

even be greater than the direct financial return, for who can rightly value the future benefit to be derived from the influence of the forest on the climate and the stream flow and on the health and therefore, on the morals of the people.

The climate of British Columbia is a priceless asset in the inventory of the forest resources. Without exception, the climate of the Pacific North West is the most favorable for growing structural timber for profit in the whole world. Suffice to say here that as much saw timber can be grown on an acre on the B. C. coast in 60 years as can be grown in Eastern America or Europe in a century. This means that when current interest compounded for the extra 40 years is added to the cost of the eastern or European product, British Columbia is able to grow a cubic foot of saw timber for less than one-tenth the cost of its production elsewhere! If you cannot credit this, gentle reader, get a compound interest table and work it out. This is the overwhelming advantage which is bound to make the Pacific Northwest the greatest centre for forestry in the world, half a century hence.

Aiding and abetting our advantages in climate and available lands is the natural occurrence of some half dozen of the most valuable and most rapid growing of timber trees. The Douglas Fir is already known in all the great tide-water markets of both hemispheres. It is one of the most useful and will, with the decline of the Southern Yellow Pine, become the most used of all structural timbers. It is also splendidly adapted to reproduce itself on logged off lands, especially where fire has destroyed the debris without having destroyed the soil, as may be seen on every hand. Second only to Fir is the Red Cedar, the finest of all the cedars. Space forbids more than the mention of the Tide-water Spruce, Western Hemlock, White Fir and Yellow Cypress. Suffice it to say that all are admirably adapted for what foresters call natural reproduction, and therefore for perpetual crops of logs at lowest cost for re-stocking the lands after logging.

Wholly as a result of her geographical location, British Columbia finds herself at the opening of the age of Conservation with her forest resources practically intact. In the development of a practical forest policy she can, if she pays the small price required, take advantage of her neighbors' errors as well as the lessons that