

Mr. JOHNSON: We have been doing ever so many things to try and economically thin out these stands so that we will have a shorter crop rotation, and so the trees will grow faster and get to maturity sooner. This fertilizing program occurred to us as a possibility but it is just one of a whole series of things we are trying to do.

Senator TAYLOR (*Westmorland*): I would like to ask you something about this hybrid development that you spoke about before.

Mr. JOHNSON: I am not an expert on hybrids but we have many species, more than 30 or 40.

Senator POWER: In soft woods?

Mr. JOHNSON: These are poplar that we are working with at the moment, but in the south we are working with many types. We have been grafting from small fast-growing trees and we get cones on them in one or two years. At this stage we are getting a cone crop. They are growing like mad. It is a different type of experiment.

Mr. HARRISON: What they are trying to do is take the super trees and propagate them so they will change the whole species structure.

Mr. JOHNSON: We could show you all the hybrids and poplars that you could shake a stick at up at Harrington. I might say that the spraying operation that has been carried out in New Brunswick and Quebec is the biggest project of forest management that has ever been carried on in the world.

Senator BURCHILL: How much money has been spent up to date?

Mr. JOHNSON: \$12 million.

Senator POWER: Who has spent that?

Senator BURCHILL: Forest Protection Limited, a Crown company.

Mr. JOHNSON: We have green forest in New Brunswick and if you fly over it I am sure you will agree it is the best looking forest you ever saw.

Senator POWER: Have you destroyed all the fish and partridge and other game?

Mr. JOHNSON: No, the spraying has no effect on wild life. There is no question, however, that if the stuff washes into the water it will affect the water.

Senator POWER: If it is washed in off the trees?

Mr. JOHNSON: It can be washed in off the trees by a sudden downpour.

Senator POWER: Then it would destroy the fingerlings and that sort of thing?

Mr. JOHNSON: Yes.

Senator INMAN: How satisfactory is this spraying?

Mr. JOHNSON: Very satisfactory.

Senator POWER: How has the amount of \$12 million been divided?

Mr. JOHNSON: In New Brunswick the cost is divided three ways, between industry, the provincial Government and the federal Government. In Quebec it has been a fifty-fifty affair between industry and the Government. Industry has managed and operated the whole show. I am well satisfied. I do not know what you have to say about it, Senator Burchill, but I believe the forest is in A-1 condition in New Brunswick as a result of this undertaking.

Senator BRADETTE: Mr. Chairman, I move a vote of thanks to Mr. Johnson, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Wilson for having appeared before our committee this morning.

Hon. SENATORS: Hear, hear.

The committee thereupon adjourned until Wednesday, July 23, 1958.