

Revolution, when things became more or less disorganized, these areas, which before had preserved the stream flow, were exploited, with the result that after ten years of such work the effects began to be felt in the valleys below. It is estimated that 8,000,000 acres of tillable land were made useless due to this ruthless cutting which meant that hundreds of people had to leave that section of the country. The French government then put a stop to this cutting and commenced reforesting these slopes. This was a difficult task, for in many cases water courses had to be built up with masonry and cribbing, before trees could be planted. But the work went on favorably until in 1900 there had been expended on this enterprise, \$13,000,000, and at the rate it was then progressing it was estimated that it would be completed in 1945.

#### **Ontario's Problem**

The only section of Ontario which can be called similar to this area, and yet it is very different because there are no mountains in Ontario, is the northern part of the province which is largely Laurentian formation, characterized by outcroppings of rock with here and there pockets of good agricultural soil. The problem in this section of the province at the present time, however, is chiefly one of protection.

The Gascony area is in the southwest part of the country where there were 250,000 acres of sand dunes which had endangered the adjoining pastures and fields. Here the

task was to stop moving sand, and in many cases special barriers had to be built in order to retard its progress. But with rare patience the work went forward until 200,000 acres of this area had been reclaimed, which in 1907 was valued at \$10,000,000. In Ontario there are three areas which are comparable to this one, namely, a part of Prince Edward County; sand dunes in Lambton County, and similar areas in Norfolk County, altogether they would aggregate possibly 8,000 acres of land and there is no reason why these sand dunes in Ontario cannot be reclaimed and held, as well as to be made produce a valuable forest.

The third area is known as the Landes and is a triangular piece of country in Gascony containing 2,000,000 acres of moving sand and poor stagnant soil, the only inhabitants before it was reclaimed, being a number of poor shepherds who went about on stilts attending their flocks. Of this area, 1,750,000 acres had been reclaimed before 1907 and where there was once a desolate plain in which it was hardly fit for a human being to live, there is now a forest of beauty, estimated at \$100,000,000 in value, and supplying work and substance to hundreds. The work carried on in this section of France and the natural conditions to be combatted there are most comparable to the work of reforestation that might be carried on in southern old Ontario. Areas of this kind in the province are plentiful enough and yet altogether the separate large areas do not total more than 200,000 acres.

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### *How Germany Will Pay for Forests*

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At a hearing recently before the Reparations Commission in Paris, on land and orchard damages, Germany contended that it was incumbent upon Germany to pay the proportional cost of replanting orchards, which should be determined by the difference between the stage of the tree when destroyed and the normal life of the tree according to an official announcement.

Germany recognized that compensation was due for the destruction of forests to the value of the wood destroyed or carried away and also for reforestation, provided the felled trees were of no commercial value.

#### **From a U. S. Forester**

To Canadian Forestry Assoc.

I am enclosing herewith check in the amount of \$4.

Kindly permit me to compliment you on the excellent work which it is apparent your Association is performing in the interests of forestry.

I do not think I am guilty of exaggeration in stating that your activities along this particular line are far ahead of any organization that we have in the States.

With best wishes for your continued success, I am,