

# Hunting - don't ban it, help it to continue for ever

By Jack Watson  
On Oct. 19, an Editorial, "Hunting - Ban It", prompted a series of letters to the Editor. They have been pretty even, pro and con. There is little room to be objective about something you enjoy as much as hunting and there is little in the way of regionalization acceptable, if you oppose it. But what about a hunter who loves that inexplicable urge which grips him each fall, who is concerned about our wildlife.

were there no statistics being kept one hundred years ago, but then, we hadn't even completed the decimation of the buffalo herds. To that Ministry, hunting is a source of a three million dollar revenue. In 1957, a Dr. Clark, Chief of Wildlife with Department of Lands and Forests, recommended that deer hunting be allowed in Algonquin Provincial Park, because wolves slept too much in the winter to kill deer. Hunting would control

the population. When Dr. Clark felt that wolves killed deer most easily was anybody's guess. The hazard presented by the overpopulation of beaver, seems to be lost on the government also. Each year, additional beaver colonies are drowning more and more of the low swamps where deer have sought winter survival; where they found the food necessary to prevent starvation. Another writer,

James Foote, credits the Lands and Forests and Conservation Authorities with making food drops to prevent the starvation of moose and deer. Last year's efforts in the Bancroft area showed that the deer starved anyway. In 1956, the boys of North Hastings High School in Bancroft, carried 150 bales of straw and hay to starving deer near Coe Hill, the yard contained eight deer showed that all had starved to death without eating this

food, recommended by Lands and Forests. And then Mr. Foote defends the hunters. "Quick, clean kills" and the wounded deer are always hunted down. In 1961, during the two weeks after the hunting season ended, six dead deer were found within a mile of Kingscot Lake, Bruton Township in Haliburton County by one trapper, all shot and rotting. One deer was lying less than seventy five yards from the watch from which the

hunter shot him. A trail of blood is relatively easy to follow, but does the fear of being lost outweigh the desire for game in a man whose

bush experience is limited to one week a year. A deer is an easy animal to kill, yet it has survived all of the abuse man has thrown

at it; rape of its habitat, drowning of its winter feeding grounds, the ravages of winter, development of forests areas for recreation and con-

tinued persecution by dogs and wolves. Maybe those of us who love hunting and would really miss that experience of getting out to the hunt should stop

taking for granted this animal and make our contribution to its well being and survival. Hunting - Don't Ban it, help it to continue forever.

In 1922, one family shot 86 deer near Eels Lake in Peterborough County. These deer were shipped to market in Peterborough. One day's hunt on that same lake, some years ago, saw forty deer put "to water".  
A twelve year old girl, Christine Kerrigan, asked in her letter, "Where is the thrill in seeing a deer drop dead before one's eyes?" Christine, the thrill is not in seeing a small, sleek, brown deer "churn" white snow into a mass of dead leaves and blood as it struggles to its last breath to escape, still more fearful of the hunter than the fatal lead deep in its body. That moment of anguish for hunted and hunter is lost in the anticipation of sighting the quarry and the blood quickening moment that stirs the hunter into the action of raising the gun and firing.  
The love of hunting is not something to be defended by statistics from the Ministry of Natural Resources. One writer, Mr. Redshaw, cites that there are more deer in North America today than one hundred years ago. Not only



Honored at Award's Banquet

Dean Hughes (right), R. R. 1, Unionville, a noted writer, was honored, Dec. 1, at the Markham Fair Board's annual Awards Banquet. He was presented with an engraved plaque by the 1972 president, Gerald Mann.

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**Lady assaulted - purse stolen**  
STOUFFVILLE - A Stouffville woman had a hectic Saturday morning at the Mansion House Hotel in Sutton, Dec. 2. Margaret Perron reported to York Regional Police that she and three other persons had been assaulted by Jack Beaudrow, 20, of Toronto, at about 12:45 a.m. She suffered a swollen back. But her problems did not end there. Following the assault, Miss Perron noticed that her purse was missing. It contained \$69 in cash and some personal papers. Jack Beaudrow was later arrested and charged with three counts of common assault and assault resulting in bodily harm. Tribune classifieds are your best market.

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