

a system whereby a definite amount is set aside to be expended over a given number of years.

I trust that the principle recognized in 1906, and the loan sums then provided will be but the forerunners of others having for their object the afforestation of much of the waste, and at the present time comparatively worthless, land of the country.

In regard to grazing leases he has the following to say:—

A further event has been the introduction of the principle of leasing, for periods of one year, for grazing purposes, of tracts of grass land, within Forest Reserves. Under the old system it was the practice to issue grazing permits at tariff rates for a limited number of cattle in respect to each area. By this method it was generally found that three and four times the number of cattle for which the permits were issued were depastured, and the work imposed on the Forest Staff in separating and impounding the trespassing cattle from those permitted to graze, was out of all proportion to the revenue received in respect thereto. Under the present system all available pasture land is leased by public auction or informal tender, and the scheme is found to jointly benefit the lessee and the revenue, besides removing from the department the onus of policing and adjudicating on grazing disputes in the various areas. By this means, and in many other ways the practical usefulness of the Forest Estate is being vastly increased.

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