

Canadian Forestry Association.

At the recent meeting at Ottawa of the Canadian Forestry Association, Dr. C. A. Shenck, principal of the School of Forestry and manager of the Vanderbilt forest at Baltimore, N. C., addressed the meeting during the day and in the evening delivered a lecture in the Assembly hall of the Normal school on "Government and Private Forestry," the substance of which is as follows:

"The lovers of the American forest have been labouring over the forestry problem for a number of years. In the meantime the owners of woodlands have continued to solve the problem in their own way by converting trees into ready money. Only a few cases are on record, in which private individuals have practiced conservative forestry—evidently without knowing what they were doing.

Obviously as long as the gigantic trees of the primeval forests cannot be approached, as long as the expense of the marketing of the lumber is so high, the surmounts the price obtainable for it, the owners of the forests cannot actually practice forestry. Later on, when the country has been opened up by railroads and navigation, the cost of marketing the trees is reduced and stumpage begins to command a price. From that moment on, it will pay to use the forest.

Obviously the virgin forest should not be preserved, as the forest is unproductive, the annual production of woody tissues is exactly offset by the annual death and decay of timber. If such were not the case, our virgin forests would get into the course of the years, that neither deer nor man could penetrate them.

In the well-managed forest, the mature trees are removed, and just that much timber is left on every acre as suffices to fully replace, by rain and air, the food of the forest.

Enthusiastic advocates of forestry have often deplored the disappearance of the forests from the very best land where they used to grow most luxuriantly. I refer to the rich land along the river bottoms. To the cause of forestry, this enthusiasm has done more harm than good. Mere common-sense prescribes the rule that every acre of ground should be devoted to that production, under which it pays best. The most fertile land is justly claimed by agriculture and pasture; forestry must be properly relegated to land unfit for field crops or to a rough climate where wheat and corn are apt to fail.

In this country, the immigrant cannot possibly foretell what forest land, being of a truly agricultural character, should be cleared and used for farming, and what wooded tracts, under the prevailing conditions of soil, climate and means of communication, should be left to the production of timber. Some paternal supervision, some protective legislation must be exercised by the government, and only such land on the other hand all such land—must be delivered to the plough, on which farming pays better than a second growth of trees.

Questions were asked: "Does forestry pay at all?" Pointing to European or to Indian experience, the forestry scholars used to prophesy, that large and rising returns can be safely expected from forestry. To support this, they observed: "It seems strange that the American wood owner, the lumberman, is far from sharing the scholars' opinion. The American lumberman, standing in the foremost rank of our business enterprises, grows by the very success of his business that in this country—aside from exceptional conditions already cited—forest destruction pays better than forest preservation.

Forestry as an investment is unsafe as long as fires cannot be prevented from destroying the forest. Where protection from fire is absolutely assured, a second growth of trees, in my opinion, cannot be prevented from developing.

Thus, if the people of this country care to engage in a far-sighted policy, if the providential functions of government relative to forestry are understood, let them furnish laws and establish means to enforce laws by which forest fires are prohibited. Then only we can expect private forestry to be a safe and remunerative investment.

For the Dominion and the provinces, in their capacity as land owners, are in the lucky position of owning large and compact tracts, so that the expense of protection, per acre of land, is greatly reduced. Both have the

power to enact laws suiting the task, with a view of perpetuating the forest with a view to the future. As he came first, the interest of the commonwealth demands that no acre of virgin forest shall be touched, unless the land is fit for farming, or unless the forest, during and after lumbering, is fully protected from fire.

Forestry means "the proper handling of forest investments." Forestry, intends to transform unproductive woodland into a capital asset. The forestry investments are cut down, on the one hand, by the removal of mature timber, and are increased on the other hand, by creating a system of floatable streams, of forest-railroads and wagon roads. By these means the farms and pasture grounds—possibly the mines as well—scattered throughout the forest are made simultaneously accessible and more valuable.

By regulating, by handing the forest investments properly, the manifold losses can be reduced which threaten navigation, water supply, irrigation, agriculture, public health, property destructible by floods, then again this summer. A departure is to be made this summer which will doubtless be very acceptable to holiday seekers wishing to enjoy the pleasant mountain air during their stay as much as possible. Shelters are to be erected at different places along the trails, which are being improved, and ponies will be provided for parties to make trips of from three or four days from the hotels. A guide will accompany each party and they will also be given tents and camping equipment.

Speaking of the changes to be made in the hotels, Mr. Pratt said that at Field work was started on the addition to the hotel there which gives them open all year. A motion was also passed asking for restriction in the importation of horses under \$50 in value.

The Mountain Hotels.

Mr. Walter Pratt, Jr., superintendent of the dining and sleeping car department, has returned from a trip of inspection through the mountain summer resorts. He anticipates that a very large number of tourists from all over the world will visit the Rockies this summer, and the company are making preparations already for the opening of the hotels and for numerous changes that will be made for the increased accommodation required.

The Swiss guides who for the past two years have been stationed at Banff and Glacier to assist tourists and mountain climbers in their journeys into the interior will return again this summer. A departure is to be made this summer which will doubtless be very acceptable to holiday seekers wishing to enjoy the pleasant mountain air during their stay as much as possible. Shelters are to be erected at different places along the trails, which are being improved, and ponies will be provided for parties to make trips of from three or four days from the hotels. A guide will accompany each party and they will also be given tents and camping equipment.

Speaking of the changes to be made in the hotels, Mr. Pratt said that at Field work was started on the addition to the hotel there which gives

an increase of thirty-five rooms, all to be finished in the most up to date style. The North Bend hotel is also being enlarged. The Slocan house, situated on the banks of the Shuswap lake, promises to be a very popular resort this summer. The hotel is a cozy, romantic, little place with twenty-five bedrooms and having a delightful situation. The lake provides the best fishing in the country and there will be several boats on the lake to accommodate parties of six to ten. These boats will be moved about by means of steam tugs. The trails to Emerald lake and the Great Falls glacier north of Field, will be improved this year so that the beauties of these places can be seen with comfort.

A handsome, seasonable cover in green and gold encloses the Easter number of the Canadian Magazine. Professor Clark writes of "The Significance of Easter," and there is a special Easter story. Otherwise the magazine is as general as usual, the chief features being an illustrated article on "Manual Training," and an illustrated description of "A Visit to Korea." The style and value of the periodical improves with its age. This present number is exceedingly creditable to the publishers and to our Canadian writers. The June Magazine will be the hundredth issue, and the publishers will mark this unprecedented event in the life of a Canadian literary periodical by a special "Centennial Number." The public will avail this with interest.



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Toppritorial Breeders Meet.

Calgary, N. W. T., April 11.—Yesterday the Western States Game and Poultry Association held their annual meeting, Mr. D. H. Andrews presiding. The reports showed that the compensation paid by railroads for cattle killed had been increased. Suggestions were made that as American cattle were the richest country on earth before the dawn of the next century, provided that she continues to manage conservatively her forest resources; again, if such are the possibilities, we should at once proceed to clear every acre of ground for the plough but fit for timber production.

During last year \$44,000 was paid in wolf bounties, which was largely due to the increase in the bounty. The membership at the present date is 177. Last year 43,935 cattle and 3,322 horses were shipped from the Territories. At the election of officers Mr. D. H. Andrews was re-elected president; A. R. Springett, first vice-president, and W. R. Cochrane, second vice-president.

Resolutions were adopted calling for the reservation of water rights, abolition of the range quarantine, the selling of strange animals whose owners could not be found and the return of 25 per cent. of the grazing ground rentals to be expended on wolf and coyote bounties.

The horse breeders met and formed a committee to interview the agricultural ministers at Ottawa and Regina with a view to government action in distributing the best stallions and calling for the cancellation of the license. The remaining question was discussed at length, and a committee formed to show Col. Dent around and bring to his notice suitable horses. It was resolved that the government should establish depots for purchasing army horses and keep