

## DEER-DOGS BATTLE IS RENEWED AGAIN ALONG SAME LINES

Bill to Re-establish Their  
Use Announced by  
Grey M.P.P.

### TRIAL OF BAN IS URGED

Sportsmen of Ontario, accepting the Chairman's invitation to "let the hounds loose," re-debated the merits of dogs or no dogs during a lengthy sitting of the Fish and Game Committee in Queen's Park yesterday. The controversy culminated in an amicable disagreement between Sam Harris (anti-dog) and T. H. Bell (Conservative, Bellwoods), (pro-dog); and the announcement of a bill to re-establish the hounds, sponsored by D. J. Taylor (Progressive, Grey North).

#### Like Geneva Parley.

"The ten or twelve years we have been discussing this thing makes me think of a Geneva disarmament conference," Mr. Harris said, with a smile, just before the meeting broke up, and a veteran member of the committee commented more seriously after the session that there had been little evidence of new sentiment or opinion.

William Gastle, President of the Ontario Hunters' Game Protective Association, suggested as a compromise that the use of pure-bred beagles and hounds in limited numbers should be permitted, and accompanied by dog license fees and more stringent protection. "I never will get over the loss of dogs in my annual hunt," Mr. Gastle admitted. "As a hunter, I would be willing to pay for the privilege of taking my dog with me, and would only take a dog I could be proud of." Mr. Bell commended the proposal, adding that the Government might, if necessary, adopt zone closure.

#### Asked to Await Figures.

The plea made by Mr. Harris in support of the present regulation banning the use of dogs in deer-hunting, stressed the recent date of the legislation. He asked the hunters to wait until the newly inaugurated statistics gleaned from each deer hunter would testify to the exact conditions of the situation.

Personal testimony and association petitions were presented for both sides by the sportsmen meeting with the committee. Although the main tenor of the debate seemed to favor the return of the hounds, several spoke in favor of the present legislation. All were agreed that any measure should be based on conservation, but whether hounds furthered or lessened progress in that direction proved a moot question.

Proponents of the hounds argued that they could locate wounded game which might otherwise be lost, and would, by preference, follow a buck, but these statements did not pass unchallenged by the opposition. Discussion was also aroused by the problem of how much damage a good chase might do to an escaping deer.

### "Break" Gives Kennedy Precedence Over Henry

Clifford Case (Conservative, North York) waxed overly enthusiastic in the debate at Queen's Park yesterday. The member for North York was lauding Hon. T. L. Kennedy as "the best Minister of Agriculture Ontario ever had," when a fellow-member interjected a warning comment. "Not excepting Premier Henry," Mr. Case concluded when made aware of his "break." The Prime Minister, whose sense of humor was visibly stirred by the occurrence, held the Agricultural portfolio when he first entered the Cabinet in 1918.

#### Secres Duck Blinds.

Duck shooting from permanent blinds built in the lake, particularly in Hamilton Bay, aroused criticism. W. R. Griner of Aldershot protested against this practice, and advocated the abolition of "baiting" in Ontario. Other sportsmen seconded Mr. Griner's attack, charging that expensive blinds were commercializing Ontario game. There was a general expression of opinion opposed to the "baiting" of ducks for slaughter.

An appeal for an extension or change in date of the partridge season, with the same bag limits, was also made, and termed by Hon. George H. Challies, Minister of the department, a most reasonable suggestion.

G. W. Gravestock of Peterboro' attacked the use of fish and game revenues for other purposes. In answer to Mr. Challies's explanation that all fees went into the Consolidated Fund and were dispensed by the Legislature and that fees had not covered expenses during the past two years, Mr. Gravestock charged that, prior to that time, a large sum of money had been diverted from game revenue to other purposes, and that insufficient restocking had resulted.

An appeal for the reissuance of identifying buttons with gun licenses was also made. Mr. Challies stated that the department was giving such a move careful consideration, but remarked: "The honest sportsman doesn't need a button, and the dishonest sportsman and 'pot-hunter' won't wear it."

Possibilities of increased bear hunting during the spring season were also suggested.

## SMOKER'S DOLLAR UNFAIRLY DIVIDED, GROWERS COMPLAIN

Tobacco Producers Claim  
Manufacturers' Share  
Too Large

### DELEGATION IS HEARD

Distribution of the smoker's dollar was the chief concern of a delegation from Ontario's tobacco country which yesterday received a sympathetic hearing from a Legislature subcommittee under the Chairmanship of Captain Austin Smith, member for Essex South.

The delegates complained that too large a share of that dollar was going to expand manufacturers' profits and too small a part to diminish producers' losses. The average of 18 cents a pound received by "flue-cured" growers last year was less than production cost, said E. C. Scythes of Simcoe, while one manufacturer's net profits were greater than the total price paid for all tobacco purchased in Western Ontario.

#### In Dark as to Surplus.

Secrecy on the manufacturers' part handicapped the growers, the committee was told. Farmers knew that 40,000,000 pounds of last year's crop still remained in their own hands, but they had no knowledge of the stocks held at tobacco factories. Without this information, growers were in the dark as to the acreage they would be wise to plant for the coming season. "It is essential that we get those figures," said Mr. Scythes. "They have been refused, to my knowledge, by one manufacturer, and possibly by the rest."

United States figures, said to be indicative of conditions in Canada as well, showed that last year the growers received \$68,000,000, while manufacturers' profits were \$146,000,000. This proved the reversal of the 1923 situation, when growers got \$170,000,000 and manufacturers' profits were \$80,000,000.

"The low price paid doesn't permit the producer to live," said Mr. Scythes, "while manufacturers' profits are unimpaired."

Finally, the deputation submitted a brief which, if the committee approves, will form the basis of a Provincial submission to the Stevens Committee at Ottawa.

#### Eight Recommendations.

The deputation's brief summarized the recommendations as follows:

1. Full investigation of the whole tobacco industry.
2. Publication of detailed statistics showing the different types of tobacco—domestic and imported—used in Canada, and also the stocks of all tobacco held by manufacturers.
3. Publication of all statistics showing the actual state of the industry.
4. Investigation of the distribution of the consumer's dollar.
5. Publication of the Sutherland report in full. (Under the Combines Act the late Hon. Donald Sutherland investigated the industry. His report never has been released.)
6. Petitioning of the Dominion Gov-

ernment to place an embargo on United States seed tobacco, said to carry plant disease.

7. Enactment of Dominion legislation similar to the British Marketing Act.

8. Full Government support for any plan of production control.

Growers on the delegation included Mr. Scythes, H. A. Freeman of Simcoe, J. F. McKay, A. S. Card of Tillsonburg, J. K. Perritt of Simcoe and J. P. Vair of Tillsonburg. They were assured that their brief would receive full consideration, and the committee was notified of another meeting to be held next week.