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**House of Assembly**

(Continued from page 12.)

tion of an intelligent policy of "Forest Conservation," and with this end in view I have extended invitations to the Managing Directors of the various pulp and paper companies to meet at my office at an early date to discuss with me the best possible way to afford the necessary and all important protection to our valuable forest wealth.

The A.N.D. Co. at Grand Falls are producing now about 275 tons per day. The Armstrong Whitworth Co. at Corner Brook will be producing 400 tons per day as soon as their mill is ready to operate. The Gander production (which I am informed will be ready to commence construction operations), when producing, will have a capacity of 200 tons per day, giving us from these three mills a total daily production of 875 tons of sawmill product, at a cost of \$75.00 per ton. (And there is not likely to be a decline in the price of this commodity.) Newfoundland's total trade will thus be augmented by the pulp and paper industry to the amount of over \$20,000,000, or nearly twice the present value of our fishery products.

MR. CHAIRMAN—It will be readily understood and agreed to by every member of this House—yes, and by every native of the Colony, that an industry which has outlined above should receive the wholehearted support of the Department which is officially responsible for every action of the State regarding its protection and development.

During the past, large sections of our forest growth have been recklessly destroyed; this wanton destruction must immediately cease and, where necessary, the Crown Lands must be amended so that a recurrence of the forest destruction of two years will be rendered impossible.

MR. CHAIRMAN, it will serve no

good purpose for me to fix the blame for mistakes made in the past on any Government, or individual member thereof, but it is my plain duty and the duty of the present Administration to profit as much as possible "by past mistakes."

An immediate "stock-taking" of our timber holdings must be proceeded with, and future requirements for public purposes, such as telegraph and telephone poles, wharf and breakwater timber, and railway sleepers, must be provided for; then again, certain reservations for the requirements of fishery development and operation must be made and safeguarded.

To accomplish this, the first step must be a complete stock taking of what we have. The second step must be a clear understanding of what we require; then we can intelligently provide for our requirements. Since the railway is now being operated as a Department or Sub-Department of the Government, the Management are called upon every year to provide certain timber for construction and operation purposes. The supplying of railway ties is a problem which must be immediately solved and it matters not if its operation is by Government or private corporation—railway sleepers will continue to be one of the chief requirements. It is a well known fact that the cutting of this material is a most destructive form of lumbering as only a small portion of the tree is utilized; the business being left in the woods in such a state as to very materially increase our fire hazard, besides lessening the commercial value of a large amount of good timber left to decay where it fell.

In future I propose to try and remedy this unnecessary evil by the introduction of a scheme whereby no permit or contract can or will be given or entered into for supplying railway sleepers unless the contractor guarantees to save every inch of saleable timber in all trees "cut down."

The portion of the tree which is at present left in the forest to decay could be almost utilized for pulp making, and I think in this matter we will get the support of the present and future pulp manufacturers of Newfoundland.

All of these matters come under the scope of "Forest Conservation," and I assure the Committee that when next I am called upon to introduce Estimates (which I hope will be in 1926) I hope to have all, or nearly all, the proposed reforms which I have predicted here in my address no longer suggestions or promises but actual facts, and actually in operation.

**Destruction of Forests by Insect Pests.**

Some four or five years ago it was brought to the attention of the Department of Agriculture and Mines that the trees in a section of the country in the vicinity of St. John's, were being denuded of their foliage by some insect.

Branches of the affected trees, and the larvae and moths in the neighborhood were collected and sent to the Government Entomologist at Ottawa. It was stated in the local papers that the damage to the trees at this place was being caused by what is known as the Spruce Bud Worm, which has caused such destruction during previous years to large areas in New Brunswick and the Eastern



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United States, but on examination of the specimens sent to the Entomologist at Ottawa the Department was advised that this was not the case, but the insect was identified as the Hemlock Looper (Gehus Ellopi), which it was stated was common in Canada, but not considered a very dangerous pest.

The injury by this insect was, at that time, confined to a comparatively small area, but last season it was found that it had spread Eastward to sections as far as Logy Bay and North to Windsor Lake, possibly further, and has since been found to have attacked timber in several other parts of the country, and has done a considerable amount of damage on Port au Port Peninsula.

In the autumn of 1923 it was reported to the Department that spruce trees at Cowan's Farm, between Waterford Bridge and Topsail Roads, were also attacked.

Specimens of the bark of the affected trees were forwarded for examination to the Entomologist at Ottawa, who identified the insect causing the destruction as the Eastern Spruce Bark Beetle.

On examination it was found that over a hundred trees in an area of 5 or 6 acres were either destroyed or badly infested by this beetle, and that a considerable number of trees on other properties in the vicinity were also attacked.

The Department at Ottawa had advised that the spread of this insect might be controlled, where only comparatively small areas were affected, by having the trees cut down and the bark, branches, etc., burned. This was done in the case of all trees discovered to be affected in the section above mentioned, and at the same time circular letters were sent to the principal operating lumber companies and pulp companies drawing their attention to this outbreak and asking them to report any appearance of this insect in their localities, and enclosing in them copies of a pamphlet prepared by Dr. Swain, Asst. Government Entomologist at Ottawa, giving information as to the method of identifying this insect and means for controlling its spread.

Later examination by the Department has shown that the trees in several sections between Mount Pearl and Logy Bay Road have been attacked by this beetle, but as these were discovered after the season in which they could be safely treated by burning had passed nothing has been done to control the spread.

Considerable correspondence has taken place on this subject between this Department and Dr. Swain, who has arranged to come here in July and make a study of the whole question. In the meantime a preliminary investigation is being held as to the possible extent of the area attacked by these two insect pests. On receipt of Dr. Swain's report and advice, the matter will be considered by the Government.

One point which may make it difficult to handle this matter, particularly in the vicinity of St. John's, is that practically all the trees affected are situated on private property, and there is no authority in any law now in force in the Colony for entry on these properties for the purpose of destroying affected trees, should this be decided on, nor is there any power

to compel the owners of the land to destroy such trees.

It would appear necessary, therefore, that an Act should be passed either empowering the Government to enter and, without compensation, to destroy any affected trees, or to compel the owners of the properties on which such trees are found to take steps as directed by the Department to prevent the spread of these pests.

At the conclusion of the address MR. DUFF referred to the jumping of claims by persons who had not sufficient capital to really work these claims. He suggested that some regulations should be adopted to minimize such practices.

MR. SCAMMELL complimented the Minister of Agriculture & Mines on his able exposition of the possibilities of the country. The speaker maintained that there was absolutely no need of sending out of the country practically a million dollars for products, the greater part of which could be produced at home. Referring to the Agricultural Policy, he said he believed it stimulated a great deal of interest and as to the policy of Dr. Campbell, he thought there could be no question as to the main idea, namely, the improvement of the breed of cattle. It was unfortunate that the younger generation of men in the outports were not taking the interest in their gardens that their forefathers did. He believed that there were young men who would embark in farming if given encouragement. This could be done by cheapening Agriculture implements through the tariff. He was wholeheartedly in accord with any policy that will improve the production from the lands now under cultivation or encourage the bringing of new land under the plow. He wished the Minister every success in his new policy.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE assured the House that party politics would play no part whilst he had charge of the expenditure of the Department. There would be no discrimination practiced.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY complimented the Minister of Agriculture on his speech. He was glad to hear the Minister state that he was looking forward to having an experienced Geologist at the services of the Department. He promised every assistance to the Minister in pursuit of his aim. The speaker referred to the great possibilities of mineral development and pointed out the interest that had been taken in Silver Cliff exhibits at Wembley and the resultant prospect of a development of this property to an extent undreamed of.

MR. GODDEN suggested that a reasonable duty might be put on vegetables and poultry and eggs as a protection against the competition of our neighbors. In reference to our mineral possibilities he wondered why our coal fields, known as St. George's Coal Fields, are not in a more active state of development and he would like to have his mind set at rest on the idea abroad that certain influences are at work to prevent this development.

MR. WALSH, replying, said he had been always interested in the reasons why various properties had been tied up. It was to answer some such questions that a competent Geologist was needed.

MR. WARREN approved of the idea of getting a competent Geologist and stated the matter previously occupied his attention and he ascertained a

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and give your stomach a square deal. Let the bowels move the liver in good order and the system is healthy. Beecham's Pills are the best stomach corrective and blood purifier.

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good man could be had for \$7,500 a year. He urged that when we get such a man that he devote his attention to the prospects we have rather than to the general geological structure of the island. He was glad to note that there was a renewed interest in farming on the West Coast and many were returning to abandoned farms where, despite the excellence of the soil, farming was not profitable because there were no markets near.

He wished Mr. Walsh all the success possible in his new policy.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE in reference to the Agricultural expert said that he is being called in to assist in mapping out a programme. In speaking of farming on the West Coast the Minister mentioned that at Stephenville last year Mr. White raised about \$12,000 worth of produce, which was disposed of to the Power & Paper Co.

THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS complimented Mr. Walsh on the interesting address which he had given to the House. He drew attention to the possibility of trying up industries through sharp practices, and instances that had been done in regard to a Trinity Bay cement proposition. As to agriculture he thought that nothing was better to stimulate interest in farming than Agricultural Societies, and he believed that as far as Harbor Grace and Bay Roberts were concerned they suffered because they had been disbanded. Concluding he hoped a great impetus would be given to cattle raising through getting feeder feeds from the proposed Flour Mills.

The vote for Agriculture was passed as was also that for Public Works.

MR. WARREN referred to the practice of having to pay the doctor at the Hospital a private fee in addition to having to pay the customary Hospital charges, in which a case of a constituent of his own was mentioned.

In moving the adjournment the Prime Minister tabled certain resolutions of thanks from the Women's Franchise League.

MR. SPEAKER informed the House of the receipt of a message from the Council advising the House of the concurrence of that body in the Redistribution Bill.

Remaining orders being deferred the House adjourned at 6.30 until the usual hour to-day.

**Just Folks.**

By EDGAR GUEST.


MY WIFE AND I.

My wife and I don't disagree except on things concerning me. Our tastes run similarly straight. For twenty years no touch of hate has marred our love. Our only quarrel has risen from my choice of hats.

My wife and I as one will think. Concerning meat and bread and drink. My business judgment she respects. We have well-nested attitudes. Yet publicly she'll criticize. My "most outlandish" choice of ties.

My wife and I can get along in things of literature and song. She likes the plays I like to see. We live almost harmoniously. She's only scornful when she views my awful taste in boots and shoes.

"That awful hat again!" she cries. "I wish you'd let me choose your ties! You've got those ugly shoes again. Why can't you dress like other men? I'm sure we'd lead a happy life if I could dress to please my wife."



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Pond's Creams will give your complexion the fresh, lovely youthfulness the poet sings of—will make it so and keep it so.  
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**SINGAPORE PINEAPPLE**—Canned right on the plantation, to preserve the fruit flavour and where only the very finest matured fruits are used.  
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CHARLIE BET EDDIE KNOW A BOX OF CIGARS THAT HE COULD SOLVE A CROSS-WORD PUZZLE BEFORE EDDIE COULD

SO FAR NEITHER ONE HAS HAD MUCH SUCCESS AS THE PUZZLE IS A RATHER DIFFICULT ONE HOWEVER.

IF I COULD ONLY GET THIS ONE IN FOUR LETTERS WHICH MEANS A SIGN OF SPRING.

SECOND LETTER IS "U" BECAUSE IT REGISTERS WITH VERTICAL

WHY DON'TCHA LOOK WHERE Y'GON' YA BIG BIMBO!

BUY YOUR FURS AT BING'S 22 BANK

GUESS THAT'LL HOLD HIM FOR A WHILE!

BUY YOUR FURS AT BING'S 22 BANK STREET

HELLO EDDIE! I FEEL LIKE RAISING THAT BET TO TWO BOXES OF CIGARS.

CROSS-WORD CRACKS

AN EIGHT LETTER WORD MEANING ONE WHO TRIMS SAILORS?

ANSWER MILLINER

THANKS TO B. MONIZ

TO BE CONTINUED

By Art Hefkins

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