

Says Practice Not Cruel.

President Pearce of the Ontario Hunters' Game and Fish Protective Association introduced the various speakers and the whole trend of their argument was that hunting deer with dogs was not cruel; that it represented the essence of true sportsmanship, and that the use of dogs prevented waste of carcasses after the deer had been wounded. Various speakers made the plea that age and rotundity would prevent them from ever again enjoying the hunt should a restriction be made on the use of dogs. The opinion was expressed that 80 per cent. of the hunters would stay out of the woods in that unhappy event.

Sam Harris, who, through newspaper publication and other means, has conducted a vigorous propaganda against the use of dogs, was the lone anti-canine speaker. He vigorously denied all the allegations against the carelessness and inefficiency of the "pot-hunter," and maintained that the still hunter was "the real sport"; that he was always able to get his deer when wounded, and that the absence of dogs did not tend to increase shooting accidents. In support of the last contention, he quoted statistics from the United States and from Provinces of the Dominion.

Unruffled by Comment.

Mr. Harris produced a colored map of Ontario, with a blackened area representing that portion of it which had voted "anti-dog" in the recent hunters' referendum. The black area on his map covered the whole of Northern Ontario, and left little, older Ontario a white speck on the horizon. He was unruffled by the comment that in 95 per cent. of his blackened area there were no red deer anyway, and pointed out that these votes against the use of dogs were from people living in the very areas where the hunting would ensue; evidently they were not afraid of shooting accidents.

R. R. Hall, Parry Sound, a committee member, and one who had previously contended against the use of dogs, vigorously protested at the "booing" he received from some members of the deputation when he arose to speak. He singled out an offending individual and demanded and received the protection of the Chair.

The committee also received a plea for the protection of the maskalonge, which, it was said, would be extinct in five years without protection. A maskalonge hatchery was suggested.

The committee, which is holding its first three meetings publicly, will afterward deliberate privately and pass upon the various matters on the agenda.