

WHAT IT COSTS TO CLEAN UP A FOREST

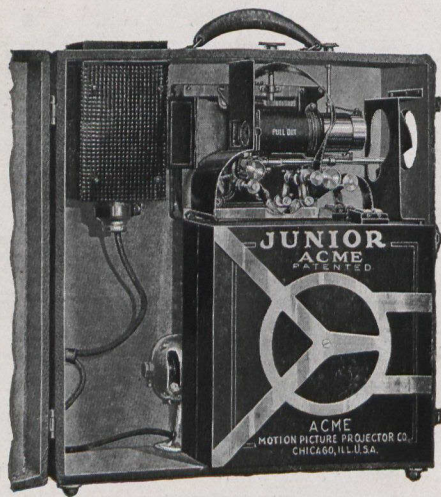
The following interesting statements regarding the results of experiments in piling and burning the debris of logging operations on the Laurentide Company's limits, was presented at the Montreal Forestry Convention by Robert W. Lyons, B.Sc.F.

The following was carried out while making experimental cuttings in a balsam-spruce type, balsam forming 64 per cent of the stand. This area was cut over for white pine some years ago. Strips from one chain wide to three chains wide and fifty chains long were cut clean, and all logs were taken down to three inches top diameter. The slash on each alternate cut strip was burned.

Therefore, as a safe and economical method to dispose of slash, piling and burning as logging progresses, was employed as a practical remedy. The object was to burn the brush prior to the removal of logs. The plan followed promised to be feasible. It is, in brief, working two cutting crews together with two additional men for burning the brush. These men take the branches as they are cut and place them on the fire. These fires were usually placed to save reproduction and in a place suitable to the

falling. The cutting crews were instructed to bunch the tops close to the fires, a 20-foot radius being the limit. If the branches should be wet, or after a fall of snow, the fire was usually started before the work commenced for the day. It took from three to five minutes to make, and two minutes more elapsed before branches could be thrown upon it steadily. However, if the branches were dry, the custom was to pile the debris into round compact piles, all the large ends lying in one direction, set fire to it and then continue piling on the slash. This relieved the men from facing a hot fire while the branches close to it were being piled. These piles could be started by the smallest blaze, and in a country of white birch, the time spent in making fires was practically eliminated. Therefore, thirty to forty minutes were saved daily. It might be noted, also, that in piling the

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