

some years has kept up a forestry bureau, doing work similar to that done in the United States.

In this country the apathy shown by the populace in regard to timber matters is largely the outcome of the indifference of our Governments in the past and their failure to enforce the laws framed for the protection and preservation of the timber; thus encouraging, in a way, the belief that the matter was one of minor importance. There is annually more timber destroyed by fire than would supply the country's requirements; yet until recently nothing was done towards checking this evil. While the forests were thus allowed to be destroyed, it is not surprising that the people fell into wasteful habits regarding their treatment of them.

This apathy, however, on the part of the "powers that be" is now, happily, a thing of the past; and the Government is spending annually large sums of money to keep up Experimental Farms, where experiments in arboriculture are being continually made and where information of a most valuable nature is gradually accumulating, as well as giving instruction to the farmers in the treatment of the soil, &c. But, I regret to say, little is being done to educate the people in a knowledge of the principles of forestry in relation to its bearing on husbandry and climate. The press, too, the great moulder of public opinion, has, with a few exceptions, notably the "Manitoba Free Press" and the "Assiniboian" of Saltcoats, shown a most lamentable indifference to the importance of this great question. While columns are given, under heavy head lines, to the recording of the destruction of an hotel or a business block, a fire in the timber regions, involving possibly a direct loss of a million dollars or more, and indirect damages almost past computation, is treated by the press as one of comparatively little importance.

But the loss which has already taken place, though great and in a measure irreparable, is not of such magnitude as to cause despair for the maintenance of a sufficient forest area to meet future requirements, provided the people can be induced

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