

WILL LAUNCH COMPREHENSIVE FORESTRY CAMPAIGN THIS YEAR

A. Knechtel, Inspector-General of Forestry, is in City for This Purpose

COOKING LAKE RESERVE TO BE GIVEN CHIEF ATTENTION

Work of Re-Foresting Denuded Areas in Reserve to be Taken Up

Mr. A. Knechtel, inspector general of the forestry branch of the department of the interior, has arrived in Edmonton to launch the forestry campaign in the Edmonton district for the coming year.

"The forestry branch of the department of the interior," said Mr. Knechtel, "purpose starting forestry operations this spring on the Cooking lake forest reserve, which lies due east of Edmonton about twenty miles. It comprises an area of 131 square miles. About 40 square miles of this is covered with fair growth of poplar with an intermixture of spruce and tamarac; about 40 square miles is entirely denuded of timber; about 10,000 acres is covered with water, distributed over the whole territory in small lakes, the largest, Assotin lake, being about three miles long and two miles wide. Sawik lake is also three miles long, but only about a mile wide. The area stated includes Cook's island park, in the north, comprising an area of about sixteen square miles. It is in this part that Assotin lake is located. The park is now fenced and has about fifty elk, fifty buffalo and fifteen black-tailed deer, which furnish a great deal of interest to visitors to the reserve from Edmonton.

"The larger portion of the reserve, 98 square miles, is not fenced, and though the boundaries are survey lines they are not marked on the ground. It is the purpose of the department to have the boundary lines run out this summer, but this year the department intends to have the permanent staff, so for the first year the permanent staff will be in the reserve and the government will construct houses for them. Along the main travelled trails, as in other reserves, the government will place equipment sufficient to equip 25 rangers. Then should a fire occur, the timber ranger in charge of that particular district could telephone to the nearest town for a body of men, have them come to the most convenient tool house, equip them and commence the battle against the flames.

"The rangers' duties will also include the clearing of dead and fallen timbers from all trails through the reserve. Probably the eastern border of the reserve will be cut out into a 12 foot trail or wagon road. This will also assist as a fire guard. The sawmills will have to show more care in the future and do away with the waste that has been too common the past. They will be compelled to cut their stumps lower, to save every portion of a tree that is big enough to make a two by four. The stumps are not to be higher than 18 inches from the ground. Fifteen men will be on duty in the reserve this summer and fall.

"Heretofore, when fires have occurred on the reserve there has been some delay in outfitting the men with tools. The forest ranger now has instructions to purchase shovels, grubbers and palls enough to furnish twenty-five men. He is also to get a good plow. These are to be kept stored in a building located on one of the main trails. Then if a fire occurs men can at once go to this tool house and be equipped without delay.

"It is the purpose of the department to begin reforesting operations on the area which is entirely denuded of trees. Mr. C. F. Brandt, of this city, will have charge of the reforesting. Mr. Brandt had excellent training and experience in this work in Germany, where the cultivated forests are the best in the world. He is a graduate of the forestry course in the University of Eisenach Thuringia. He will accommodate them all.

A PERTINENT QUESTION

Smith Falls, Ont., March 15.—Opposition to bilingual schools was the feature of the Grand Lodge meeting of the Royal Black Preceptory for Eastern Ontario, which opened here yesterday. In reply to the address of welcome, Provincial Grand Master Grant referred to bilingual schools and put himself on record as being strongly opposed to them. He also spoke on home rule. The meeting of the Grand Trunk Lodge of Ontario East opens this afternoon. Already a large number of delegates are in town and the hotels are taxed to accommodate them all.

SPRING: "Didn't you hear me foot my horn?"

WILL THEY STAND THE TEST?

Winnipeg, March 14.—The Grain Growers Guide will tomorrow: "Will you stand the test? To the Western Conservatives in the House of Commons."

"On behalf of the farmers of the Prairie provinces we appeal to you in this, the greatest crisis that has faced Canada since confederation. Never before in your political career have you been called upon to endure so severe a test. Your political opponents, through the fortune of circumstances, have secured the fulfillment of a policy which has been years as well as their since Canada obtained its fiscal independence. The people of the West have fought a long and costly and strenuous battle for freedom from the extortion practiced upon them for twenty years. Partial victory is within sight. You can make it a complete triumph. Never before have you had an equal opportunity to help the dominant and oppressed. Will you now ask your supporters to stigmatize themselves by repudiating what they have fought for, or will you join them in the fight for justice and freedom, with the power they have imperiously delegated to you, to secure the freedom of the market, the great republic to the south, freedom from monopolistic interests in their home markets and closer trade relations with the West? Which will you do?"

"The policy of Sir John Macdonald and Alexander Maclean. Both parties have sought after it since 1868. Now that it has come and will bring with it manifold benefits, will you not earn the lasting gratitude of your country by exercising the courage and independence so characteristic of the great western prairie people who represent you? You are not called upon to endorse the aims of your political opponents, you are not called upon to withdraw your allegiance to your party, but you are called upon to exercise your God-given powers of reason in the interest of the people who have placed their confidence in you."

"Hastings, of Saskatchewan, who has excited the admiration of Canada by his manly stand, should be your example. Do the people know that party fealty does not always blind men to their country's good? You are being weighed in the balance. Do not sacrifice the welfare of the West upon the altar of political expediency. Put principle before the party and your action will be appreciated."

CLIFFORD SIFTON AGAIN ASSAILS RECIPROCITY

Asserts That It Will Mean That Western Canada Will Be Brought Under Domination of United States—The Manufacturers Applaud.

Ottawa, March 14.—The hearing of the charge laid by P. E. Blondin, M.P., against Adolphe Landot, was taken up this morning in the House of Commons. There was a two statements made this evening by the Hon. Clifford Sifton, at the second annual banquet of the Hamilton branch of the Ontario Manufacturers' Association. He advocated that well enough should be left alone, or rather that the nation's progressive condition could not be bettered by reciprocity with the United States. He referred to the enormous growth of Canada during the past few years and replied to the claim that reciprocity would make Canada grow faster than that of the United States. He said that the present would not be safe, for there were conditions in Canada that rendered it impossible to develop under the present tariff.

"The Government was making a fatal mistake and that if Canada were to accept reciprocity it would mean that the West would be brought under the heel of the United States. He said that the Government had failed to justify the pact, for it had failed to build a line of 14 miles long, had been digging before the people for the last six years, but had not yet completed a charter. He said that the people of the district, he said, were more interested in the construction of this railway than anything else and the question for commerce to be what are we going to do about it?"

"The minister proceeded to say that the people of the district were particularly live lot of people. Many of them were from the United States, and they took it for granted that when reciprocity was granted, they would be able to get a further extension of the character of the market, and a fair share of the construction of this railway than anything else and the question for commerce to be what are we going to do about it?"

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INVESTIGATE CHARGE AGAINST A MEMBER

Committee on Elections and Privileges of the House of Commons has today begun its investigation of the charge made in House Against Adolphe Landot, Liberal, by P. E. Blondin, Conservative.

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TOWN OF SCOTT SEEKS RAILWAY

People Demand that C. P. R. Build Into Their Town. Committee Upholds Them.

Ottawa, March 14.—The railway committee of the Commons gave further consideration today to a bill respecting the Canadian Pacific railway extension in Western Canada which stands in the name of Mr. George McCall of Saskatoon. When the committee had the consideration of the bill, the point under discussion was the protest of the people of the town of Scott, Saskatchewan, against the proposal of the company as outlined in its bill to have the line projected from Kerrville to the town of Scott, north and eastward, running within three or four miles of the town.

"The committee met today, Mr. Ney, solicitor for the town of Scott, addressing the committee, stated that the town of Scott would be depopulated if the people who have built it up would suffer great loss if the line does not touch the town. He pointed out that the assessment of property in the town last year was \$350,000, and that this would probably be increased this year to half a million dollars. If Scott were to be given a station, the town of Scott would be able to get a fair share of the construction of this railway than anything else and the question for commerce to be what are we going to do about it?"

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BRANDON EX-ALDERMAN SAYS GAS COMPANY RENDERS FINE SERVICE

Lieutenant-Colonel Clark, Founder of Brandon's Summer and Winter Fairs, in City on Business—States that Gas Company Has Proven Good Thing for That City—Have Invested Big Sum of Money—Are Now Extending the System to the Residential Section of the City.

Lieut.-Col. Clark, of Brandon, commander of the 12th Dragoons, is in the city today on his annual trip of inspection of the agencies in Alberta of the Brandon Fire Insurance company, of which he is managing director. Col. Clark is an ex-alderman of Brandon, having retired last election after serving for four years on the council board of the city. He is a well-known figure in the city. Col. Clark is one of the prominent men of the Manitoba city. He was a partner of the late Hon. Dr. McLaughlin, who, up to the time of his death, was minister of education in Manitoba, and who was a brother of Col. Clark's. Col. Clark, who practically started both the Brandon summer and winter fairs, the latter of which has become very popular, and who has been in charge of the summer fair for several seasons. The winter fair was first established in 1888, and in 1891 it was moved to Brandon, and it is in recent years that it has grown to the large proportions which it has now reached.

"The service rendered by the Brandon Heat and Power Co., Ltd., which is a subsidiary company to the Cleveland corporation, is highly satisfactory to the citizens of Brandon," he stated. "I was in charge of the agreement when it went through the council and I think we secured a very fair agreement. We found the company very reasonable people with whom to deal. They sought only a fair basis on which to do business. Their investment in Brandon has been a large one. Brandon contractor secured the contract for laying the mains in connection with the gas works and in the course of the construction work a large trench was expended in this way. We also found the company very reasonable in the matter of keeping the streets open during the actual construction work. A large trench was used in digging the trenches for the pipes. This is a machine which by an endless chain of shovel digs out a trench a few feet wide and deposits the earth taken from the excavation in a straight line on the opposite side the trench. At no time was more than two blocks of a street left with the open surface exposed.

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ATLANTIC TITIC CONFERENCE

London, Mar. 14.—The Times understands that all disputes between the lines constituting the Atlantic route conference will be arranged by arbitration at a final conference to be called at Cologne next week. It is fully expected that the new agreement will be signed.

BALLINGER RETIRES FROM TAFT CABINET

President Accepts Resignation with Great Reluctance—Late Secretary of the Interior Will Prosecute Those Who Have Been Attacking Him.

Washington, March 7.—The resignation of Richard A. Ballinger, of Seattle, as secretary of the interior, was accepted today by President Taft, and Walter L. Fisher, of Chicago, was appointed in his stead. It appears in the correspondence between Mr. Ballinger and the President, which was given out in full by the White House, that the President's resignation had been in the President's hands since January 19, that it was held in suspension at the urgent request of Mr. Ballinger. In giving his consent to the secretary's retirement, Mr. Taft called attention to the fact that Ballinger had declared with marked emphasis his unchanging faith in the integrity, the