

annual growth of 4 per cent, the annual growth on the licensed Crown lands would thus amount to 8,960,000 cords. Using the same basis of computation the entire Crown lands of Quebec, licensed and unlicensed, comprising 121,600,000 acres, would, at 5 cords per acre, contain a total stand of 608 million cords. At a growth rate of 4 per cent there would thus be a total annual production of 24,320,000 cords which, according to the statement referred to, could be cut and removed without reducing the size of the forest or its value to the province. It is further set forth that should Quebec consent to lift her restrictions on Crown land wood, licenses of the more remote limits would be purchased at large bonus prices per square mile, and a provincial Crown timber revenue of \$24,000,000 per year might be attained. It is argued also that labor in Quebec would share in the large expenditures that would be required to improve the rivers, build preparing plants and harvest the pulpwood in the enlarged operations.

The statement is also made that the same computation would apply with equal force to Ontario and New Brunswick, Quebec having been selected as the example on account of its proximity and its great forest wealth.

The further argument is advanced that, "it is a well-known fact that the cutting of the mature timber in a forest, thus opening the woodlands up to sun, light and air, promotes the growth of the standing trees." If all these assumptions are correct, the question may properly be asked why the extensive pulpwood areas in the Eastern States do not now contain a stand of 5 cords per acre, growing at the rate of 4 per cent per annum. The answer, of course, is that logging has been carried on in a destructive way, and fires have followed the logging operations, completely destroying the productive capacity of the land over vast areas, and greatly reducing it on a large proportion of the remainder.

The same conditions of destructive logging have, as a matter of fact, obtained in past years over very large areas of forest in Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick, and fires have here also taken their tolls and rendered great areas entirely or relatively barren. It is only during comparatively recent years that there has been any actual restriction upon methods of conducting logging operations in Quebec and New Brunswick, and there is even yet no such restriction in actual effect in Ontario. Not until about seven years ago was there any real beginning toward adequate fire protection in Quebec; in New Brunswick, there was no effective protection from fire previous to four years ago, and the work of forest protection was never