

desire is to enrich themselves and the firms they represent in the quickest manner possible, and this would be at the expense of our northern resources.

Revision of Northwest Game Act      At the present time the Northwest Game Act is undergoing a much needed revision, and we hope to be able to deal with this menace to the fur resources of the north. It is a question full of difficulties, but it is necessary that we overcome these if the Northwest Territories are to enjoy prosperity in the future. One thing is essential, namely, that some form of license system should be adopted. This would enable us to exercise a greater control over the operations of these trappers, whose activities affect the legitimate interests of the Indian trappers and other inhabitants and the operations of the older established Canadian companies, who are operating in a manner that will not jeopardize the future of our fur-bearing animals in the north.

It may be of interest to point out that the Danish Government administers the fur trade of Greenland as a government monopoly. State officers trade with the natives at so-called "buying-places." In this manner, and through their regulations regarding trapping, it is possible to exercise an amount of control that will ensure the conservation of the fur resources of Greenland to a far greater extent than is otherwise possible.

Greater control on the part of our government of the fur resources of the north is necessary, and I feel convinced, from the evidence we have of the destruction of fur-bearing animals in other regions, that unless such additional control is assumed, with the consequent exercise of greater precautions and foresight, the most valuable and available natural resources of that vast northern area will suffer irreparably.

With proper conservation, that is, utilization without excessive destruction or waste, the fur resources of the north would continue to provide means of livelihood for not only the present inhabitants, both white and native, but other Canadians too, and would furnish no inconsiderable portion of our national trade.

Natural Fluctuation in Fur Supply      The output of furs fluctuates, but inquiry has shown that these fluctuations are natural and due to phenomena which many species of wild life exhibit; increase and decrease alternate in fairly regular periods of years, and are due to the constant adjustment that goes on in nature of what is frequently called "the balance of nature."