

for timber limits, it may be pointed out that the large bonuses tendered were justified on the part of the purchasers largely by the immunity from fire ensured by the fire preventive service.

Timber reserves have also been established in different parts of the Dominion, partly with the object of protecting the game animals and the watersheds, but also with the purpose of providing a permanent supply of timber. These reserves, so far as they extend, and they now comprise an area of over eighteen million acres, are a concrete exemplification of the principle that lands which are unfitted for other purposes should be devoted to the growth of timber. This is a principle of first importance, for, as the forests require but little from the soil, they already exist, and can be produced on lands so rocky or sandy that nothing else of value can grow upon them. In every part of Canada, and particularly along the great Laurentian ridge, and in the mountainous districts, there are large areas bearing magnificent forests, which, bared of such covering, have no other productivity to take its place. The extent of such areas in Canada constitutes an imperative demand that the forest should be continued and reproduced.

The necessity for tree growth on the western plains was early recognized, and an effort to stimulate action in this direction was made by the adoption of the Tree Culture Claim Act, under which the holder of entry for a quarter section of land might earn title thereto by planting forty acres of forest trees. Lack of knowledge of the requisites of success resulted in almost total failure of this plan of reforesting the plains. When the Experimental Farms were established in the West in 1889, experiments in tree growing were immediately begun, and have resulted in a clearer understanding of the conditions of success and of the species which give the most satisfactory results. With the inauguration of the Dominion Forestry Branch in 1899, a still further impetus was given. A scheme for supplying the settlers with trees, to be planted and cared for under expert advice, has been worked out successfully, and gives promise of great future development.

This was the course of development the forestry policy of Canada had followed when the Canadian Forestry Association came into existence. Since that time the fire protective force has been increased, and the methods of management improved throughout the Dominion, and such a force has been established in some places where previously no effort of the kind had been made. The Forest Reserves have been enlarged and the number increased. In Ontario a plan for assisting the farming population to set out wood lots has been arranged through the medium of the Agricultural College. While the Forestry Association cannot assume all the credit for these advances, it can at least claim