

*Forestry Department*

contributors to our national growth and development, they have received no direct financial help at any time in their history, and the amount of research help today is very far below the minimum level which, if for no other reason, is near mandatory from the point of view of our national economy. This is particularly true with respect to the small operators in the lumber industry itself.

In this connection, Mr. Speaker, I wish particularly to mention the Canadian tree farmers' association, a non-profit organization which was incorporated in May, 1955, and which I am particularly interested in because of the great work that is being done by this type of organization in the United States. The president of the association is Mr. F. Howard Wilson; vice president, Mr. I. Rene Pare; secretary treasurer, Mr. J. A. MacDonald. The purpose of this organization is to promote the establishment of tree farms and good forestry practices, and its slogan is "Valuable crops from woodlots". I mention them particularly because I was very pleased when this organization was formed. I was very glad to learn of the success it is having to date, and I hope this movement spreads all across Canada as it has in the United States.

I should like to take more time to deal with some of the work that is being undertaken by this organization, but I do bring to the attention of the minister and of hon. members who are not acquainted with this organization the good work which it is doing, which is not only economic. There are many other things which flow from its activities which are very valuable so far as the young people of this country are concerned.

The experience of other countries clearly indicates the great value of these small tree farms. For instance, in the United States this type of organization was commenced in 1941. The United States tree farm movement is now active in 47 of the 50 states. Each year about 3 million acres are added to the area under tree farm management. The total area in certified tree farms in the United States was over 51 million acres at the end of 1959.

That shows the possibilities of this movement in Canada, and I would at this time ask all members of this house to take an interest in this organization which provides an opportunity for thousands of small farmers and small woodlot owners to take a part in increasing our capital forest resources throughout the years.

I might say that in the United States more than 1600 technical foresters are employed as inspectors to maintain good standards of forest management on the private lands that

are enrolled as certified tree farms. In view of the development of this movement, and it is going to grow very rapidly, there will be a great need for increased interest in this aspect of forest management in Canada and a great opportunity for the minister and the officials of this new department to serve those who need this type of service most.

I have already spoken of the research carried on by the pulp and paper industry and a few of the very large lumber operators. The majority of the lumber operators of this country and the majority of the tree farmers who are members of this organization have not the financial capacity to undertake the research necessary, and also in many instances lack the experience. I think there is a great opportunity here for the new department and its officials to serve both these important segments of the Canadian forest industry.

Before concluding my remarks on second reading, I wish to make a few proposals. While speaking on the resolution introducing the bill, the Prime Minister (Mr. Diefenbaker) carefully stated that there was recognition of the authority of the provinces and that in no way would there be intervention in areas of provincial authority. He said at that time that the new department will in no way infringe or impinge on any of the rights or jurisdictions of the provincial governments.

It must be apparent that such an assurance of non-intervention would not have been necessary had the proposed bill been given a different name. Suppose it had been termed "the forest industries and forest research act", in which case full authority would have rested with the federal jurisdiction. Such a name would not have precluded the giving of voluntary assistance to provincial administrations in forestry matters but would have indicated more clearly, I believe, the intent of the government and the specific responsibilities which it has assumed.

It is worthy of special note that the production of forest products begins with the felling of the trees and that all processes from that point on are in general concept manufacturing processes. Therefore my first proposal is to ask the minister to give consideration, in order to allay any fears of misunderstandings, to naming this department the department of forest industries and forest research. Representations have been made to me in that connection by persons associated with various sections of the industry in Canada. When the minister replies at the conclusion of this debate I should like to have his comments on this suggestion. I do not say this is a matter of serious importance from our point of view but the suggestion is put

[Mr. Herridge.]