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So much has already been said on the subject of protection from fire that it is unnecessary to say anything more except, in conclusion, to recommend that before next season arrives, a system of guardianship be instituted. It will be necessary to divide the timber districts so that in case of necessity rangers or guardians may be employed at short notice. In certain exceptionally wet seasons, such as the last, it may not be necessary to employ any, while in others it may be necessary to do so in certain parts and not in others. This, as well as the actual employment of the guardians, might in most cases be largely left to the judgment of the Crown timber agents and Dominion lands agents in the country. The owners of timber limits should bear a fair and equitable proportion of the expenses of the guardianship where there are limits within the guarded districts.

With regard to propagation it is also unnecessary to repeat what has been said, but its importance is so great to the present settlers on the plains and so far-reaching in its effects to the country and to those who will in the future make their homes there, as to warrant an earnest effort being made to encourage the planting of trees by the settlers. The experimental farms are at present doing an excellent work in supplying seeds, cuttings and young trees to those settlers who make application for them, but unless these people have a knowledge regarding their cultivation, which it would be safe to say a large percentage have not, the trouble and expense are incurred to little advantage, and where failure is the result it discourages others from attempting the experiment,—if such a word as experiment is permissible; whereas it can scarcely be doubted that if one farmer in a neighbourhood makes the attempt and is successful, his example will be followed by others, and a healthful stimulant to emulation will be afforded which cannot fail to be of lasting benefit.

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