

*Supply—Resources and Development*

years to grow a tree in the northern parts of our dominion. Therefore a plan must be evolved for the perpetuation of tree growth in order that the industry may operate.

Many of our pulp and paper industries today have twenty-five and thirty year clubs. Some of our companies have workers of the third generation employed. Those of the second generation have never been employed anywhere else, and now the third generation is employed in the same plant. The industry is permanent and stable, but their stability will depend on the protection of their resources, their supply of raw materials.

I believe the department should spend much more money in the protection of the forests from insects. In the Thunder Bay district of Ontario about ten million cords of wood are affected by budworm infestation. Some of you may have gone through the forests and seen the budworms in action. You will hear stories about how the timber should be salvaged. I have stood in the forest and watched one of our sawyers saw pulpwood. I have seen him make seven cuts before he got a log that would scale and for which he could get paid. That will give you some idea whether a man will go in there to cut wood. This area stands there as a stark monument of the budworm infestation.

I am not blaming the department. You have some excellent men, and there are excellent men in the provincial departments. Vigorous campaigns have been carried on in co-operation with the department for the last two or three years, but it seems that there is no way to overcome the situation. Aeroplane dusting and other methods have been employed, but it just seems to be one of those things that it is almost impossible to eradicate.

The control of forest fires and other types of insect infestation such as fungus should be given more study. When you have an industry the size of the Canadian forest industry, one that means so much to this country, it is not nearly sufficient to have in the estimates an item of less than \$3 million, in these days when the dollar will only go about one-third as far as it did ten or twenty years ago. The amount of this item has changed very little over the years. It is only something like \$133,000 more than last year; and this seems to me to be a glaring example of the failure on the part of the government to appreciate the importance of this great national asset and this important industry.

I urge that careful consideration be given both to highway development and to greater research with respect to insects and everything else that will help protect the forests.

Canada is the centre of the pulp and paper industry of the world. The industry is growing, and to realize its importance it is only necessary to look at the records of our exports, at the employment it gives and the income it provides for those engaged in it. I hope the government will consider increasing the expenditure along these lines, and I urge in all sincerity that another year, and especially after another dominion-provincial conference, the government take another look at this new industry, which has shown greater growth than any other on this continent. When we consider that we supply eighty-five per cent of the newsprint requirements of 150 million people to the south, we realize what a great resource this is. If we have not been neglecting it, at least we have not been husbanding it as we should. I do not particularly criticize this department or the minister's stewardship; this has been an oversight of governments for many years; but this industry has doubled in ten years and more than trebled in thirty years, and we should appreciate its importance in our economy. I believe that with greater utilization of our forests, with the discovery of new uses to which these products can be put, this industry can double again and carry on for the next fifty years as one of our great basic industries. We should look upon forestry as we look upon agriculture, because since the beginning of this country they have been the great basic industries; they have been the great sources of wealth; they have provided employment and opportunity for sound investments.

**Mr. McLure:** I am not going to say anything about historic sites, because everyone knows that my province is the most historic site in the whole dominion. However, when we speak of museums I believe I could locate the first automobile made and operated in Canada. It was made by a parish priest at Rustico, in my constituency. I believe it would be worth looking up, because it was put together and operated a great many years ago.

The estimates for this department amount to something over \$26 million. I want to draw to the attention of the minister, as I did last year, the fact that included in this amount is a blank cheque for \$2,416,539 for temporary assistance. In other years we could never find out how many temporary employees there were; but after pounding away at this for a long time I am very glad to see that we are now given the number of both temporary and permanent employees. The permanent employees number 575; the temporary employees amount to something around 1,200. There is still another class,