

money, is that the timber must be cut as quickly as possible. No operator can afford to hold it to give the thrifty young timber a chance to come to maturity, and, therefore, the timber marketable at the present time is cut off, the limit is thrown up, and sooner or later the fire gets the timber that has been left standing, which under conservative management, would have been more valuable to the holder and to the Government, than that which has been logged.

In the first place there should be a regulation that these licences will be renewable from year to year so long as merchantable timber remains thereon, coupled if necessary, with a regulation requiring holders of more than a limited number of licences to manufacture a certain proportion.

“Then there should be some kind of a graduated scale of rentals. I do not suggest an immediate reduction of the rental, because the Government of the Province must have money—they want it for fire ranging, if for nothing else—but suppose for the first five years, a rental of \$125 per square mile were collected, for the next five years, if the holder had erected a mill, and was manufacturing a reasonable amount of lumber, and was holding these licences to give a permanence to his operations, let the rental be fixed at \$50 per annum; for the third five years, reduce the rental to \$25, and continue that rate thereafter, so long as timber remains and a sawmill is operated. By this scale each mile of timber would produce \$1,000 for the Government in rentals during the first fifteen years, and a revenue of \$25 per annum after that period.

“Lumbermen in the interior, who now contribute much the larger half of the special licence fees of the Province, under some such plan as here outlined, would add to their holdings, the Government would get a greater revenue for the next few years, more timber would be taken up, and once taken up, there would be the owners in addition to the fire rangers we hope to have appointed, to assist in protecting it against fire; a greater permanence would be given to lumbering operations, and better than all else, from a forestry point of view, the millmen or loggers would be able to so plan and carry out their cutting as to conserve the forest resources of the country—young growing timber would become a valuable asset to the country instead of being neglected and allowed to be destroyed.

“This suggestion is recommended to the attention of this Convention, and if, after discussion, the principle of it is approved, as I hope it will be, no doubt the Government will strongly recommend it to the attention of the Provincial Government.

“Personally, I look for many good results to the forestry interests of this Province from this Convention. The discussions