

# Dominion Forestry Branch Work.

## Salient Points from the Report of the Dominion Director of Forestry for 1913

The Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior, Canada, has charge of all the forest reserves in the three prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and in the Railway Belt in British Columbia. This latter is a strip of land forty miles wide, twenty miles on each side of the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway deeded to the Dominion by the Province of British Columbia when the province joined the Confederation of the Canadian Provinces. The work has now grown very large, and the report makes a volume of 136 pages. This report covers the calendar year 1912, and its contents will, perhaps, be best understood by giving the leading points of the report of the Director, Mr. R. H. Campbell, supplemented by points from the reports of his assistants. These follow:

### APPROPRIATIONS.

Total appropriation for fiscal year 1912-13, \$362,500; among the chief items were: Management of Forest Reserves, \$169,000. Fire Ranging, \$99,000. Tree Planting, \$49,500. Forest Surveys, \$13,000.

The revenue from settlers' permits to cut timber and hay, and for grazing, was \$23,000.

*Note.*—It should be noted that another Branch of the Department of the Interior collects the revenue from licensed berths outside the Forest Reserves, and from berths inside the Reserves which were licensed prior to the establishment of the reserve system. The collections of this branch, the Timber and Grazing Branch, for the year 1912 were \$434,000.

### STATISTICS.

One of the important duties of the Dominion Forestry Branch is the collecting and publishing of timber and forest products statistics for the whole Dominion. The figures for 1912 are:

Lumber, lath and shingles . . . . .	\$ 84,000,000
Firewood . . . . .	50,000,000
Pulpwood . . . . .	12,000,000
Posts and rails . . . . .	10,000,000
Cross-ties . . . . .	8,000,000
Square timber exported . . . . .	1,900,000
Cooperage . . . . .	1,700,000

Poles . . . . .	1,200,000
Logs exported . . . . .	1,100,000
Tanning material . . . . .	1,000,000
Round mining timber . . . . .	600,000
Miscellaneous exports . . . . .	300,000
Miscellaneous products . . . . .	10,500,000
Total . . . . .	\$172,300,000

### TREE PLANTING.

In 1900 the Forestry Branch inaugurated the plan of supplying tree cuttings and tree seedlings free to prairie farmers, on condition of their paying the express charges and preparing and cultivating the soil of the plantations. This work has grown so that a second nursery station, in addition to the main station at Indian Head, Saskatchewan, has been opened near Saskatoon.

Trees distributed to settlers in 1912, 2,729,135.

Number of applicants receiving trees, 3,618.

Total number of trees distributed since establishment of the nursery station, 21,650,660

*Note.*—The United States Forest Service after examining the Canadian system of distribution of trees to settlers has decided to adopt it.

### FOREST RESERVES.

Organization. Reserves are divided into four districts with an inspector over each. Three of these districts correspond with the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta, and the fourth comprises the Railway Belt in British Columbia.

Permanent officers: District inspectors, 4; supervisors, 12; forest assistants, 4; forest rangers, 46.

Area of Dominion Forest Reserves and Parks was in 1912 25,201 sq. miles, divided as follows: Alberta, 18,564; Saskatchewan, 937 sq. miles; Manitoba, 3,585 sq. miles; British Columbia, 2,115.

*Note.*—These figures have increased in 1913 and 1914 until now the total area in forest reserves and parks is 43,802 sq. miles, as follows: Alberta, 26,271; Saskatchewan, 9,681; Manitoba, 4,027; and British Columbia 3,778.

The improvements on the reserves for the year were: ranger houses built, 10; stables,