

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United States Department of Agriculture

Release - Immediate

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 24, 1938

FUR TRADER SELLING BEAVER PELTS GETS FEDERAL SENTENCE

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For illegally transporting and selling beaver pelts, Cyrus Shuter of Boise, Idaho, a fur buyer, has been sentenced by the Federal Court at Carson City, Nevada, to a year and a day in the penitentiary and fined \$500. An accomplice, William Brennan, was released on probation. Both were found guilty on one count of conspiracy and five counts of illegal transportation and sale of furs.

Hundreds of valuable beaver skins, bought by Shuter from scattered trappers in Idaho, were smuggled by auto to Brennan in Winnemucca, Nev. Brennan reshipped the pelts to a New York City fur trader.

Enforcement officers of the U. S. Biological Survey picked up Shuter at Boise, Idaho, on October 2, 1937. At the time that Shuter was transporting pelts, both Idaho and Nevada had a close season on beaver.

"Unless game law violators such as these are checked", says Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the Biological Survey, "the rights of legitimate hunters and trappers, as well as of sportsmen and nature lovers, will be jeopardized. The Bureau proposes to see that valuable beaver, as far as Federal laws are concerned, are properly protected".

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