Good Fire Publicity

The Dominion Parks Branch, Department of the Interior, is responsible for another ingenious means of appealing to the public to prevent fires in the National Parks. A "Luck Piece" has been de-signed, which is stamped out of aluminum and bears the terse, yet significant warning on one side, - "Prevent Fires -Save the Forest" together with the words, "Buffalo Medicine" (Luck Charm). The connection between the idea of a luck charm and the preservation of the forests, which everywhere clothe the valleys and the slopes of our National Parks, is best explained in the little pamphlet which accompanies the luck piece, tucked away in a neat little miniature "medicine bag" of an attractive Indian design. These little tokens will be handed out to hundreds of visitors to the National Parks this season and there is little doubt but that they will effectively carry the message they are intended to convey.

Riga, Russia.—Forest fires are sweeping the great timber belts of Central Russia with such frequency and in such magnitude that a catastrophe for the forest area is threatened, says the Moscow Isvetia, which places the responsibility for these conditions upon the drouth, the carelessness of the peasants and the disorganization of the forest service.

These statistics are incomplete, but in 24 provinces 11,364 fires have been reported, destroying or damaging 5,400,000 acres of timber, the newspaper states.

According to information reaching Moscow, adds the Isvetia, in 22 provinces 29 per cent. of the fully grown trees, forty per cent. of the middle growth and 31 per cent. of the young growth already has been damaged.

THE WORSHIP OF TREES

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many generations and the actual belief in them in many cases are startling evidences of the natural conservatism of the human mind.

Why a Chestnut is "Lucky."

Primitive people personify the soul, or rather the spirit or ghost as they call it. The indwelling spirit is usually the miniature of the human form or it may be a bird or if a wicked spirit, it may take some grotesque animal form. When the spirit leaves the body it may take up its abode in a tree or other kind of plant, in an animal, in a stone, mountain or body of water. All nature is filled with spirit forms. All diseases and misfortunes are caused by the dominance of some evil spirit in the body. Having

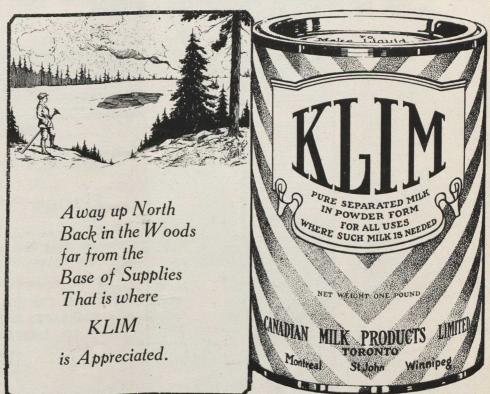
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