

PLAN FOR ROOSEVELT MEMORIALS

- a. ROOSEVELT PERMANENT MEMORIAL NATIONAL COMMITTEE.
- b. ROOSEVELT WILD LIFE FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION.
- c. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL FOUNTAIN.

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A NATIONAL MEMORIAL TO COLONEL ROOSEVELT

On January 7, 1919, the day following Colonel Roosevelt's death, Mr. Shiras presented at a directors' meeting of the American Game Protective Association, in the City of New York, a resolution suggesting a movement for a public memorial in honor of the memory and accomplishments of Theodore Roosevelt. This resolution was unanimously approved.

A week later, Mr. Will Hays, chairman of the National Republican Committee, initiated a similar project, and appointed a Committee of One Hundred to carry it into effect.

At the request of Mr. Shiras, the American Game Protective Association agreed to withhold any independent action and cooperate with the committee appointed by Mr. Hays. Believing that such a memorial should be expressive, in some form, of Colonel Roosevelt's interests and activities in game conservation and natural history, a committee composed of Chas. Sheldon, Mr. John B. Burnham, president of the American Game Protective Association, Mr. Shiras, a director thereof, and Dr. E. W. Nelson, chief of the Biological Survey at Washington, prepared and presented to the Committee of One Hundred the following appeal: (See following page).

Honorary Presidents ELIHU ROOT WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON LEONARD WOOD Honorary Vice-Presidents HENRY CABOT LODGE HIRAM W. JOHNSON
President JAMES R. GARFIELD Vice-Presidents WILLIAM LOEB WILL H. HAYS Treasurer ALBERT H. WIGGIN Secretary and Director HERMANN HAGEDORN

ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

INCORPORATED

ONE MADISON AVENUE NEW YORK



January 2, 1925.

My dear Dr. Shiras:

I am so sorry you cannot
come to the Pilgrimage. I am taking the
liberty of sending Mrs. Roosevelt your letter
because I know it will give her pleasure.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. George Shiras, 3d.
Stoneleigh Court,
Washington, D. C.

HH/GW

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MEMORIALS TO ROOSEVELT

A BOOK OF SUGGESTIONS

*"One flag, the American flag; one language,
the language of the Declaration of Independence;
one loyalty, loyalty to the American people"*

ROOSEVELT PERMANENT MEMORIAL
NATIONAL COMMITTEE

WILLIAM BOYCE THOMPSON, Chairman
One Madison Avenue New York

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**ROOSEVELT PERMANENT MEMORIAL
NATIONAL COMMITTEE**

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II.

Conservation of Wild Life

It is proposed to establish at Washington an institution to be known as "The Roosevelt Foundation for the Conservation of Wild Life," the object of which shall be the conservation of wild life, mainly in America but secondarily in other parts of the world. The wild life to be thus conserved being principally the native bird and mammal faunas.

The Foundation should be governed by a Board of Trustees under whom a Director would have administrative control of its activities. The expenses of the organization should be borne by income from the trust, or foundation, funds. The activities of the Foundation may be briefly summarized as follows:

1. Investigations necessary to supply accurate information concerning wild life, its present and former status, its relations to man and studies of the factors to be considered in relation to saving and increasing valuable species threatened with extermination. The Foundation would become a central point where conservationists of America and elsewhere could obtain needed information to work effectively and should act as a clearing house in promoting conservation.

2. Educational work to inform the public of the importance and value of wild life should be undertaken through publications and by promoting the activities of affiliating organizations and individuals.

3. The building up of a conservation reference library and of great information files including maps and other data which would be unique and of the utmost value in connection with making the Foundation useful to the national and state governments and communities in solving the constantly increasing and perplexing questions arising in connection with their conservation activities.

4. The allotment of funds to be expended under the general supervision of the Director for the direct protection and increase of wild life in carrying out the object of the Foundation.

As a boy, Colonel Roosevelt was a student of birds and seriously contemplated becoming a professional ornithologist. Later he became an ardent big game hunter and in time an explorer of remote regions, always imbued with and led by his intense love and sympathy for wild life.

When President he began the establishment of Federal bird and game refuges, one of the most notable and effective achievements for the conservation of our birds and mammals. His delight in wild things of the forest and plain and his intimate association and fellowship with naturalists, big game hunters and others interested in wild life have been well known for years.

Such an institution as the proposed foundation is urgently needed. Most well informed people now appreciate the value and importance of wild life and the need for its conservation. The perpetuation of our bird life is essential to successful agriculture and forest growth, and the perpetuation of wild game is an insurance for the opportunity of healthful out-of-door activities, such as those which transformed Colonel Roosevelt from weakly youth to the magnificent physique which all admired.

The growth of population in all parts of the world and especially in America is seriously endangering the future of our wild life and presents an opportunity that has few parallels for real service to mankind by a Foundation such as here suggested. The institution would be unique and would quickly become of world-wide influence.

GEORGE SHIRAS, 3D.,

E. W. NELSON,

Chief, Bureau Biological Survey,

U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

JOHN B. BURNHAM,

President American Game Protective Assn.

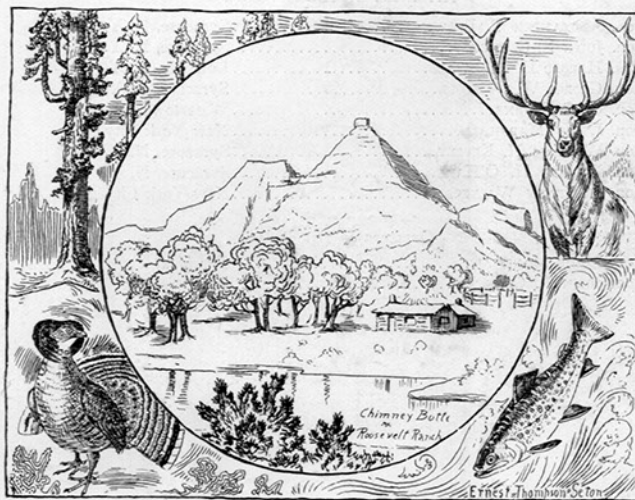
CHARLES SHELDON.

Gives Family Views.

Near the close of the afternoon meeting Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., spoke briefly.

"I think, perhaps," he said, "that you might like to know just what mother and the family have been thinking about. In general the family felt that they were afraid of the intangible, representing to them the type of institution where foundations were created for purposes which might be perverted into other uses when the present directorate had died. The foundation would then be perverted and would carry with it father's name and would give a false impression of what he stood for. The three things that appeal to the family were a tangible memorial of the national type, that is, a monument at Washington, the park at Oyster Bay, which was the place he was so fond of, and the suggestions that came concerning the preservation of wild life. There are the three things which appealed to the family."

The Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station
 OF
 THE NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF FORESTRY
 AT
 SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY



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 WILD LIFE STATION

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FOREWORD

After the death of Theodore Roosevelt, a number of his friends who knew him best on the side of sport or natural history inquiry felt very deeply that there should be established for him as a memorial an institution which should carry on a work that was very near his heart — an inquiry into certain phases of natural history in which he had always been interested. Chief among these was an investigation into various processes of wild life and especially into the life history of animals. Such studies would have scientific value and might lead up to matters of economic importance.

A suggestion to this effect was made to the committee having the Roosevelt Memorial in charge but did not appear to meet with favor, and those advocating it thought it undesirable to take any action which might seem to be in opposition to the wishes of the Memorial Committee.

Since Colonel Roosevelt's death, the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station has been established and has done good work. Its plan had been submitted to Colonel Roosevelt, who thought so well of it as to advocate it to some of his associates and to bring it before the Boone and Crockett Club. Its work is in line with the thought of some of Colonel Roosevelt's closest friends, and is of a character that would have greatly interested Colonel Roosevelt. The Station occupies a field not filled by any other institution in the State, and carries on research work on a scale not done elsewhere.

I feel that this Experiment Station deserves the support of all scientific men and of all lovers of outdoor life, and my personal feeling is that its work may profitably be extended beyond the limits of the State which authorized its establishment.

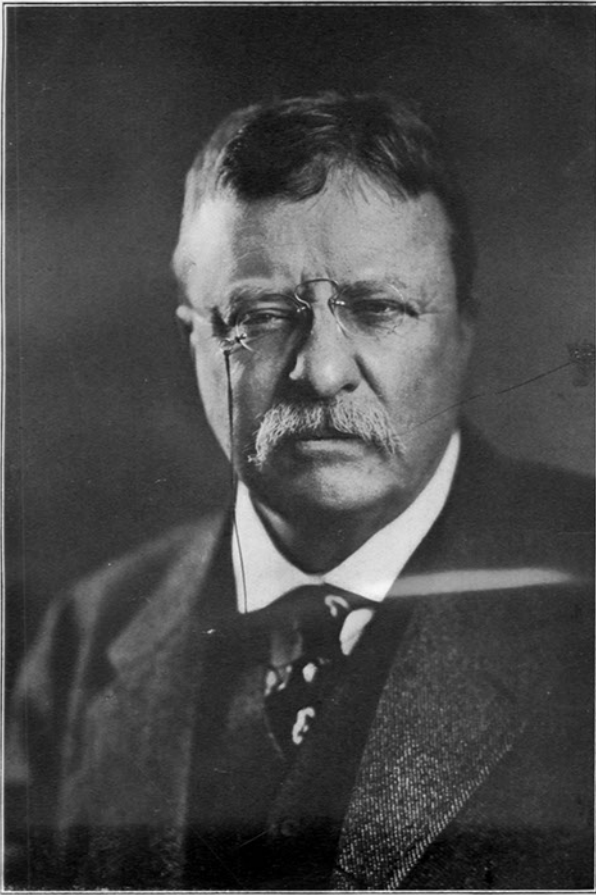
The average field-naturalist tends to become a collector of specimens rather than an investigator of the ways of animal life. His ambition is to collect the specimens as soon as he can, and as many as he can; and fearing lest each specimen shall escape him and be lost, he neglects the opportunity to observe it in life and to learn something about its habits and its ways. Often he takes this attitude from the institution for which he is working. It desires a great series of specimens which he feels he must secure. Yet the collecting of a large series of specimens, and the bringing them

home in satisfactory shape, should be only a small portion of the field-naturalist's work. Skins and skulls are useful, but skins and skulls and measurements and proportions tell us only a little about the living animal. Most of us wish to learn something about its ways of life.

I hope for great things from the Roosevelt Experiment Station; and I hope for them not only for the great service that this Station may render to science, but because this good service will be rendered in the name of one of the great field-naturalists of this country who was interested not only in science but above all in the betterment of America and of its people in every way.

No one more than Theodore Roosevelt appreciated the value of the work done and to be done by the field-naturalist. No one more than he would welcome those services to science that may be accomplished by the Experiment Station that bears his name.

GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL



THEODORE ROOSEVELT
1858-1919

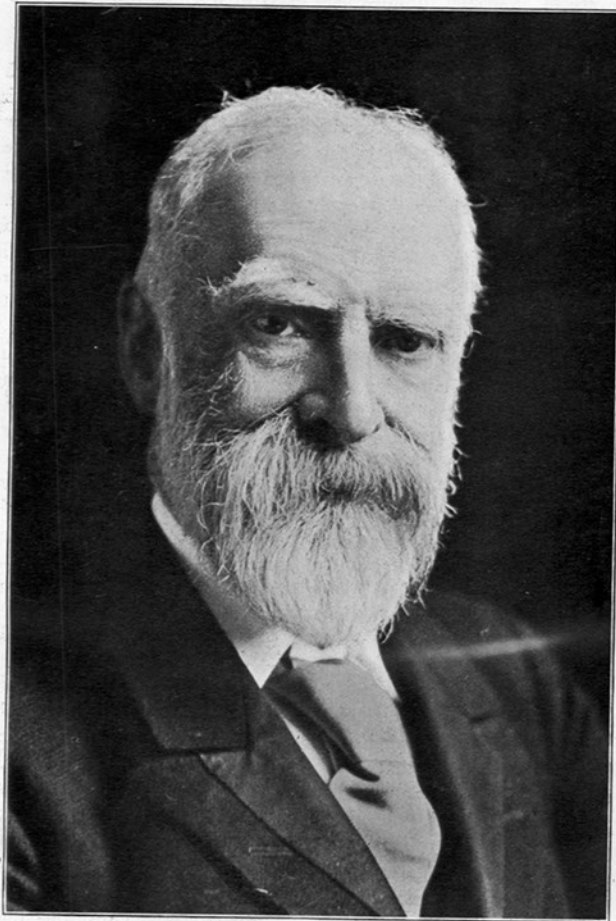
These are Roosevelt's words on wild life research: "There must be ample research in the laboratory in order even to present those problems, not to speak of solving them, and there can be no laboratory study without the accumulation of masses of dry facts and specimens."
"I also mean that from now on it is essential to recognize that the best scientific men must largely work in the great out-of-doors laboratory of nature. It is only such outdoors work which will give us the chance to interpret aright the laboratory observations."

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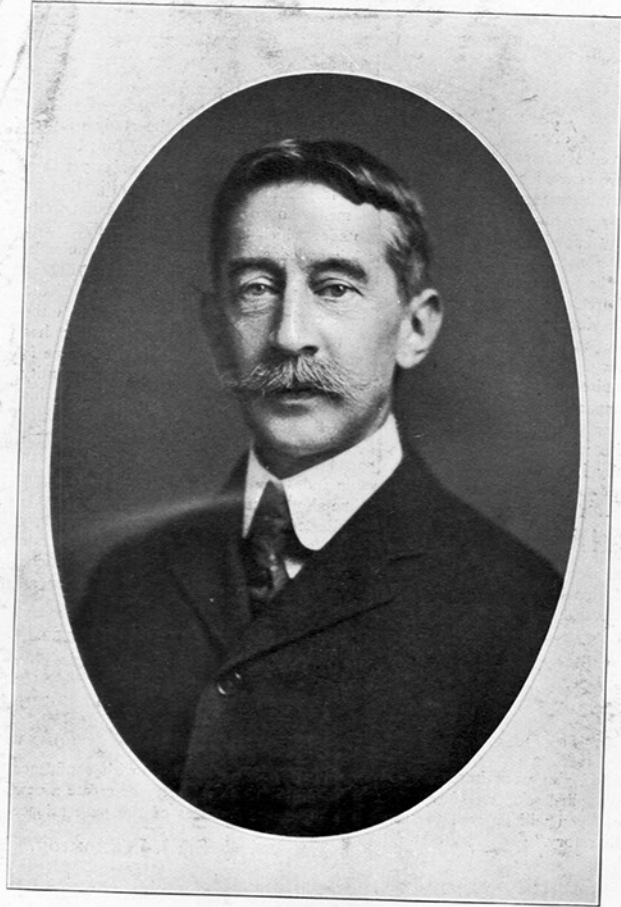
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GEORGE BIRD GRINNELL
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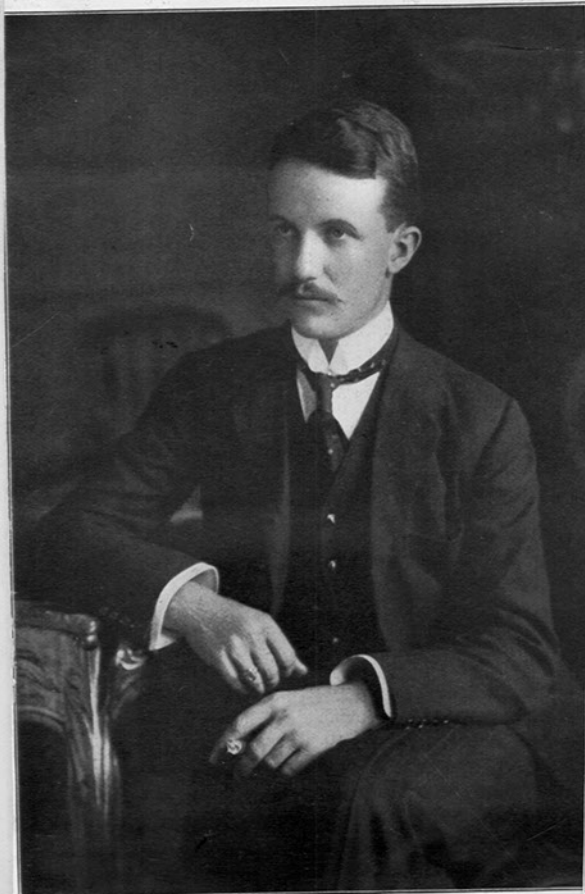
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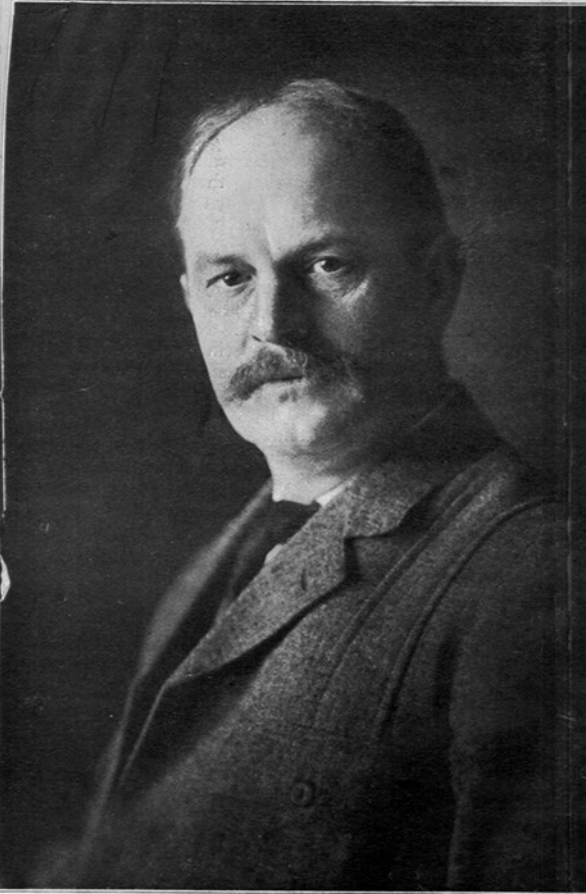
THEODORE ROOSEVELT
Member of Honorary Advisory Council



CHAUNCEY J. HAMLIN
Member of Honorary Advisory Council

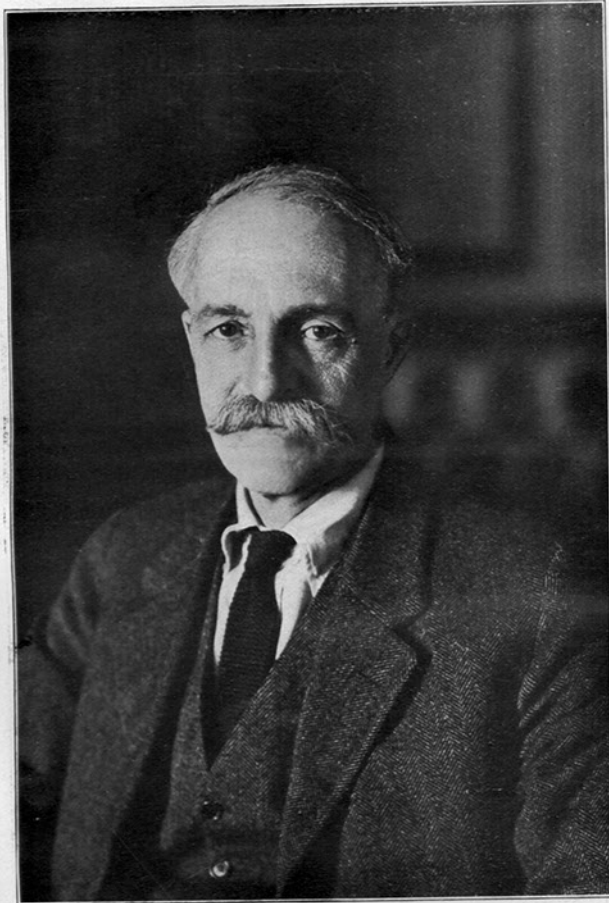


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GEORGE SHIRAS, 3RD.
Member of Honorary Advisory Council

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- CHARLES B. REED, 31 N. State Street, Chicago
 RUTHVEN DEANE, 112 West Adams Street, Chicago

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ROOSEVELT MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION, Inc.

ONE MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY / TELEPHONE GRAMERCY 6636



BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

HERMANN HAGEDORN, DIRECTOR
R. W. G. VAIL, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

March 7
1923

My dear Mr. Shiras:

At the suggestion of Mr. F. M. Chapman, of Bird-Lore, we are writing to you to ask if you will not help us in our effort to secure material relating to Colonel Roosevelt's interest in natural history. We are at work on a volume in which we hope to show what Colonel Roosevelt thought and wrote regarding wild life and its conservation. In this work we wish to bring together not only the various published essays and addresses which he wrote on the preservation of game, but also his letters on this subject to naturalists and other lovers of the out of doors.

Will you not help us complete this volume by the loan of any Roosevelt letters, articles and other data which you may possess, or by telling us the source and date of such articles and editorials of which you may have a record? In doing this, you will have earned our sincere gratitude and at the same time will have aided in a work which we are sure will have your hearty endorsement.

Very sincerely yours,

R. W. G. Vail

George Shiras, III, Esq.
Ormond Beach, Florida.

RWGV:deK

We are particularly anxious to secure the loan of original letters.