

believing that it was killed in the proper season; after it is shipped he is liable to have difficulty with the various officers because, in their opinion, judging from the appearance of the skin, it is not prime. It seems to me that we might get better results if we had an exact definition. If the colour of the skin indicates unprimeness, why not say so, that there may be no room for doubt.

MR. MELLON: That is the point; you cannot do so. In Quebec, the fur traffic is legal after November 1st. There has been very little trouble with the fur dealers in that province. Any fur taken after the opening of the season we are at liberty to buy and to have in possession, so long as we are certain that it has been taken in the open season. Suppose we take muskrat skins after November 1st, which are not prime, though they might be fit for dressing and manufacturing purposes; are we to destroy all these skins? We must leave 'unprime' to mean skins taken in the close season.

DR. HEWITT: I think that what Mr. Harkin is aiming at is this: Could not we, as a conference, agree on the distinction, so that everybody could follow the same idea? If 'prime' is to mean skins taken in the open season, then let us have that definition, and everybody will take it as a definition, fur companies as well as game officers.

MR. MELLON: My point is that you cannot make a definition applying to the skin itself. You cannot define a prime skin.

MR. BELLISLE: We have to depend on the dates; that is the only way.

MR. JAMES WHITE: Why not define an 'unprime' skin as one taken during the close season?

MR. KNIGHT: In our Nova Scotia law we do not use the word 'unprime,' because it is so hard to define. We make it illegal for anyone to have in his possession skins of animals that are taken out of season.

DR. MURRAY: If there is some agreement with regard to that, we will pass on to the consideration of the resolution proposed by Mr. Bellisle.

MR. RAPSEY: I beg to second the resolution. The suggestions which it contains are in keeping with present-day conditions.

DR. HEWITT: The sense of the resolution, as I understand it, is this: It emphasizes the desirability of uniformity in laws and the desirability of uniformity in regard to the control of the trade in furs—that is, the regulating of the fur trade—and that the regulations of the different provinces should be as nearly the same as possible. The address which Mr. Bellisle gave this afternoon is an exposition of a most successful experiment in the regulation of the fur trade,