

MAPLE SUGAR MAKERS WIN.

At the annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association a resolution was passed supporting the effort of the maple sugar makers to have a law enacted prohibiting the selling of adulterated maple sugar and syrup. The ground taken by the Association was that owing to the lack of remuneration in the business, if adulteration was allowed, farmers would clear of maple trees land that was not fit for anything else and that land would become permanently unproductive. That this was actually taking place is seen from an extract from a letter written by one of the leading bankers of the Eastern Townships of Quebec. He writes: 'In driving around the country I have noticed that not a few maple groves, which used to produce a considerable amount of sugar, have been cut down for fire wood. It seems to me a most foolish thing to do.'

Not only was there adulteration, but sugars and syrups innocent of any maple sap were put up in such a way as to convey the impression that the pure maple product was being sold. The argument of those who sold these adulterated and imitation articles was that they were composed of ingredients not harmful to those who used them as food. After a hard fight, however, the maple sugar makers won their point, and a new law governing this matter, passed at this session of Parliament, prohibits the use of the word 'maple' on any food products bearing a resemblance to maple sugar, or maple syrup, unless the same are produced wholly from sap of the maple tree. Maple sugar and maple syrup in Canada now stand on the same basis as butter and honey. They must be pure, or the seller is liable to a heavy fine.

The production of maple sugar is now valued at a little over \$2,000,000 per year, and friends of the industry predict that it will now rise, in a few years, to \$7,000,000 or \$8,000,000. Maple groves, instead of being cut down, will be protected, and new groves will be developed in wood lots, or even set out again on abandoned, or partly abandoned, farms.

FOREST PRODUCTS OF CANADA, 1912.

The Dominion Forestry Branch has issued Bulletin 42, *Forest Products of Canada*, 1912, by R. G. Lewis, B.Sc.F. This is a collection of bulletins 38, 39 and 40 for convenience and covers the production in Canada in 1912 of lumber, square timber, lath, shingles, pulpwood, poles and railway ties.

Persons interested may receive copies free upon applying to the Director of Forestry, Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

YUKON TIMBER PROTECTION.

A member writing from the Yukon says: 'I know of no other place in Canada where our limited area of timber should be so zealously guarded as in the Yukon. We have many uses for wood here, whereas it is not so necessary in other parts of Canada. We must depend entirely upon it for fuel, and we cannot import timber for mining purposes, as it would be too expensive, and we would have to let low grade mines remain undeveloped. Notwithstanding these facts, our timber land is burnt over and thousands of cords destroyed every year. Most of this destruction could be avoided. The fires mostly occur along the Yukon Valley, on account of people making their way into the interior in small boats. They land on the bank of the river to cook their food. After this is done they return to their boats, leaving the fires to go out or to ignite the nearby woods, just as may happen. This could be stopped by increasing the Mounted Police patrol, and this should be done as early as possible, as we expect large travel to the new gold strikes during 1914.'

LOWER OTTAWA FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION.

The organization for protecting in a co-operative way the forests on the Nation, Lievre, Rouge and Gatineau rivers, the formation of which was noted last month, has now been completed. A charter has been obtained from Quebec. The officers are: President, Hon. W. C. Edwards; Vice-President, Mr. Ward C. Hughson; Directors, Messrs. R. M. Kenny, George Millen, and J. B. White; Secretary, Mr. Frank Hawkins; Chief Fire Inspector, Mr. Arthur H. Graham. The Secretary's office is at 19 Castle Building, Ottawa.

Although it was late in the year before the charter was received, the officers immediately set to work and placed a force of about forty men under the Chief Fire Inspector. He immediately proceeded to the woods, where some spring fires were already reported, and though with very little equipment and with no opportunity to cut trails or erect telephone lines, is at present doing what can be done to combat the fires.

OIL FUEL FOR LOCOMOTIVES.

The use of oil fuel for locomotives was begun in the United States in 1900, now oil burning locomotives are operated exclusively upon 20,910 miles of railway in the United States and 587 miles in Canada; and in conjunction with coal burners on an additional 4,720 miles in the United States.