

the fire rangers is not borne by the government. One-half of the money spent in guarding the lines of railway construction is refunded by the railway companies, and one-half of the total expended in protecting the public timber lands is refunded by the companies owning timber limits.

The protection of the forests from fire is the most important phase of forestry in Canada at the present time, and as such is receiving nearly all the attention devoted to forestry. Yet it is not as seriously and thoroughly considered as it should be. In proportion to its timber resources, measured not only in area but in quantity, Canada has suffered and is suffering more from forest fires than any other country in the world. Where other civilized nations view leave them covered with resinous, with horror a forest fire, we look upon it with complacency. Where the growth of valuable trees, we other nations have adopted sensible and more or less scientific means of handling cut-over timber lands, to prevent forest fires and to encourage the growth of valuable trees, we leave them covered with resinous, inflammable slash, to dry in wind and sun until, in the conflagration which inevitably follows, all remaining trees, young and old, are destroyed, together with the fertile soil and all hopes of a future valuable forest. Truly, we are a habitually profligate race.

What is needed is a public sentiment which will support larger appropriations for the fire protection organizations and the development of a scientific force, of thorough practical training and administrative ability, to supervise the handling of public timber lands in the manner adopted in any other country of any pretensions to civilization.

**A Golden Opportunity.**—Wife, at the play: "That act was full of dry humour." Husband, delightedly: "I suppose that is why I am so thirsty. Excuse me a minute!"

## ONTARIO POSTMASTERS' ASSOCIATION.

The Ontario Postmasters' Association recently held its annual convention at which there was a fair attendance. The secretary's report contained the following:

### Secretary's Report.

Mr. President and Fellow P. Ms.

Once again it is my duty to report on the business transactions of another year.

In the matter of collections of fees, our receipts have not been as high as some other years. I have received during the past twelve months approximately \$1,600 from the postmasters in this province as fees, this is four to six hundred less than during the three or four years and possibly may be accounted for owing to the number of changes which have been made in the different offices throughout the province.

The expenditure has not been so large and we are perhaps relatively in a better financial position than formerly although we are still somewhat short of meeting the current expenditure.

Viewing this matter as postmasters, it would seem only fair that in all cases where postmasters are being dealt with upon charges of political partizanship, which they deny, a proper investigation be held and charges proved before the dismissal takes effect.

I believe the Postmaster-General is now taking this course, and if so, it would only be right for us to commend his action in so doing.

During the last session resolutions were passed favoring the introduction of cheap Parcel Service for Canada. This matter has been before our convention at a previous session and is in accord with our views, and we believe nothing would do more to build up the revenue of our offices than this.

Rural Delivery is in fact, covering the country, but it is being dealt