

THE EVENING TIMES, ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1907



FOREST SCENE IN ALASKA

With better understanding of the forest policy of our government, we are beginning to appreciate it at something like its worth. We shall come in time to realize that it involves the greatest and most far-reaching benefit to the present and future of the country. The whole country is vitally interested in the matter.

During the first century of our national existence we treated our forests as inexhaustible sources of supply and so vast is their extent that even today it is difficult to impress the people with the fact that only by careful husbanding and constant reboisement can the most serious consequences of lumber shortage be avoided. We have recklessly denuded vast areas so that entire states that fifty years ago were covered with forest are now desolate expanses of sage brush. The center of production has rapidly moved westward, and today the state from which we derive the greatest supply of lumber is on the Pacific Coast.

We have remaining somewhat more than 600,000,000 acres of timberland in the United States, but our consumption is stupendous and constantly increasing, despite the many substitutes for wood that are coming into use. In 1900 the lumber product was valued at a little more than \$60,000,000; last year it exceeded \$600,000,000. Forty square miles of forest fall every day of the year. Our present stock of standing timber is 2,186,000,000,000 feet, and we are slicing out of it 36,000,000,000 feet annually.

The Government has been no less short-sighted than the private owner. Millions of acres of public woodland have been given away with prodigal generosity. Only in 1891 did the Government awake to the gravity of the situation and commence the system of forest reserves that has been gradually extended until now we have 150,000,000 acres of national forests valued at \$1,500,000,000. It is only recently, however, that we have made any provision for taking care of this splendid property and turning it to the best account. At the beginning of the century we had no forest experts and knew next to nothing about forestry. In the past few years we have built up a fine organization, including many very capable men and headed by one of the ablest foresters in the world. Under the direction of Gifford Pinchot our Forest Service has grown in five years from a petty division of the Department of Agriculture and is now a great Bureau which is doing its great work

on such economical and business-like lines that it bids fair to be self-supporting within the current decade. The receipts from timber sales for the fiscal year, 1906-07, were about \$600,000, an amount less than \$250,000 for the preceding year and less than \$60,000 for 1904-05. The receipts from grazing, 1906-7, were \$175,000. In the year ending June 30, 1904, the national forests yielded a total revenue of \$60,000; in the past year, \$1,300,000.

But the production of revenue is the least important of the benefits to be derived from the labors of the Forest Service. The future prosperity of the entire West and its permanency depends upon the conservation and proper management of our forest reserves. Private owners are making no attempt to prevent exhaustion of their woodlands, although the Service is ready and anxious to co-operate with them in doing so. It is inevitable that the national forests will at no very distant date become the main source of supply. The Service is bending its efforts towards placing itself in the best possible condition to meet that demand when it arises and in the meanwhile is making no effort to compete with private lumber dealers.

Furnishing and regulating grazing facilities are among the most important of the functions of the Forest Service. Formerly the grazing grounds were free and open without restriction. As a result they were ill used and frequently rendered unfit for long periods. Constant conflict prevailed between the sheep and the cattle men, entailing loss of human life and great damage to property. The small herds had no recognized rights. He was driven from pillar to post and might retaliate only at the risk of losing his life. Under the present arrangement friction is avoided and over-grazing is prevented. Each herd of cattle or flock of sheep is assigned to a particular area. Previous use of the range is ground for consideration but preference is always given to settlers—those who are making homes and helping to develop the country on a permanent basis. A moderate charge is made for the grazing privilege but the improved condition of the range and stockman commensurate with it and stockmen in general are well pleased with the change. More than a million cattle and upwards of six millions sheep and goats were grazed in the reservation last year.

Of the three major products of the forest—wood, coal and water—power, the last is by far the most important. We can

pinch do without wood for a great many purposes to which we now put it and we have the Canadian stores of timber to draw upon. Our stock is in no danger of suffering from insufficient food supply, though the cost of raising it may be substantially enhanced if our grasslands are neglected. But our water we must conserve or the most serious consequences will be entailed upon us. This is one of the most compelling considerations in our forest policy. Few persons have an adequate conception of it and it is carefully avoided in the sophistical discussions of the opponents of that policy, who view with dismay the setting apart of public lands for the use of the people.

Down the mountain slopes that lie within the forest reserves run many streams upon whose flow towns depend for their water supply. Half a hundred large settlements for the irrigation without which their lands would be untenable. Let these slopes be deforested and their melted snows and rainfalls would be dissipated or run off rapidly through over-charged channels. The geological survey has made comparative measurements of stream discharge from forested and unforested basins, alike in all other respects. The results show that the former condition, sudden floods followed by low water; under the latter, a relatively equalized flow. If the Adirondacks forests should be suddenly wiped out, half a hundred large towns and cities would become uninhabitable for lack of water.

Our Western States can not afford to overlook this consideration which is so intimately connected with its prospects of prosperity. The colossal work of the Reclamation Service is largely dependent upon it and could not have been undertaken without the assurance that the present only two scanty sources of water supply in the semi-arid states would be permanently guarded against injury. The recent millions of acres of land in the West, harbor a population larger than that of the nation at present. Great centers will spring up needing water for power, light, and domestic purposes. It would

be nothing short of suicidal to curtail a supply that can not, at the best, be equal to the demands which must ultimately be made upon it. The matter also touches the urgent question of transportation. We are turning to internal waterways as a relief from the hopeless congestion of our railroad systems and the next generation will witness a wonderful development in this direction.

This question of water supply in its relation to forests is bringing into constant increasing prominence the advisability of the Government securing control by purchase of certain extensive areas in the east where there are no public lands in the possession of the United States. In European countries the necessity of the central government owning and managing timberlands has been recognized and acted upon. With us the urgency is even greater, for our system involves unusual complications. For example, in parts of the Southern Appalachians and the White Mountains, the most serious effects of forest destruction fall upon states other than

those in which the damage is done. We have not yet arrived at the stage of altruism in which one state will refrain from an operation involving profit to itself on account of a coincident injury to some other state. The only remedy is central control and that we are in a fair way of bringing about.

The forest policy contemplates turning the land to the best account and devoting it to the best purpose to which it is adapted. The guiding principle of the administration, as laid down by congress, is that the reserves shall exist only "to improve and protect the forest within the reservation, or for the purpose of securing favorable conditions of water flows, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States; but it is not the purpose or intent of these provisions, or of the act providing for such reservations, to authorize the inclusion therein of lands more valuable for the mineral therein, or for agricultural purposes, than for forest purposes. This is a point about which wide

spread misunderstanding has existed.

The policy of the forest service contemplates before everything the promotion of local interests, and these are jealously guarded against the aggression of corporate or moneyed interests. The "free use privilege" is granted liberally to settlers, farmers, prospectors, and others engaged in enterprises calculated to build up new country. It is also extended to school and road districts, churches, and co-operative organizations of settlers designed to carry out improvements, such as the construction of bridges, ditches, reservoirs, etc., for mutual or public benefit.

The talent and experience of the service are at the command of private individuals and corporations desiring to prosecute operations related to forestry. Any one wishing to set out a plantation or intelligently treat existing woodland may secure advice and assistance. The office of forest products—a branch of the bureau—is engaged in experiments and in disseminating information as to the seasonable and preservative treatment of timber, the strength, mechanical qualities, commercial uses, of wood. It is also making researches with a view to ascertaining the adaptability of lumber to new purposes and of discovering new properties in it. This work is mainly pursued in conjunction with corporations that are directly interested in the results. Thus improved methods of preserving crochets and telegraph poles have recently been discovered and put into practice. Similar studies in connection with various woods for paving material promise to effect the greatest economies for our large municipalities.

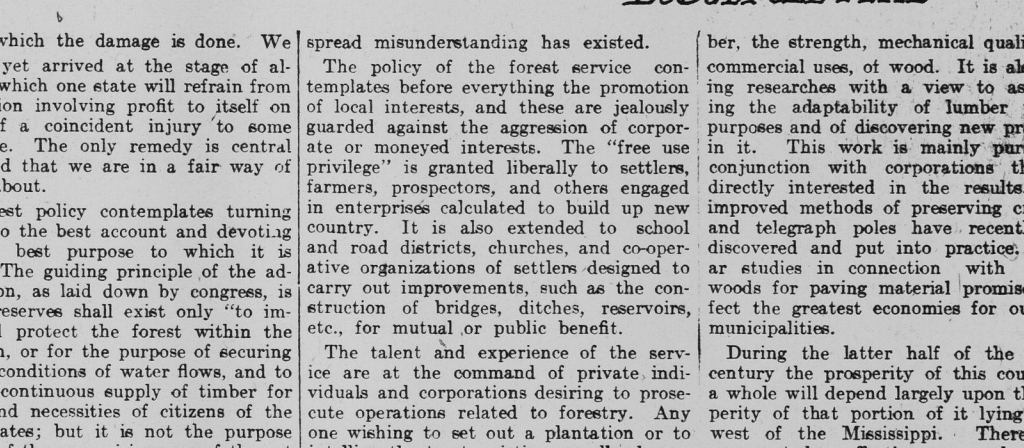
During the latter half of the present century the prosperity of this country as a whole will depend largely upon the prosperity of that portion of it lying to the west of the Mississippi. There is no agency today effecting so much for the future population of our Western States as the forest service unless it be the reclamation service and the two bureaus are working hand in hand with the same grand object in view.

OUR WOODLAND WEALTH

BY C. H. FOREST-LINDSAY



RANGER'S CABIN IN THE FOREST



WATERFED IN CALIFORNIA COVERED WITH LODGEPOLE PINE

A SPLENDID HOME RECIPE

Relieves Rheumatism and Any-one Can Easily Mix It at Home by Shaking Ingredients in Bottle.

Cut this out and put in some safe place, for it is valuable and worth more than anything else in the world if you should have an attack of rheumatism or bladder trouble or any derangement of the kidneys whatever.

The prescription is simple and can be made up by anyone at home. The ingredients can be had at any good prescription pharmacy and all that is necessary is to shake them well in a bottle.

Here it is: Fluid extract dandelion, one-half ounce; compound kumquat, one ounce; compound syrup of sarsaparilla, three ounces.

Take a teaspoonful after each meal and at bedtime. A few doses is said to relieve almost any case of bladder trouble, frequent urination, pain above the kidneys, etc. It is now claimed to be the method of curing chronic rheumatism, because of its direct and positive action upon the eliminative tissues of the kidneys. It cleanses these sponge-like organs and gives them life and power to sift and strain the poisonous waste matter and uric acid from the blood, relieving the worst forms of Rheumatism and kidney and bladder troubles. The extract dandelion acts upon the stomach and liver and is used also extensively for relieving constipation and indigestion. Compound sarsaparilla cleans and enriches the blood.

As you or anyone of your family, especially the old folks, may be attacked at any time it would be wise to cut this out and save it.

A well-known druggist is authority that this prescription is safe to use at any time. Mix it yourself.

NO SKYSCRAPERS FOR THE CAPITAL

Ottawa, Oct. 4.—If possible the skyscraper is to be kept out of Ottawa. There is reason to believe that no building higher than seven stories will be built in Ottawa. At least not if the influence of Sir Wilfrid Laurier can prevail. When the Grand Trunk plans for the new station were filed with the government recently, they showed twelve stories. Ten stories above the line of Sappers bridge and two stories below. Mr. Wainwright said that the building would be ten instead of 12 stories as the government insisted on the building being two stories less in height, and intimated that Sir Wilfrid had a strong objection to skyscrapers.

Sir Wilfrid, it is understood, objects to tall buildings, partly because they mar the artistic appearance of the city and consequently would not be in keeping with the government's general policy as regards making this the "Washington of the North" and partly because of the danger of fire.

At a meeting of the slaughter house commission yesterday the last year \$9,000 had been paid to five officials. He took up the school question, pointing out that fifty cents was being paid in some cases for thirteen cents books and showed how in Ontario their condition was formerly the same as here. School books are now being sold for fifty per cent less, and this was due to

J. D. HAZEN CALLS THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT A KINDERGARTEN

Opposition Leader Speaking at Alma Says Premier Robinson is Bawling Portfolio of Attorney General Among His Legal Friends --- J. K. Flemming Also a Speaker.

Alma, N. B., Oct. 4.—The opposition meeting at Alma last night was a most pronounced success, the hall was crowded to the doors with an attentive and enthusiastic audience and the chair was occupied by Councillor Rommel, W. B. Dickson, the first speaker, was well received, but spoke briefly, saying he wished to give all the time to the other speakers.

Mr. Hazen found fault with the government for the way in which the important office of attorney-general was being hawked around among the legal profession and being refused by men who would not undertake the herculean task of attempting to restore a discredited administration in public esteem. He contrasted the government with whom he first went to the legislature, composed of Emmerson, Tweedie, Pugsley and White, with the present administration and said its personality was so weak that when Mr. Pugsley resigned the leadership not a man in it was considered fit to be leader and that Mr. Robinson was called in. He had taken no part in the activities of the house and could find no man in the government ranks in the legislature who he considered fit for the attorney-generalship. He was relying on Mr. Pugsley to extricate from the present trouble and that gentleman was at present in consultation with him in St. John. No doubt when Mr. Pugsley decided what to do, Mr. Robinson would make an announcement of his intentions.

Mr. Hazen strongly condemned the policy of New Brunswick with its limited resources entering upon a policy of railroad ownership and management and stated that last year the province guaranteed the bonds of N. B. Central & Coal Railroad to the extent of \$70,000 to pay the interest on the bonds already guaranteed. This was a piece of financial imprudence worthy of the pen of Thomas W. Lawson.

He contrasted the debt and interest charges in the year when the present government came in power with their position today. He also discussed the highway act, and other acts of the government. From first to last he was listened to with the closest attention and his reference to the present government as belonging to the kindergarten class was heartily applauded.

J. K. Flemming, M. P. P., who appeared before an Albert county audience for the first time, made a splendid impression. He pointed out how lamentably the government's agricultural policy had failed to produce results and the falling off which had occurred in wheat raising and cheese products. Of the \$26,000 voted for agricultural purposes, \$20,000 had been paid to five officials. He took up the school question, pointing out that fifty cents was being paid in some cases for thirteen cents books and showed how in Ontario their condition was formerly the same as here. School books are now being sold for fifty per cent less, and this was due to

the action of the Whitney government in breaking up the school book ring there. But though the opposition has frequently called the government's attention to this state of affairs in New Brunswick nothing has been done to reform them. Something might possibly be done both with this and the highway act now that the elections are approaching, but the people of New Brunswick have little faith in death.

Mr. Flemming took up Mr. Pugsley's St. John interview, and in doing so said he would have been surprised at it coming from anyone else, but he had long ceased to be surprised at anything that gentleman said or did. He showed how poorly Mr. Pugsley carried out his duties as a minister, that the finances were in good condition or that they were audited with care and regard to detail. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of accounts were paid without being submitted to the auditor-general and the public accounts committee last year. Mr. Pugsley's private telegrams had been charged to and paid by the province. This showed how careless the present system was.

Mr. Flemming paid a worthy tribute to his leader, who, he said, was regarded by followers in the house as the brightest, cleanest and best man in public life in the province.

Both speakers spoke very hopefully of the prospects for opposition success, Mr. Hazen saying that he considered his statement of some weeks ago that the opposition would carry heavy seats as a very moderate estimate and well within the mark.

FIELDING AND BRODEUR RETURN FROM EUROPE

Met at Quebec by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Colleagues.

Quebec, Oct. 4.—Hon. Messrs. Fielding and Brodeur landed from the steamer Victorian at 2 p. m. and were met by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Premier Gouin and his colleagues.

Napoleon Brodeur and Mr. Fielding and members of their families were taken down the river by Captain Gouin, on board the Lady Grey, to meet the steamer. Rimouski, Oct. 4.—(Special)—Hon. L. P. Brodeur, minister of marine and fisheries, in the course of an interview during the brief stay here in the Victorian, said that the attention of all classes of people was turned toward Canada. "Our financial situation inspired great confidence in the markets of Germany, Russia, Austria. Formerly the great European countries did not find our native products quoted on the market, but this has been changed."

Mr. Brodeur said the greeting he had met with in France had been cordial.

Society at Hot Springs, Virginia's Popular Resort.



THE CLUB HOUSE, DORING, TENNIS, ETC.

HOT SPRINGS, Va., Oct. 5.—For several days it has been necessary to attach extra cars to the regular train for this resort as travel has turned in this direction most decidedly. By leaving New

York at five o'clock in the afternoon the traveller is here in time for breakfast without change. The cars are evidently intended for persons of luxurious tastes, as they are composed entirely of private

drawing rooms.

At Covington, twenty-five miles south of here, the Hot Springs cars are taken off the Chesapeake and Ohio train and pulled up the mountain by two engines. The

scenery from Gordonsville, Va., to Hot Springs is beautiful, much of it being historical. Monticello, the old homestead of Thomas Jefferson, can be seen from the train on the daylight journey.

WHERE DOES THE PAPER GO?

The first question asked by a general advertiser. The Telegraph and Times reach that class of people who subscribe and agree to pay for the reading privilege. These papers go first hand from the publishers by carrier and not through street boys to be left in office or store by purchaser after reading. Common sense teaches that every paper passed into homes direct will be read. The Telegraph and Times are home papers. Do they contain your advertisement?

