, N.Y. We were under instructions to vote for the withdrawal of the Harvard Chapter, as well as were a majority of the other delegates, on the ground that this Chapter was too exclusive and did not show the proper fraternal spirit towards the members of the smaller colleges. Two delegates came from the Harvard Chapter to protest against this proposed action. One was the son of Edward Everett Hale, and the other a slender youth who energetically argued against the justice of this expulsion, saying, in effect, that it was not a square deal to visit upon the members of the Harvard Chapter previous shortcomings, if any; for the present delegation bore evidence of the unanimous desire of the undergraduates to continue in good standing with the fraternity at large. As this delegate was concluding, you asked permission to interrogate him, with the result that though under instructions to vote for the withdrawal, you said you were convinced it was unfair, and concluded by expressing the hope that no such action would be taken. After a general discussion the convention voted down, with practical unanimity, the resolution under consideration. Afterwards the Harvard delegate whom you supported thanked you for your aid. This delegate was Theodore Roosevelt, then unknown to fame beyond the circle of his intimates."

Forty years later occurred the sequel.

In June, 1918, at the Commencement of Trinity College, Hartford, Colonel Roosevelt and Mr. Shiras were given the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science, for applied science in the field. In the afternoon and following the conclusion of the ceremonies, a member of the Trinity Chapter of Alpha Delta Phi invited Mr. Shiras to sign the members' registry book in the nearby Chapter house, saying that he and all the other members hoped that Colonel Roosevelt would come with him and sign at the same time. This Colonel Roosevelt readily agreed to do.

As Mr. Shiras' train left for Washington a few minutes later, he hastily bid goodbye to Colonel Roosevelt, saying; "I leave you in good hands, and we are all quite agreed that you are the most distinguished and respected member of the society."

This was Mr. Shiras' last meeting with Colonel Roosevelt, for six months later this great American passed away.

In 1918 Mr. Shiras was awarded by Trinity College, Hartford an honorary degree of Doctor of Science as a distinguished field naturalist and the originator of wild life photography by daylight and flashlight.

In the Yale law school - a graduate of the class of '83 Mr. Shiras, in his senior year, was elected president of the Kent Club, the famous debating society of the school, but in order to be on the floor resigned the same.

On retiring from the legislature, Mr. Shiras, moved by an ulterior motive, unexpectedly announced his candidacy for his party's nomination to Congress against Col. Bayne, in what was then the 29th District, comprising the north side of Allegheny County. Col. Bayne had been for seventeen years one of the most prominent and apparently popular party leaders in the State. The time left to Mr. Shiras for the Congressional primaries was then very limited, in which to set up hundreds of delegates for each candidate. Few expected that the youthful aspirant could defeat this experienced representative for the nomination; inasmuch as his opponent had had a most compact and heretofore invincible organization. However, the contest was much closer than expected, for while Bayne had the majority of the delegates to the convention, Mr. Shiras had the majority of the popular vote. Mr. Shiras thereupon announced that a motion would be made that the nomination of his opponent be declared unanimous.

When the convention assembled, there occurred one of the most disgraceful political coups ever known in American politics, which deserves recording here. After receiving the nomination and accepting it, Bayne suddenly and unexpectedly announced his withdrawal, requesting that the convention nominate Col. William A. Stone, U.S. District Attorney with a powerful organization, whose ambition was to succeed Col. Bayne upon the latter's retirement. At the time this political theft took place, a third of Mr. Shiras's delegates refused to attend the convention, as they had been definitely elected to oppose Col. Bayne's continuance in office. During the uproar following this theft, a number of Bayne delegates denounced the deal; and if all Mr. Shiras's delegates had been present, it probably could have been defeated, and Mr. Shiras himself nominated.

The two strongest supporters of Col. Bayne's renomination were the morning and afternoon party newspapers, and each denounced the steal in the most virulent editorials - one saying: "Like two pickpockets in a crowd, they Bayne and Stone had agreed to raise a racket, and in the excitement, get away with the wallet which they coveted. Bayne snatched the prize, and in the twinkling of an eye, passed it over to his pal, Stone, who stowed it away." So incensed was the community that one mass-meeting of five thousand party supporters at Carnegie Hall roundly denounced the substitution of a candidate who had never previously been before the people. Space forbids discussing most of the subsequent events; but it will suffice to say that Col. Bayne, on his returning to Washington that fall, humiliated by his betrayal of his party, committed suicide.

The next year matters so shaped themselves, that it seemed a certainty that Mr. Shiras would be nominated and elected to Congress to succeed Col. Stone. Then, unexpectedly, President Harrison appointed his father, George Shiras Jr., an Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court. Mr. Shiras thereupon considered it his duty to take over his father's law practice and to give up his political activities. This situation continued until some years afterwards, when he was nominated for Congress as one of the leaders of an anti-ring ticket in Allegheny County. He accepted this nomination and subsequent election with the understanding that at the end of a single term he could retire and resume his activities in natural history and his study of governmental problems.

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