

A NEW BASIS FOR CANADIAN FORESTRY

ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER: The Minister of Resources and Development, Mr. Winters, spoke at the Annual Dinner of the Canadian Forestry Association in Montreal on February 16. After outlining the important position of the forest in Canada's economy he went on to discuss the newly enacted Canada Forestry Act, under which the federal Government is given authority to enter into agreements with the Provinces, corporations or individuals to develop and conserve forest resources.

The Minister outlined the scope of the Act in part as follows:

"...Those of us responsible for carrying out the provisions of the Canada Forestry Act do not forget that the Provinces are directly responsible for the administration and protection of their forest resources. The watch word under the new Act must be co-operation. Ottawa will make its most effective contribution by working out agreements with the Provinces covering the problems involved and by paying its share of the costs.

"Adequate protection against fire damage is the first requisite for the proper management of our forests. On the average about two million acres are burned annually, an area greater than one-seventh of the Province of Nova Scotia. Estimated values destroyed run to around 4 million dollars annually on the average. The merchantable timber burned equals one-half the yearly consumption of our pulp and paper industry. It has been conservatively estimated that in Canada the present rate of fire loss on productive forest lands is twice as high as could be tolerated for the practice of sustained yield forestry.

"The most urgent, practical and immediately beneficial steps to be taken would be in the form of co-operative agreements with the Provinces for the protection of their forests from fire. This is Objective Number 1 in the new programme.

"To achieve this objective it will be necessary to confer with the provincial forest authorities with a view to seeking agreement on the principles and policies involved and to working out the details by which co-operative

forest fire protection measures might be implemented. I am hopeful that the necessary agreements can be concluded with the Provinces to become operative in the current year.

"Under Section 6 (c) the Minister may enter into agreements with any persons providing for economic studies of forest resources or forest industries, forest research and demonstrations and the operation of forest products laboratories."

"What can be done under this Section? Incidentally it may be pointed out that the word 'persons' in this connection embraces individuals, corporations or associations.

"Most important is the provision for economic studies of our forest resources and forest industries, the significance of which cannot be over-stressed. We have already seen the pre-eminent position taken by these industries in our national economy. To maintain and improve this position continuous research is required, particularly in the economic field. On all sides we hear references to sustained yield and the part it must play in the future of Canada's forests. But up to the present the cost factors involved in management on a sustained yield basis have not been thoroughly analyzed. Yet a knowledge of costs, I think we all agree, is fundamental to the solution of this problem...."

"Sub-section C of Section 6 of the Act is not restricted to economic studies. Agreements may also be made between the Minister and 'persons', providing for forest research and demonstrations. If it is desired to conduct a silvicultural demonstration on the limits of a corporation or on a farm woodlot, if we wish to test out a new idea in forest fire protection or in the control of insects, if we wish to do anything under the broad wording of forest research and demonstrations, the Government now has the statutory authority to enter into the necessary agreements with the parties concerned. Thus it will be seen that the Canada Forestry Act establishes a strong, comprehensive and elastic legal foundation for federal co-operation and participation in the forestry field...."

ORDER DE BERNONVILLE DEPORTED: The deportation of Count Jacques de Bernonville was ordered on February 16 by the Board of Inquiry established in Montreal by the Immigration Branch in accordance with the Immigration Act to examine him as to his right to remain in Canada.

The decision of the Board has been appealed by de Bernonville.

The appeal will be considered by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration upon receipt of the evidence which will be forwarded to Ottawa by the Board.

H.M.C.S. MAGNIFICENT, AT SEA FEB. 18: Two "enemy" aircraft were "shot down" Friday as a "hostile" force attempted to shadow the aircraft carrier Magnificent during exercises off the East Coast of North Carolina on the first leg of a two-month southern cruise.

The aircraft taking part in the exercise were all naval Fireflies of the 18th Carrier Air Group's 825 and 826 squadrons, but for the sake of realistic practice, a patrol of four planes circled over the ship to protect her against "enemy" attack. The air battle was recorded by camera guns.