

NORTHERN COUNTRY WANTS LAND SHARK TAXED OFF ITS MAP

**Reforestation, Extension
of Railways, Expulsion
of Foreigners From
Hunting and Fishing
Grounds, Better Roads,
Power and School Facili-
ties Among Things
Asked of Government**

SAY GAME LAWS BOLDLY VIOLATED

There was nothing dull about the proceedings connected with the hearing given yesterday morning by Premier Drury and members of his Cabinet to the deputation from the Algoma Advisory Union. About 200 members from the North filled the reception room at the Parliament Buildings, and their spokesmen had their case well prepared. They presented a long list of resolutions, and some of the speakers made such startling statements regarding law evasions in the district that the Premier promised that forthwith a special commissioner would be sent to investigate and to hear evidence on oath.

Anxious to Please North.

After promising serious consideration to the demands of the deputation, Premier Drury said that for some time he had been giving serious thought to the needs of the North. "I think it would be advisable," he said, "in the not too distant future, to appoint a commission or committee to investigate our natural resources and to co-ordinate their possibilities—to take a full survey of all the natural resources of all our North country, in order that we may know the method by which they may be utilized to the best advantage."

Regarding a request made by the deputation concerning patent lands, the Premier said it appeared to be a reasonable thing. "I am strongly of the opinion that those who hold lands for speculative purposes should be compelled by taxation to develop them."

Evasion of Game Laws.

One of the most serious things brought forward at the hearing, the Premier declared, was "that in certain districts anarchy practically exists. That is a condition of affairs the Province of Ontario cannot tolerate." It was "news" to him, continued the Premier, to hear of wholesale evasion of the game laws. "I propose immediately to send a commissioner into your district to make inquiries," he said. He declared, further, that if the inquiry showed conditions such as had been alleged, then the Government would cope with them if it had to have a force of Provincial Police much greater than the one it had now.

Resort Even to Murder?

Mayor Dawson of Sault Ste. Marie, speaking on requests that trapping licenses should be issued only to British subjects, said that last spring two men had gone on territory of other men and later were found dead at the bottom of a lake. "It is generally recognized that foreigners are afraid to go on the territory of other foreigners," he asserted. There had been a trial in the case of the two men found dead, but no conviction.

"The Government has no idea of the amount of illegal trapping going on in that district," continued Mayor Dawson. "It was a common thing for men to come out with 500 beaver skins." He knew one man, he said, who had come out with 120 beaver skins. "One man told me he had bought 500 beaver skins."

Exterminating Wild Life.

Proceeding, Mayor Dawson said that otter, fisher and marten were exterminated in Algoma, and beaver would be exterminated in two years, if not one. They wanted a three-year close season. "I am strong for measures conserving our wild life," said Hon. Mr. Mills, amid applause.

Then Mayor Dawson went on to the matter of granting fish licenses to the Booth Packing Company. Another license had been granted only last week, he said, and the Sault Board of Trade was much opposed. Mr. Mills said that Canadian companies had the right to fish in American waters. "There's no fish there," called out several delegates.

Proceeding, amid loud applause, Mayor Dawson said that the granting of the license "bore out the statement frequently made that there is no power on earth strong enough to block the influence of the Booth Company with the Department of Fish and Game in Toronto. It makes one's red British blood boil to see bouquets handed out to American concerns," he went on. He said that his vocabulary was limited, being a member of the Methodist Church, "to express my indignation at the action taken. We ask and demand of you in the name of British justice that this season's license be cancelled," and he demanded, further, that at the expiration of this year the Booth Company be not permitted to fish on the north shore, particularly Algoma.

Taking Trout, He Says.

James Lyons, Chairman of the union, called out that the company caught speckled trout in the lakes, and that there were men who could enlighten the Premier, and who were firmly convinced they were taking speckled trout out of the Province. Premier Drury replied that either the legal mesh was destroying fish in the lake or else the speaker was making charges that the company was breaking the law. If he was making charges he should have them corroborated and inform the department.

"It is like the O.T.A., we don't want to get mixed up in it," said a delegate.

"If loyal British citizens know the law is being broken and will not take the trouble to tell the department the law is being broken, we can't enforce the law," said Premier Drury.

Pay \$2 Per Ton.

"All the citizens up there believe that the officers knew all about it," called out a delegate, who subsequently said he was the Editor of The Star at Sault Ste. Marie. Mr. Lyons stated that they had asked that inspection be made at the Canadian Sault, and then the Government would know what wealth is going out of Canada. This company, he said, paid to the Government two dollars a ton on the fish it caught, and he had been told the average price per ton sold in Chicago was \$400. The local fishermen had not the same opportunity of getting the same price as had the Booth Packing Company, he said.

John McPhail urged changes in the regulations governing the development of power in the North. The present regulations were too rigid. He intimated that some particular transaction in the past, which he did not name, had caused concern among investors who wished to invest in Ontario bonds. Leases, he thought, should be made longer than for 20 years. Premier Drury told him that the matter he mentioned concerning investors had been settled. Dealings, thought Mr. McPhail, should be with a responsible Minister, not with an independent commission.

Ontario Always Safe.

Hon. Manning Doherty said that he had had a conversation with two of the biggest bankers in Great Britain, and they had said that investments in Ontario never stood higher in the history of Ontario than now. Premier Drury added that

Americans sometimes failed to understand the system of government here. Things that investors feared might be done because of a change of Ministers simply "weren't done" in British countries. Everything a Government did was subject to criticism and review in Parliament, "and if you place yourself in the hands of Parliament you are as safe as any system can make you."

Colonization Promises.

Hon. Manning Doherty told the delegation that the Government intended to provide stations where the

farmer and settler in Northern Ontario could get good live stock at reasonable prices. The Government last year had arranged to set up 12 demonstration stations in the North. The question of wolves was a sore problem, he admitted. They had increased the bounty, but they suspected that many of the hides presented for payment came from the United States or from Manitoba. One delegate suggested regulating the bounty on green hides and have a Justice of the Peace stamp them. The Government, Mr. Doherty continued, would consider seriously some practical system of colonization of Northern Ontario with the right kind of people.

"Sometimes I get lonesome to see the rocks," said Hon. Beniah Bowman. Replying to their requests, he said finally that if they would "give us an opportunity for another four years we believe we will be able to live up to all your expectations."

What North Wants.

The resolutions passed by the Algoma Advisory Union, and passed on at yesterday's meeting, were, in substance, as follows: That the Government secure areas suitable for reforestation and that only experienced men be engaged as fire-rangers; that a Government railway be built in to the Mississauga Reserve; that the export of hardwood logs be stopped; that patent lands in unorganized territory not at present paying school or other taxes be taxed by the Government; that the Sault-Sudbury Highway be widened and that the road be made of more permanent construction; that the Government largely increase the amount of colonization road grants and build more branch roads; that the Government should put up at least \$2 for every \$1 spent by municipalities under the township system; that demonstration farms be established in the district; that an engineer observe the Bar River country in flood-time; that the bounty on brush wolves be increased to \$40, and the loss for sheep be paid for in part by the Government.

Power and Schools.

Other resolutions were: That the Hydro regulations be changed to permit the development of power in Algoma; that steps be taken to investigate the lack of schools in certain sections of Algoma; that bootleggers and other prisoners be put to work; that the Government provide a suitable place to take care of