

The Farmer and His Out-at-Elbows Wood Lot

(A Letter to the Canadian Forestry Magazine, from Mr. H. G. Cockburn, Guelph, Ont.)

The protection from fire and the reforestation with young trees is important in certain localities, but I do think a great deal can be done throughout the lower parts of the province of Ontario in educating farmers who are the owners, to preserve these woodlots. There has been an established department throughout the province in existence as long as the writer can remember, for the protection of our fish and game. This has been done through inspectors over stated areas, and which has apparently worked out reasonably well for what it was intended, and I have no objection to the expenditure of that department, but if the province had spent the same amount of money under the same system by having timber wardens established in like manner, my opinion is that \$1,000 would have been saved for the province for every dollar that has been saved through the preserving of game, and while there may be some other means of conducting such a department, I would be pleased if you could interest as many men as you can until something definite is put on foot. I will continue to do my part.

I am holding 30 acres on one farm of 150 acres, 60 acres of which is in apple orchard, and I am carefully preserving these 30 acres and keeping some record of tree growth which now runs from about four inches to twelve in diameter, of Oak and Pine. Besides this, having a field of worthless sand hills sprinkled with a few Oak trees, and worthless for general farming, eight years ago I planted 1,000 Chestnut and 1,000 Scotch Pine, and six years ago I planted about 4,000 more Scotch Pine, and this year I have squared out the piece with another 2,000 Pine. The Chestnut I do not consider as being a success, as they appear to get frozen back and have made slow progress besides a great number of them having died off. The Scotch Pine I consider a great success. You will probably be interested in a photograph of these eight year old trees, which you will note are now from 12 to 15 feet high, and some of the trunks now measure as much as four inches in diameter. I also enclose you a photograph showing a top view of the six year old plantation, which represents the face of a sand hill which was worthless for other purposes, and upon which this forest of Pine is growing without the loss of a single tree, and I have followed one root from one of these six years old trees the size of my finger, six inches below the surface for thirteen feet from the tree



WHY NOT TURN EVERY SAND DUNE INTO A CROP PRODUCER?

The photograph shows a stand of 2,000 Scotch pine, eight years old and from twelve to fifteen feet high with diameter averaging over four inches. These trees were about twelve inches high when planted, and were planted by Mr. H. G. Cockburn, of Guelph, Ont., an ardent believer in tree planting.

when it branched, and each branch was then traced about three feet further. These six year old trees now average about five feet high.

I also planted some Locusts which are doing very well, but according to my judgment the Scotch Pine looks like the best proposition.

The Case for Forestry in a Nutshell

The following table prepared by R. D. Prettie, Superintendent of Forestry of the Canadian Pacific Railway Co., and a Director of the Canadian Forestry Association, shows exactly how a decline in forest industries (which means wages paid, capital employed, towns maintained, etc.) has followed the denuding of the main bodies of timber in the Lake States of the U. S. A. and the Northeastern States. From large exporters, most of these states do not today grow more than a fraction of the timber consumed within their own borders. This does not mean that the lands denuded of timber have been turned into good farms, because each of the States now importing possesses abundance of idle and barren land on which timber crops should be growing.

Note the remarkable decline in relative timber producing importance of the first two groups, which have surrendered position to the Southern and Western States.

Percentage of Total U. S. Cut By Groups of States

Year	North Eastern States	Lake States	Southern States	Pacific States
1850	54.5	6.4	13.8	3.9
1860	36.2	13.6	16.5	6.2
1870	36.8	24.4	9.4	3.6
1880	24.8	33.4	11.9	3.5
1890	18.4	36.3	15.9	7.3
1900	16.0	27.4	25.2	9.6
1914	9.0	10.5	47.7	19.3
1918	7.4	7.8	34.9	25.5

What Happens When a State is Deforested

One of the most striking items in the pulpwood situation in Pennsylvania is the fact that 74 per cent of the total quantity of wood used was imported from outside of the State. This means that the forests of Pennsylvania were able to supply only 26 per cent of the wood used, and that 362,293 cords out of a total of 489,211 cords were brought into the State. Spruce, which comprises 26 per cent of

the wood used, was all imported and most of the Yellow Pine, Poplar and Gum was imported. One mill located in the northern part of the State uses Jack Pine almost exclusively, all of which is imported from Canada. Another mill located in the southern part of the State uses only Jack Pine, all of which is imported from the South.