

The logging and stumping can be done to the best advantage, as a rule, by day work. The cost will vary from \$25 to \$35 per acre, or \$50 per acre in all, ready for the plough. Of course, the owner puts his own time into this in the way of looking after the work and arranging contracts and so on. It must not be inferred that all bush land can be cleared for this sum; a great deal of it would cost far more, but there are very large areas that can be cleared for this, and a good deal for very much less. This price of \$50 would, of course, not apply to land where the heavy timber had to be burnt, but only to land at such a distance from a cord-wood or shingle-bolt market that the heavier timber can be got rid of at little or no cost.

Large cedar stumps can usually be taken out by contract at from \$1.50 to \$2.50 per stump, but where powder has to be used, as in the case of fir stumps, it is difficult to make satisfactory contracts. It is needless to say that if the various operations of clearing were done by the farmer himself, they should be done for less than figures mentioned above.

In estimating these costs no account is taken of the underdraining, as on the average timber land there is so little of it required. Where there is any considerable amount the cost, as a rule, is far more than offset by there being much less stumping to do.

This land clearing, though not costly, is a rather slow business at first, but the farmer has the satisfaction of seeing his farm gradually grow from the forest to the field; he feels that he himself has made all these rough places smooth, and although taking out the big stumps is usually the work left to the last, there is no part of the clearing operations so thoroughly satisfactory. This is the finishing touch; the stump once out is out forever.

No doubt there will be many old hands at land clearing who will think of the number of ways they could do it better, and others again who would say that it would be impossible to follow out exactly the instructions given. The system outlined is by no means perfect, and is only intended as a general guide to the beginner, and no doubt in practice some variations might be necessary; but the amateur of to-day is the expert of to-morrow, and experience will, without question, suggest many improvements. The cost, however, if the work is done systematically, is nowhere near what is generally supposed.

May, 1906.

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VICTORIA, B. C.:

Printed by RICHARD WOLFKENDEN, I.S.O., V.D., Printer to the King's Most Excellent Majesty.
1907.