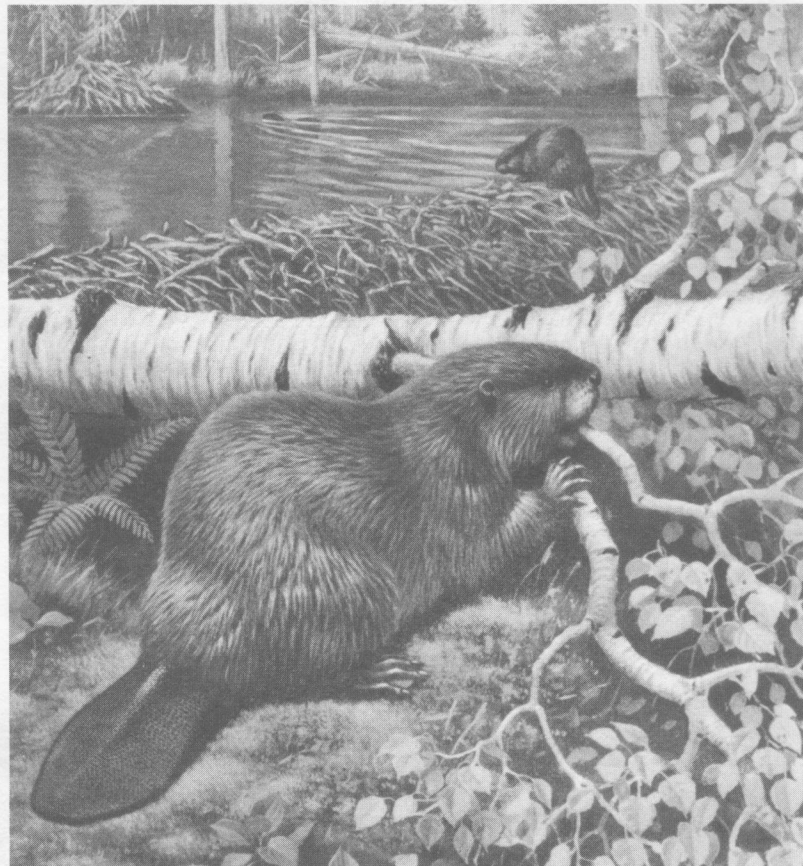


GREEN

"When in the spring the
withered grey of the
pastures gives place to
green, this is due to the
millions of young shoots
which sprout up freshly
from the old roots."

Dr. Albert Schweitzer



A beaver searching for poplar

SIGNS OF SPRING

Dr. Schweitzer was speaking of the revival of thought which comes from the transformation of opinions and ideals brought about by individual and universal reflections pertaining to the meaning of life and of the world.

More than 20 years ago The Fund for Animals adopted the slogan, "Animals Have Rights Too." It is not really a new idea. St. Francis and a few others proclaimed it long ago. But the Fund's avowal in public, and its widespread action to pro-

tect animals rights, is a modern phenomenon—one of the vigorous sprouts that spring up from old roots. In spite of much opposition, the idea grew and is flourishing now as the animal rights movement.

A JOB TO DO

Here and there the green shows itself. Example: at a Fund meeting a few years ago, Lt. William Lichtman, a Chicago police investigator, told

the audience that he objected to the press describing brutal holdup killers as "animals."

"I don't like the nomenclature," he said. "Don't insult animals by calling these men 'animals.' These men are scum."

Lt. Lichtman, expressing complete sympathy and full accord with The Fund's goals, went on to say, "It pains me to see animals decimated and destroyed. I carry a gun. I

know what a gun can do. And I also know what you have to do. You have to wrest control of the animals from the state conservation agencies, from the Fish and Game departments as they are presently constituted, from, in other words, the grip of the hunters. You have a terrific job to do—but it is a job which must be done."

ON THE ROAD

Some time ago, Steve

SHOOTS

By Hope Sawyer Buyukmihci



A rabbit at home among the green shoots

Renfro, then Director of Parks and Recreation for Sierra Madre, California, reported that his town had become the first in history to be a complete wildlife refuge—where a coyote could literally walk into a drugstore and not be molested.

This action was the reaction to a California drought which became so bad that food was gone from the hills, forcing the animals into town in search of some. "There

were coyotes on the main street, skunks in the basement and raccoons in the attic," said Renfro. Since Sierra Madre already had a 1100-acre wildlife refuge, and the education program to go with it, Renfro petitioned City Council to allow the whole town to become a wildlife sanctuary. "Now," he said, "Sierra Madre is, from border to border, a legally established wildlife sanctuary. We can prevent trapping, killing, the

use of residual insecticides and the mistreatment of our wildlife resources. We are, at last, on the road to a cleaner, healthier life."

Recently, I checked with the present director of Parks and Recreation in Sierra Madre. I was told that the ordinance is still in effect.

RIGHT TO FIGHT

From Minnesota comes a letter: "Yesterday I followed the frozen

river and found three beaver lodges that seemed to be occupied, and six dams full of water. I want to protect them from trappers, and I will do anything I can. If these people think they have the right to persecute our wild brothers, we have the right to fight on our brothers' side. I live on a 40-acre farm. The land the dams are on is not claimed by any humans. We don't have money to buy it, but I am determined to claim it for the beavers, anyway."

In New Jersey, dogs were chasing a rabbit who crossed in front of a woman's car. "He was so tired he could barely run," the woman said. "I could see him gathering himself with each hop. A gang of gunners were following the dogs. I stopped my car between the men and the rabbit. If he couldn't have made it, I would have gotten out and helped him along. He reached the other side and found shelter. The gunners were mad, but I didn't care. I had helped someone who needed me."

The green shoots are everywhere. Spring is here. □ □