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WITH ENGRAVED PORTRAIT OF MR. GEORGE R. LANE-FOX, M.P., M.F.H.

## Mr. George R. Lane-Fox, M.P., M.F.H.

MR. GEORGE R. LANE-FOX, M.P., has been Master of the Bramham Moor Foxhounds since 1906, when he succeeded Mr. J. R. Lane-Fox. The Bramham Moor dates from very early times. The hounds went to Harewood for some twenty years or more, when the second Lord Harewood was Master, and were then known by his name; but they returned to Bramham Park in 1848. With the exception of this period the pack has always been at Bramham Park, has never been broken up, and has always belonged to the Lane-Fox family. The coun-

try lies in the West and North Ridings of Yorkshire.

The Master, who, by the way, won the Barkston Ash election in 1906, a rare double event in one season, was born on December 15th, 1870, and is the eldest son of Mr. James R. Lane-Fox, of Bramham. Educated at Eton and New College, Oxford, Mr. George Lane-Fox was called to the Bar, but the charms of an outdoor man's life took him into that sport of which his father and his illustrious grandfather have been such ornaments—hunting. Shooting, fishing, and cricket know

his attention. Mr. Lane-Fox will not have it that a comparison can be made between the joys of the chase and the thrills of a Parliamentary Session. The one, he replied, is a healthy pleasure, the other often a very wearisome, though necessary, duty, from which, however, release may be given by an adverse electorate.

Spoken to on the question of the presence of motor-cars at meets, Mr. Lane-Fox believes that every good sportsman will get out of his car, if considerations of time make it necessary for him to use one, at least a quarter of a mile from the meet. A motor AT a meet is an abomination which stamps its occupants.

It is Mr. Lane-Fox's conviction that the tendency of modern show foxhounds seems to be to go too much for size; hounds are meant to travel not to weigh. The hound he likes best is the one which combines good ribs, clean shoulders, and good bone with quality, never measuring more than 24 in. in height. Gamekeepers—good fellows as a rule, he believes—are often blamed for orders which their masters give them. The bargaining spirit among farmers, the asking for £10 in the hope to get £5, is the only cause of difficulty—and that not a serious one—in the working of the Poultry Fund in the Bramham Moor country.

Wire, said Mr. Lane-Fox in response to our query, is largely a question of consideration shown by Master and field to the farmer.

Very little wire in the Bramham Moor country now, thanks to the wise methods inculcated by the Master; and the greater part of the little that is used comes down before the hunting season begins.

Two pertinent questions were put to Mr. Lane-Fox, the outcome of his delightful little speech to the Bramham Moor Puppy Walkers. His response to the query if hunting was not an excellent thing for the circulation of money was positive. Reckon up what the horse and hound eat, he said; add to that the money necessary for the men to look after them; then the clothing and keep of these men, &c., &c., and an idea is at once gained of the money thrown into use. Asked how the "idle rich" would enjoy itself if it did not hunt, his reply was to the point. The "idle rich" would certainly not be spending their money in the country if it were not for hunting.

Mr. Lane-Fox has made himself immensely popular since his Mastership. He has that happy knack of dropping a kind word which he believes will take a man much further than anything else. His knowledge of agriculture has made him as popular with the farmers as his deep knowledge of hunting has made him an authority upon the pastime. His grandfather, and of course his father, taught him most that he knows of hunting; but almost above all, he freely confesses, he is indebted to Tom Smith, huntsman at Bramham for thirty-one years (1877 to 1908), a faithful good



G. R. Lane Fox