

# Baited Bird Hunt Laid to Aldermen

Two Atlanta aldermen have been booked by federal agents on charges of shooting doves in a baited field at the City Prison Farm.

Lee Evans, president of the aldermanic board, Ald. Charlie Leftwich, and H. H. Gibson, prison farm superintendent, denied the field was baited.

A sign at the farm reads, "Posted—No Hunting." Gibson said he permitted the officials and their guests to hunt there Wednesday "because I have to get the money to run the farm."

## STATE OFFICIALS REPORT

The hunting incident was reported by Fulton Lovell, state game and fish commissioner, and W. Warren Lupton, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

State Agents J. B. Bowling and Robert Short and Federal Agent Walker Harrod went to the prison farm on Key Road, just beyond Atlanta's southeast city limit in DeKalb County, and took the names of the hunters.

## JURISDICTION UNSURE

U.S. Commissioner Frank A. Holden Sr. said Friday night that the men had not yet appeared before him and that he was not certain if the case would come under federal or state jurisdiction.

Leftwich and Evans said they were surprised to learn they had been booked. They said the agents checked their guns and hunting licenses but said nothing at the time to indicate they were being booked on a baiting charge.

Mayor Hartsfield said he was not disturbed to hear of the charges.

## "NOT EXCITED"

The mayor was quoted: "I'm not excited about it. That's a very common occurrence. Some of the best people in Atlanta get caught on hunting violations."

Others booked on the charges with Evans and Leftwich are John O. McCurley, 95 Merritts Ave., NE; B. C. Lewis, 69 Adair Ave., SE; H. L. Willard, 1780 Stewart Ave., SW; F. T. Pittman, 812 Berne St., SE; Sam O. Shelton, 132 Adair Ave., SE; Cecil W. Hester Jr., 1661 Doncaster Dr., NE; Billy D. Cole, 480 Adair Ave., SE; P. E. Coke, 569 Milan

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## Accused of Baited Hunt

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Ave., SW, and S. L. Nelms, no address listed.

Both state and federal officials said they are distressed by the number of game law violations. Cliff Palmer, chief enforcement officer of the State Game and Fish Commission, said about 210 cases have been booked since the dove season opened Sept. 16 in north Georgia. This first season runs through Oct. 5. The second season, in south Georgia, runs from Dec. 2 to Jan. 15.

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