

the various Provinces there have been more or less successful beginnings along this line, and in some cities like Toronto and Montreal some creditable institutions have been developed.

It is not intended in any way that the Dominion Government shall attempt to compete with or supplant these, or even supplement them, because the thorny question of Pro-

vincial rights always crops up whenever the Government devises a policy with regard to road construction, education or anything of the sort. In this case it is expected that the legislation will take the form of providing a sum of money to be divided among the Provinces on the basis of population and the progress already made in the direction of technical education.

Hydroaeroplane for Forest Protection

By Hy. Sorgius, Manager, St. Maurice Forest Protective Ass'n, Quebec.

Although only conversant in a general way with reference to the possible application of the hydroaeroplane to forest protection, I am of the opinion that this machine will in the future be a valuable feature in forest protection work, both for the locating and reporting of forest fires. In other words we may call it "a moving observation tower."

The directors of the St. Maurice Forest Protective Association, at a meeting held on November 15, agreed to purchase a hydroaeroplane for the patrolling of our area beginning next spring. We have already corresponded with the Canadian manufacturers, asking them if they could build us a machine which would suit our purpose.

The advantages in the hydroaeroplane patrol, in my opinion, would principally be the locating and reporting of forest fires, and also in the rapid transportation of a small crew of men and equipment to the fire. The main feature in forest protection is prevention; secondly, to get at a fire when it is in its infancy, and we believe that, with the use of a hydroaeroplane, we will be able to detect and reach almost every forest fire before it has a chance to make any headway. In a country like ours there are large areas where, should a forest fire start it would take from a couple of days to a week to get the necessary help and equipment to the scene of the blaze. Dur-

ing all this time the flames are burning large areas of valuable timber, but with the use of the hydroaeroplane we shall be in a position to get men and equipment to the fire in a short time, thereby giving the men a good chance to extinguish same.

The State of Wisconsin had the hydroaeroplane patrol for one year and the Commission of Conservation is so greatly taken up with the efficiency of such a patrol that it is the intention to establish a permanent aeroplane patrol throughout Wisconsin, now that the war is over.

I may say that it is the opinion of our members that the hydroaeroplane is of great value for forest protection work and that it will be economical and satisfactory. Whether or not this will prove practical in our work, we are going right ahead with the establishment of the same for next spring.

The Laurentide Co. has, in its forest nurseries near Grandmere, Que., nearly 4,000,000 seedlings of different ages, to be used in planting operations between 1919 and 1921. These will be supplemented by purchases from other nurseries, until the capacity of the Grandmere nurseries can be increased to cover the entire planting programme of the company. The company's forester, Mr. Ellwood Wilson, reports that the cost of planting, usually with 3-year-old seedlings, is from \$9 to \$10 per acre.