

different conditions. From these the information will be compiled and maps made on a smaller scale for publication.

Points usually ascertained were:—(1) the composition or "type" of forest; (2) the degree of culling; (3) the extent of burned areas; (4) the condition of reproduction; (5) the character of the barrens, the meadow lands and the farm areas within the timber country.

The forest land was divided into three classes:—(1) "severely culled;" (2) "partially culled," (where only from one-third to one-half of the timber had been removed), and (3) "virgin." Reproduction of conifers was noted as "good," "medium" and "poor."

As regards the composition of the forest, three "types" were recognized, namely (1) pure hardwoods, (2) pure conifers, and (3) mixed hardwoods and conifers. A mixture of 25 per cent. of either hardwoods or conifers was necessary to constitute the last-named type. Provision was made for a further subdivision of the areas into "sub-types" by recording the other species met with on any tract in the order of the frequency of their occurrence.

The original idea of securing information regarding soil conditions proved too troublesome to be carried out. In the timber country (generally speaking) not ten per cent. of the area is fit for farming; in some districts, however, meadow lands can undoubtedly be extended by the reclamation of marshes, bogs and swamps.

THE FUTURE OF THE FOREST.

To the forester the future of the forest is of paramount importance, and so it is gratifying to note Dr. Fernow's opinion on this point in a letter to the Western Nova Scotia Lumbermen's Association. "Although the data on reproduction and rate of growth are not yet collated," he writes, "it is safe to say that if the fires are kept out (and apparently with the present organization, further perfected, this may be done reasonably well) there is no difficulty in restocking by natural means the cut-over areas if not too severely culled. . . . In the pure hemlock-spruce stands all that is necessary is to remove the old hemlock thoroughly and cleanly to have the young growth of spruce, already established on the ground, take its place."

Reproduction of conifers is prolific, where not prevented by repeated fires, especially on abandoned pastures. Unfortunately two inferior species, namely, white spruce and balsam fir, take the lead. In the open white spruce beats red spruce, a slower-growing tree. In old timber the red spruce forms over ninety per cent. of the growth and reproduces well, especially under hemlock.

The white pine is rare. In Shelburne county there is a large area, burned over about ninety years ago, which is grown up almost entirely with white pine, and has for some time been logged. The timber, while merchantable, is not very desirable.

"As to the rate at which young growth attains merchantable size," Dr. Fernow further observes, "erroneous notions seem to be abroad. While the white spruce on abandoned pastures grows at an astonishing rate into a knotty rampike and occasionally makes a saw-log in sixty years, the forest spruce grows at a much slower rate, and may not average a twelve-inch tree in less than a hundred years."

The three important conifers, viz., pine, spruce and hemlock, were found to be to a large extent confined to particular localities. Annapolis County, for instance, may be called the "hemlock" region, as this species forms 60 to 70 per cent. of the stands. Shelburne County and part of Queen's are largely pine country, while Digby is a spruce county, seventy-five per cent. of this species often occurring in the stand of timber.

MAILING LIST CORRECTIONS.

The mailing list of the Canadian Forestry Association publications has been rearranged and brought down to date. In a list of this size a number of errors necessarily creeps in and some of these were rather annoying to members whose Journals or other publications were delayed or went astray. It is hoped the new list will obviate this, and every effort has been made to have it correct. Any member who finds that his name or address is not correctly given on the revised list will confer a favor by dropping a line to the Secretary giving the proper address. The matter can now be attended to without further delay.