

Hon. A. K. Maclean, Hon. F. L. Hazard, R. L. Borden, M.P., D. McNicoll (vice-president of the C.P.R.), Wm. Little, Dr. Falconer (University of Toronto), Rev. Dr. Gordon (Queen's University), E. E. Ring (Forest Commissioner of Maine), and R. B. Bennett, of Calgary.

The first speaker was Hon. Sydney Fisher, who gave his address in French. He appealed to the Quebec government to undertake the work of reforestation in the province, there being large areas of land of little value except for forest growth. In addition to providing a supply of timber the water-powers would be safeguarded. He referred to damage to the forest arising from railway construction and to the care taken to safeguard this point in the building of the Transcontinental.

Mr. J. G. Peters, representing Mr. H. S. Graves, Forester of the United States, spoke with reference to the fire protection system on the U. S. National Forests. In speaking of the fires of the past summer (1910) he gave the following figures: Amount of loss, \$25,000,000; territory burned over, 4,000,000 acres; amount of timber lost, 8,000,000,000 feet; cost of fire-fighting, \$1,000,000. He spoke of the fire itself and the abnormally dry seasons that preceded it and in large part were accountable for its spread to such gigantic proportions. The administration was now trying to sell off as fast as possible the fire-damaged timber as the only way of utilizing it. As the requisites for a proper system of forest protection he gave the following: (1) A system of roads and trails; (2) Fire lines; (3) Lookout stations; (4) Telephone lines; (5) Rangers' cabins; (6) A full equipment of tools; (7) In some places, an equipment of pack trains; (8) An adequate force of patrolmen. He took up the features of the state forest laws in Louisiana, Maine, New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and criticized the systems (or lack of system) of forest fire

protection in other states. He also discussed the work of the private co-operative systems in the north-western states.

Hon. Achille Bergevin was the next speaker. He advocated the substitution of electric power for that of steam and suggested the building of a great national highway from coast to coast which would open up vast stores of water-power. As president of the Quebec Fish and Game Protective Association he gave special attention to the forests as game preserves.

Mr. W. C. J. Hall, Superintendent of the Forest Protection Branch of the Quebec Forest Service, read an able and important paper on Forest Protection. He detailed the measures necessary to secure adequate protection for the forests, including the creation of reserves on non-agricultural lands, the establishment of efficient patrols and lookout stations and proper supervision of railways, settlers, campers and others.

Mr. J. M. Briscoe, of the University of Maine, representing Hon. E. E. Ring, Forest Commissioner for the state, followed. After voicing the regret of Hon. Mr. Ring at being unable to be present at the meeting, he described minutely Maine's system of forest taxation, the methods of fire protection by lookout stations and patrol and the system of reports required of the patrolmen. He also gave statistics regarding forest fires for 1909 and 1910, and noted new legislation passed tending to better fire protection and co-operative measures arranged with the state of New Hampshire.

The meeting then adjourned.

Thursday Afternoon.

The first paper of the afternoon session was read by Hon. E. H. Bronson, of Ottawa, and was entitled 'Shall Canadians Conserve or Destroy Their Forests?' Mr. Bronson advocated the giving by the various governments to lumbermen of a