

forest, and that was caused by a fire. Fires are of rare occurrence. I saw no land of any consequence which had been run over and destroyed by fire. I was informed that there had only been one fire during the past year in the whole of Sweden, it was an insignificant fire, and was put out very quickly, inasmuch as under the system fire protection in Sweden, fire rangers may enforce the attendance of the military, and all able bodied citizens may be compelled by the fire ranger to assist in the extinction of forest fires, the consequence is that a fire has no chance of extending very far under this system. There is a heavy fine upon any person refusing to assist at a forest fire. There was one thing which struck me very forcibly going up the country, that the railway ran through miles of forest and I did not see a particle of land destroyed by fire along the tracks for a distance of 400 miles, which I travelled on that railway, which runs up into the north of Sweden. I asked one of the largest lumbermen how they managed to keep the forest so close to the railway track from catching fire. The railway company is obliged to keep watchmen along the track during the dry season, in fact, they were living along the track this winter when I was there. Their houses were situated about a mile apart along the railway track. These men are railway employees, and their duty is to take all precautions against fire. The railways in Sweden are owned by the Government, and in consequence these men are also Government employees.

I travelled through the woods across country in a sleigh through wood roads nearly all the way for about 30 miles for the purpose of seeing the condition in which the forests were. I took particular notice of the forest floor in various parts and where, on the private lots owned by the farmers, they cut their own firewood. The forest floor was cleaned up completely and no debris left. I saw a few tree tops in the bush, where they were manufacturing small square timber, chiefly