

Possibilities of a Modern Maple Grove

By Dr. George Fisk, Montreal, Proprietor of Maple Glen Reserve, Magog, Quebec.

The Canadian Forestry Association is authority for the statement that 50% of the land in the Dominion of Canada is fit only for growing tree crops. The many deserted farms in the outlying districts of the Province of Quebec tend to confirm this opinion, for if we investigate why these farms have been deserted, we learn that as soon as the lumbermen had cropped the neighboring lands of the best lumber, the outlying farmers found it difficult to make a living from handling crops without the aid of the tree crops. A move to a new farm in an un lumbered district provided him with profitable work for the whole year. These farms that have been deserted in this way have soon grown up to a

second growth, principally of the hard wood varieties, and in many cases with a very large percentage, if not a pure growth of maple. It would appear, then, if lumbering was at one time profitable, and the annual crops were not sufficiently profitable to retain the farmer, that the question of reforesting these farms warrants very careful consideration.

In districts of sandy soil the pine tree is the favorite for replanting, and should be a commercial success. However, the investor could not hope to realize a return on the investment in less than sixty years, the average time required for a pine tree to grow to a diameter of 18 inches. This proposition is hardly



View in Dr. Fisk's Bush, Showing Metal Sap Pipes.