

fecting the well being of the Dominion should give him a high place in the respect and affection of Canadians, and especially of the members of the Forestry Association.

The President, in his address, referred to the pleasure it gave him to preside over the deliberations of the Canadian Forestry Association at its first meeting in the Ancient Capital. Here was the nursery of all the developments that have taken place in every direction throughout the Dominion. Under the French regime the first Crown Timber regulations were promulgated, and some of the problems which confronted the framers of the early laws have come down to the present day. The rights of the settlers and kindred matters are just as live subjects as they were two or three hundred years ago. Mr. White sketched the growth of the forestry movement from the Forest Congress, held in Montreal in 1882, to the meeting of the American Forestry Association in Quebec in 1890, and the establishment of the Canadian Forestry Association in 1900. He impressed the two great features of present importance in forestry as the provision for a proper fire preventive service and a division between the agricultural lands and those suited only for the growth of timber.

The first paper submitted was one on "Forest Fires in British Columbia," prepared by Professor R. W. Brock, of Queen's University. Anyone travelling through the Province is at once struck by the beauty and value of the timber and no less by the terrible havoc wrought upon it by forest fires. British Columbia, as a whole, may be said to be forest-clad, but the growth of trees is more luxuriant on the western slopes of the mountain ranges and the interior plateau contains wide stretches of open grass-covered hills and valleys. The higher mountain ranges rise above the tree line, and merchantable timber is confined to the valleys and to the mountain sides to a limited height. While British Columbia has in the aggregate a vast supply of timber, the only timber that has an immediate market value is that which is near transportation. The percentage of this lost by fire must be appallingly large and unless active steps are taken to prevent this destruction, only a relatively small amount of the timber now standing will ever reach the market. So numerous are the fires in a dry season that the whole country side may be