

## ALBERTA'S ANSWER IS EASILY GIVEN

(Editorial in Edmonton Journal, Saturday, October 25, 1919.)

### AN ALARMING STATE OF THINGS.

Mr. Robson Black's statement regarding the loss of Alberta's forest wealth and its consequences is startling. The actual destruction of timber is a serious matter, but it is its effect on the arable areas of the province which is now mainly concerning forestry officials. Those portions of southern Alberta which are dependent on irrigation have reason to be specially concerned.

It should not be necessary at this date to explain how essential to an abundant and uniform flow of water in our rivers is the preservation of the forests in the mountain regions where these rivers take their rise. It was in recognition of this that some years ago the whole eastern slope of the Rockies was set aside as a forest reserve. But fire, it seems, has been largely nullifying this action.

Measures to cope with this evil have been in-

itiated and carried through with much difficulty owing to the failure of the province to cooperate as it should with the federal authorities.

The Dominion now spends \$700,000 a year for the protection of forests, but derives no direct benefit from these nor from the irrigation schemes which are dependent upon forest preservation. Considering all that Alberta has at stake in the matter, and considering that the provincial government is not called upon to meet any of the actual outlay entailed by the efforts of the forestry officials, it should, at least, help where its help is essential to the securing of results. Legislation has been withheld which would allow Dominion fire rangers to make criminal charges against homesteaders and others who cause fires through wilful carelessness. Most fires arise in this way and, as prosecutions are impossible, the fires continue to be a menace. They have been especially destructive during 1919.

# THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

and

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

WITH WHICH ARE AFFILIATED

ST. MICHAEL'S, TRINITY & VICTORIA COLLEGES

Faculties of

ARTS

MUSIC

MEDICINE

EDUCATION

APPLIED SCIENCE

FORESTRY

Departments of

HOUSEHOLD SCIENCE

SOCIAL SERVICE

For information, apply to the Registrar of the University, or to the Secretaries of the respective Faculties.