

the bulk of them terribly mismanaged and destroyed. I have reason to believe that the same state of matters exists everywhere in Eastern Canada, and that the forests there are much more exhausted than the Government or the people who own them themselves believe. In fact, I don't know where to find a really good forest to purchase in any part of Canada or Nova Scotia; they have all been cut down recklessly without any system at all. The easiest and best of the trees have been cut, the root cuts taken off for logs, and the great big tops allowed to lie in the forest. In fact, the forests have just been wasted and destroyed, and the Canadian Government will have to waken up immediately ere it is too late. All over Quebec and New Brunswick the big trees have been exhausted, and if the Government were to insist upon their conditions being adhered to and only those trees cut of stipulated size according to law, three-fourths of the Quebec and New Brunswick mills would have to close, because they are at present fed with under-sized trees, which, according to Canadian laws, are being illegally cut.

The Canadian Government should send young men to Germany for a year or two's study of forestry and forestry laws adopted there, their system being perhaps the best at present in existence. I think, however, that the Swedish system would be far cheaper and more suitable for Canada than probably the German system. The Germans have cheap labour and they can afford to plant young trees, but labour is dear in Canada, and the Swedish system, if adopted, would, I think, be more suitable for Canada and Nova Scotia, because it would be cheaper and could be done on a much larger scale. The German forestry laws compel proprietors to replant the ground and not to allow it to lie waste.

In fifteen years the pine in the Southern States of the United States will be exhausted; the United States will then be in desperation for lumber and will have to get its supply from Canada or the Pacific Coast. Canada will not be able to give the United States half the supply it requires, because Canada has destroyed and exhausted its accessible forests much more than people have any conception of, and the sooner Canada sets about preserving and protecting its forests and replanting the burnt ground, the better it will be for the future of the country.

I have been through the Northwest of Canada as far as the Pacific Coast, all through Manitoba on to Vancouver, and am of the opinion that Canada requires all its Eastern forests to supply the plains of Manitoba and the Northwest with the necessary lumber, during the next twenty to thirty years. I have been all over Quebec and New Brunswick, and everywhere I have gone to examine forests, I have found them depleted and exhausted, and especially in Quebec, no sooner is a forest cut down than a