

ing over 1,100. Known causes in descending order are campers, logging operations, brush burning, lightning, railway construction and incendiarism.

Following the precedent so satisfactorily established nearly two years ago, the forest ranger course for returned soldiers has been continued at the University of British Columbia, under the auspices of the Vocational Board, in co-operation with the Dominion Forestry Branch and the British Columbia Forest Branch. This course has rendered a valuable service not only to the returned soldiers, but also to the forestry organizations which have employed the men.

There is the most urgent need for the establishment of a full-fledged forestry department at the University of British Columbia. Such action is under consideration by the provincial and university authorities, and it is greatly to be hoped that the necessary funds can be made available. When it is considered that the forest revenue to the provincial treasury is now well over \$2,700,000, it seems perfectly logical that the necessary small fraction of this amount should be diverted to forestry education, in the interest of the future.

ONTARIO FOREST RESOURCES.

The survey of the forest resources of Ontario was commenced last spring under the supervision of R. D. Craig. On the return of Major G. H. Edgecombe and Mr. A. V. Gilbert from overseas, their services were secured to assist in this work. This project is receiving the active co-operation of the Provincial Government and all the records and cruises in the Department of Lands and Forests have been placed at our disposal. The Crown timber agents and other officials of the department have been instructed to furnish the Commission with the information which they have gained through long experience in the different regions. The timber owners are being asked to supply estimates of the amount of timber on their holdings and those so far approached have shown a most commendable willingness to assist in this work, which is recognized as being of vital importance to the lumber and pulp industries. The general recognition of an impending shortage of timber has caused a demand for more definite knowledge of existing and prospective supplies.

It is proposed in making the report on the forest resources of Ontario to divide the province into six main regions, the southern portion, which is chiefly agri-

cultural, the Ottawa river drainage area, the Georgian Bay and Lake Huron drainage area, the Lake Superior drainage area, the Lake of the Woods region and the Hudson Bay drainage area. Most of the work done this year has been in the Ottawa river and Lake Huron regions.

In addition to collecting detailed reports from the lumbermen, provincial officials and others, the foresters engaged on this work spend considerable time travelling through the various areas, in order to become familiar with local conditions so that the data collected may be intelligently compiled. This, of course, would be impossible if purely mechanical methods were used. The problems of forest regeneration and utilization are being studied with the object of determining if possible the best means of maintaining the productiveness of the forests.

This project has been endorsed by the Canadian Lumbermen's Association and by the Woodlands Section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association, through formal resolutions adopted at the recent annual meetings of these representative organizations.

FOREST RESEARCH.

The forest research work of the Commission, under the immediate direction of Dr. C. D. Howe, has been continued and extended. It has received the endorsement of both the Canadian Lumbermen's Association and the Woodlands Section of the Canadian Pulp and Paper Association.

Field parties have made investigations upon the limits of the Laurentide Klondon Companies, in Quebec, in continuation of co-operation previously established with these companies. These projects involve primarily the establishment and continued study of permanent sample plots and growth study plots, in addition to regeneration surveys.

In co-operation with the Abitibi Company, a party spent the field season on their limits in Ontario, in regeneration and growth study work, the party remaining five weeks longer, during autumn and early winter to assist the Company's forestry department in the collection of further data, showing the rate of growth of spruce and balsam in a portion of the Abitibi district. The regeneration studies are being conducted in order to determine the extent to which the various species are being reproduced naturally and the conditions which are favorable to the reproduction of the valuable species, particularly spruce.