



A promising forest of fir killed by a single forest fire. The next step is an invasion of insects, then a harvest of windfalls and after that stage, a few fires and then—desert.

Importing Tree Seeds--A Question?

I AM a very interested reader of your Forestry Magazine and have seen in your last number under the annual meeting of Forest Engineers that at this meeting, a resolution was passed advising that the duties on seeds and nursery stock for forest planting should be removed. Allow me, in connection with this, to sound a note of warning which I should like you, if you find it advisable, to print in your magazine.

I am a Forest Engineer, a graduate of the University of Copenhagen (1904), and since my seventeenth year have been occupied with forestry work in Sweden and Denmark. I am at present in charge of the forestry work of Price Bros. & Co., Lt., on the limits supplying their pulp and paper mills at Kenogami and Jonquiere.

During my practice as Forester, I was for four years the owner of a private forest nursery which mainly supplied the Danish Government forests with seeds, and nursery stock. At this time I got in connection with most of the European seed merchants and nursery owners. It might be of interest to your readers to know from where the European seeds and nursery stock is mainly supplied.

Nearly all the seeds for the nurseries are sold by two big firms, Helms and Sohne, Thuringen, and J. Rafn, Copenhagen, Denmark. They are both very big firms who supply a number of smaller firms, who themselves might collect some few species of local seeds, but mainly depend on these two big firms for all their American, Siberian, and European seeds. If required, these firms will supply you with seeds from any locality and race you might want, but generally speaking, the most common species are either collected in Germany or in Scandinavia. The Scandinavian seeds are mostly from the South of Sweden and the coast regions of Scandinavia; the German seeds from Southern Germany.

These seeds are then, mostly without any specification, sent out to the nurseries and seeded. The nurseries in Europe have specialized. Most of the young seedlings are made in Belgium, Holland and Northern France, especially in the Department Calvados. The climate here is mild, the loam black and very rich, of a swampy nature, where water is always found very near the surface. The watering is most often done by opening or closing ditches running in a draining system through the