

A feature of the convention which it is expected will be warmly appreciated by the delegates is the exhibit of specimens of the woods of Manitoba and of the insects which are parasitic upon them. Mr. F. K. Herchmer, of the Dominion Forestry Branch will have charge of the former, and Mr. J. M. Swaine, of the Dominion Experimental Farms, of the latter.

A special effort is being made to issue the full report of the Proceedings within

a couple of weeks after the convention. This report will contain the discussion as well as the papers, and will give to those who will be unable to attend the meeting the very best alternative possible. In so far as the edition will permit, copies of the report will be sent to all who apply, after the members of the Association and those attended the convention have been supplied.

Quebec's Planting Operations.

Waste Lands Near Lachute Being Reforested.

About forty years ago near Lachute, Que., there were fields devoted to the growing of barley which was transported to Montreal to be used in the breweries there. Prices were good and the farmers raised the same crop for approximately fifteen years in succession. Then a plague of grasshoppers removed a large part of the virile green growth, with the result that the soil, relieved of the great part of its humus and other binding elements, began to drift in a south-easterly direction under the impelling force of the prevailing wind. At the present time these fields resemble a rolling sea. The sand has been hollowed out in the places in which there are no trees or grasses and piled up long distances away to a height of from 10 to 25 feet.

A description of this locality was given in the May issue of *The Forestry Journal* of last year, and an account given of the work of reclaiming this land undertaken by the Quebec Government under Mr. G. C. Piché, M.F., Director of the Forestry School and Chief Forestry Engineer of the Quebec Department of Lands and Forests. The results of that work to date and the new operations which were undertaken this year were seen by representatives of *The Journal* again last month.

Of the 17,000 two-year-old white pine which were planted a year ago

13,000 are at present living, and of the 18,000 two-year-old white spruce 5,000 have come through the year successfully. The experimental plantation of 3,000 white ash and 800 elms was a little more successful, as these, although slightly frozen, have come through the winter practically without loss.

This year the company of foresters who are working on the sand waste have replaced 4,000 pine and 5,000 spruce which had failed with new seedlings of Scotch pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). It has been found that it is practically useless to plant little trees alone on the hills, as the sand blows over them and erodes around them to such an extent that they cannot live. The remedy for this is to plant beach grass, which affords efficient shelter to the young trees to allow their first year's growth after plantation to go ahead without setback.

Frost injured the pines to a certain extent, but the greatest damage came through the severe drought which prevailed during the first half of May. At that time the plants had part of their rootlets enclosed in a frozen soil. The plants were transpiring very much whilst the roots could not supply enough moisture to counterbalance the drying action.

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