

TO EVERY MEMBER—A TIMELY WORD!

The Dominion Government grant, which has been paid to the Canadian Forestry Association for the past twelve years, has been suspended. In 1919 the amount provided in the Parliamentary Estimates for the Association was \$4,000. Only a part of this was received and the Association has no notification that any further sums will be paid to it from the Dominion Treasury.

The Association appeals to its great body of members to modify the handicap placed upon its work through the loss of the Dominion grant by prompt payment of the annual fees.

Please bear in mind that your Membership in the Association is a vital force working towards a great national end. The subscription to the Illustrated Journal is just one feature of your relation to the Association. The two-dollar inclusive fee for 1920 pays for the higher publishing costs of the Journal and puts muscle into the widespread educational activities of the Association.

The Canadian Forestry Association is not identified with any Government or commercial interests. It is a Union of Ten Thousand Citizens.

BRITISH COLUMBIA'S FINE RECORD

The cost of fire-fighting during the 1919 season is placed at \$153,000, to which is added the cost of patrol, trails, forest fire pumps, cars, launches, and fire-fighting tools, bringing the total for the year to approximately \$330,000. When this is compared with the fire loss for the neighboring United States Forest District No. 1, with the destruction of three billion feet of green timber and a fire-fighting cost of \$2,500,000, it will be seen that the British Columbia Forest Service emerged from a season of exceptional fire hazard with a comparatively small loss and not a little credit.

EXCEPTIONAL HAZARDS.

Special mention is made of the fact that the fire season of 1919 was one of exceptional hazard not only throughout British Columbia, but throughout the Dominion and the United States. Quite early in the fire season, the forest protection force was actively engaged in fire-fighting, the most serious situation being found in the southern interior.

AREA PATROLLED.

The actual area over which patrol is maintained is 124 million acres, divided into seven districts under district foresters. These are

again divided into ranger districts, of which there are fifty in the province. During the close season, from May 1 to Oct. 1, an additional temporary force is employed. This force of assistant forest rangers acts under the local ranger. For certain districts, which have periods of intense fire risk, an additional force of patrolmen, employed for periods ranging from one month upwards, are put on to help in the work of fire prevention. Appointments to the ranger and assistant ranger positions are by examination; woods experience, fire fighting and general knowledge being taken into consideration. Practically every vacancy in these positions during the season 1919 was filled by a returned soldier.

PLENTY OF EQUIPMENT.

The report shows that modern fire fighting equipment has been tried out, notably the forest fire pump, which proved to be of great value to fire fighters during the past season. During the coming year, a far greater number of these pumps will be placed in the hands of the field force. These pumps will embody all the improvements suggested as a result of last year's trials.