

CORRESPONDENCE.

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An important debate lately took place in the Nova Scotia Legislature on the question of the crown lands policy of the province. The debate was on a resolution introduced by Mr. Wilcox, M.P.P., the text of which is as follows:

That whereas it is in the public interests that the wood asset of the province should be better conserved, and the practicability of forest reserves and forest planting enquired into, this house is of opinion:—

(1) That pending full enquiry no further crown lands should be leased or granted except for bona fide settlement for farming purposes.

(2) That survey and investigation of all crown lands should be made with the purpose of obtaining information of the acreage, topography and general character thereof, and particularly of the following classes:—

- (a) Lands suitable for farming.
- (b) Lands wooded with merchantable timber.
- (c) Wooded lands which have been culled.
- (d) Burnt lands.
- (e) Barren or rock lands.
- (f) Land covered with water.

Mr. Wilcox, in an address of some length, discussed the importance of keeping intact the forests at the head of streams, insisted that the wood crop should be treated the same as any other crop, touched on the suitability of the province as a wood-producing country, and emphasized the need of careful survey.

The address was very favorably received. Hon. W. T. Pipes, Commissioner of Crown Lands, intimated that the government was practically of the same mind in the matter as the mover of the resolution.

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The Belleville and Bay of Quinte Forest and Stream Game and Fish Protective Association, at their meeting on March 23rd last, passed a resolution strongly commending the Ontario Government for their action in establishing the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto, and praising the work of Dr. Fernow, Dean of the Faculty, and his assistants in educational work, both at the university and among the public.

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An appropriation of \$25,000 has been asked for by the United States Forest Service for the purpose of carrying out a timber census of the country.