

must spend millions in reviving our forest industry. Even in the United States, which started with a vast amount of the most valuable forest, the wood has been cut down and burnt down and cleared away at such a reckless rate that in another 20 years, at the present rate, it will be all gone. But that is not all. Three quarters of the timber left in the United States is in the far distant western section of the country, beyond the Rocky Mountains. In the eastern part of the Republic there is only enough left for, say, five years. And yet it is this very eastern part that takes nine-tenths of the wood used in the whole country. This means that the United States will be more and more looking to Canada for its wood supply.

Now the Canadian forests are vast, but they are certainly not without limit, and the way in which they have been destroyed in past generations is appalling. The men of a hundred years ago were not much to blame for this. Indeed, if you take a man and set him down in the middle of a dense forest and tell him to get his living, the first thing he has to do is to clear away the trees. If there are no markets, and no one to buy the timber, he must simply destroy it.

A great deal of the Canadian forest, however, was destroyed by what, if we are very charitable, we may call accident, but I am afraid ought to be called criminal carelessness; by leaving a camp fire not stamped out, by throwing down a match, by sparks from a railway engine, fires have been kindled which have blazed for weeks at a time, desolating hundreds of square miles of land. The Governments of Canada, however, are now awake to this danger; laws have been passed to protect the forests, officers have been appointed to enforce the laws, and further steps will doubtless be taken in the same direction.

<b>Wood Wanted for Paper</b>	Until comparatively a few years ago, all that the lumbermen wanted to get from the forest was the big trees; trees, at any rate, that would cut up into timber of useful size. Now, however, a new industry has sprung up; wood is wanted not only for building, for railway sleepers, and so on, but for paper. For this purpose it does not matter how small the tree is, and there is a great temptation to clear away even the younger growth of the forest. "Why," says a friend of mine in New Brunswick, "there are men in the woods that would take anything the size of a lead pencil," which, of course, would be in flagrant defiance of the law. The temptation is no doubt severe, because there is such a pressing demand for the wood pulp. So much paper is used in the world that the cutting of small trees now is even more profitable than the cutting of big trees used to be.
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The Americans, being nearly at the end of their own timber resources, have come over the border and bought or leased great stretches of forest land in Canada. The logs which they get, they take back to their own country with them to be crushed in the pulp mills and then worked up in the paper mills. It is proposed by some that this export of logs should be forbidden altogether, while others suggest that at any rate an export duty on logs should be imposed. In either case, it is argued, logs would have to be made into pulp within the boundaries of Canada. It is hoped, indeed, and I see no reason why the hope should not be fulfilled, that not