



CAMPERS

ONTARIO'S forest wealth is dwindling. Every year forest fires take disastrous toll. Careless campers cause eleven per cent. of Ontario's forest fires. Last summer 112 cases of neglected camp fires were reported. This summer be careful.

Be Sure You Put Them Dead Out

Carelessness with matches, cigarette butts, cigar ends, pipe ashes, camp fires, fly smudges, railway locomotives, slash-burning operations—human carelessness of some kind accounts for 97 per cent. of the forest fires which every year add further devastation to the northern areas of this province.

Here are typical cases picked at random from last year's Fire Rangers' Reports:

A camp fire left on a portage caused a fire 10 miles long by 4 miles wide on the Ombabika to Fort Hope route, July 4th.

A prospector on the Montreal River on July 6th burned over 4,800 acres, destroying 1,000,-

000 feet of pine and 9,000 cords of pulpwood.

A party of fishermen camped on Porcupine Lake, Burton Township, Parry Sound, on July 10th, burned over 25,000 acres and 2,000,000 feet of timber.

The best way to fight forest fires is to prevent them.

Save Ontario's Forests They're Yours

DON'T

DON'T take chances with fire in Ontario's forests.

DON'T throw away cigarette or cigar butts, pipe "heels" or burnt matches until you are dead sure they are out.

DON'T neglect to drown out your fire with lots of water.

DON'T build your camp fire against a rotten log or stump—nor on windy points; nor near moss patches; nor at the base of a tree. Build it in a former fire-place, or on a flat rock, or on a spot cleared down to the true soil below, or by the edge of the water.

DON'T forget that the upper layer of ground in the forest consists of partially rotted wood which will burn.

When you build your fire to make tea, fry bacon or add cheer to pipe and story-telling time, use a woodsman's precautions.

The real woodsman builds his fire on an old fire-place, if there be one handy. Failing that he scrapes away all litter, moss and fibrous rotted wood down to the mineral soil, or the bare rock, and preferably some place close to the water. He knows that if fire gets into the moss or the upper woody layer of forest soil, or in a half-rotted log or stump, it "holds over," burns away unnoticed underneath, and unless followed up and carefully put out, is liable to break into a flame later. He knows how hard it is to put such deep-smouldering fire out. So he makes his cooking fire surprisingly small and compact, and chooses a spot that is absolutely safe.

It is a mark of his finished woodsmanship how thoroughly he drowns his fire out with plenty of water when he is through with it. Save the forest. You may want to camp again.

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