

The cones of Banksian and other thick-scaled pines require a considerable amount of heat before they will open sufficiently to permit the escape of the seed. The jack pine cones have to be subjected to a heat of from 120° to 140° Far. for from two to four hours, when the seed can be easily shaken out.

There seems to be an increasing interest throughout Canada and the United States in the matter of forest plantations, which is bound to create a market in the near future for all classes of seedling forest trees. There is no better source from which a supply of these seeds can be obtained than Canada. All the varieties which are of most economic value are native here, and from the geographical situation of the forests, Canadian seed should produce a much more desirable quality of stock than can be raised from that collected farther south.

It will without doubt pay our Canadian seedsmen to devote some attention to this branch of the seed business, which if carried on under a proper system, should develop very rapidly, especially in connection with supplying the demand in European countries.

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This season an important extension is being made to the work of the Forestry Branch, by commencing a systematic study of the forests in the Dominion Forest Reserves. This summer a field party, under the supervision of Mr. R. D. Craig, will be at work in the Turtle Mountain Forest Reserve, and probably later in the season in the Moose Mountain or Riding Mountain Reserve. The object is to ascertain the extent of forested and burned areas, the quantity of standing timber, and the silvicultural characteristics of the various species of trees found there. This latter will include a study of the rate of growth by stem analyses, and a study of the reproduction under different conditions of soil, exposure, seed trees. It is expected from the data collected to be able to establish regulations for cutting so that the forests may be improved rather than destroyed by use.