

Mr. H. M. Worcester, Reservation Protector of the Tule Lake Federal Bird Refuge, found thousands of birds which shooters had wounded in the game country just beyond the borders of the sanctuary. When hit, but not knocked out, the birds instinctively made for the Refuge, just as their relatives do in New Zealand in similar circumstances.

In two hours Mr. Worcester's clever retrieving spaniel, "Goldie," brought in 100 live birds and many dead ones—and this salvage work continued briskly throughout the season. From 24th November, 1931, to 5th January, 1932, the total of retrieved birds reached 3,224, of which 1,359 were mortally wounded. The remaining birds, 1,865, had been crippled. These were given hospital treatment, which included amputation of a wing in some cases. Many of these minor casualties recovered sufficiently for release in due course.

Every one of the wounded birds would have perished from cold or the onsets of eagles and hawks if Mr. Worcester had not intervened to save them. Even with the quick rescue activities of the retriever "Goldie," the birds of prey and coyotes had seized thousands of ducks and geese. "Thousands of skeletons on ice and land testified to the grim competition the saviours of the water-fowl encountered daily," remarked Mr. McConkey.

Well now! Is that kind of shooting any good for the conservation of sport? Does it help to maintain the supply of birds for future shooting seasons? Could that destructive peppering hope to command the approval of true sportsmen?

Even a worse offence than careless or clumsy marksmanship is the working of mean confidence tricks against game-birds. Some persons—who no doubt regard themselves as "good sports"—have the habit of setting food regularly for a period near the haunts of waterfowl before the opening of the shooting season. Then they will be ready in a hiding-place for their victims, and from their cunning cover their modern fire-arms will wreak easy slaughter.

That kind of cruel killing is a breach of all the principles of sport. Indeed, it does as much for the killing of sport as it does for the butchery of the tricked ducks. That practice has been fairly termed "trickery and treachery."

In articles on game conservation by expert American writers one sees the term "game crop." It means that the only common-sense policy for sportsmen to have for game is one which will maintain the supply of birds. Such a policy must necessarily