

# Conservation

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## Conference on Wild Life at Montreal

Discussions Relating to Fur Industry  
Principal Feature—Silver Foxes  
to Have National Register

Rarely has such a diversity of interests engaged in the exploitation of a single natural resource been assembled in conference as was represented at the recent Convention in Montreal to consider the conservation of Canada's resources in wild life and particularly in fur-bearing animals. The meeting was held under the joint auspices of the Commission of Conservation and the Advisory Board on Wild Life Protection. Every province of the Dominion was represented and the attendance included many of the provincial authorities in charge of the protection of wild life, as well as fur traders, dealers and manufacturers, trappers, fur farmers, and others commercially interested in Canada's fur resources. The discussions were of the most practical character, covering problems of production and marketing, and many important questions connected with the development of the comparatively new industry of fur farming as a definite branch of animal husbandry.

The remarkable advances in the prices of furs have induced such vigorous exploitation of wild fur-bearing animals that the utmost care is essential to prevent the commercial extinction of valuable species. At the same time, every effort should be made to increase Canada's fur production by the development of fur farming along sound, scientific lines. The conference achieved an exceedingly useful purpose in informing the various interests connected with the fur industry respecting the numerous problems that affect such interests beneficially or the reverse. The co-operation of these interests is a primary factor in maintaining our fur resources at the highest point of productivity consistent with their permanent retention.

The convention decided unanimously to establish a national registration of silver foxes and took the necessary steps toward initiating this important work. Such registration will not only very materially enhance the value of the registered stock, but will permit the entry into the United States free of duty of all registered foxes.

## Lumbermen Approve Forest Inventory

Work of the Commission of Conservation is Commended by Representatives of Lumber Industry

At the 12th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, held at Quebec on February 4 and 5 last, it was resolved: "That this Convention of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association, realizing as it does the great importance to Canada of the preservation and reproduction of the forest resources of this country, hereby endorses the work of the Commission of Conservation in conducting a survey of the forest resources of Canada and the investigation of the forest production, and that the Dominion Government be urged to provide the necessary facilities for the early completion of these investigations."

The work of making an inventory of the forest resources of Canada is a stupendous task, but it is already partially completed. It is very necessary to know what areas are unfit for clearing for agricultural purposes and should remain permanently devoted to raising trees. It is further necessary to know how large our potential forest wealth is and how fast it is being depleted, whether by cutting or by fire. The rate of reproduction has, of course, a vital relation to the question of replacing the original stand. Is the natural reproduction sufficient, or will artificial planting have to be resorted to, in order to perpetuate our forest resources? How long will be required for young growth to reach commercial size? Only careful research can answer these questions. They are too vital to our forest industries to be left to guesswork and, in view of their importance, it is not surprising that the men whose livelihood depends on the forest are urging the Dominion Government to give every support to the Commission of Conservation in its forestry work.

A committee was also appointed to initiate legislation forbidding the use of false or misleading names of furs. Such legislation will protect the purchasers of furs from dishonest dealers.

## Anti-tuberculosis Campaign in Canada

Institutional Accommodation Insufficient—Work for Tuberculous Soldiers

The Nineteenth Annual Report of the Secretary of the Canadian Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis tells of a widespread effort throughout the Dominion on the part of provincial and municipal health authorities in the educational campaign.

The report indicates that the capacity of the institutional accommodation for the tuberculous is 3,500 beds, but it points out that the increase is due largely to the provision made during the past year for tuberculous soldiers. Apart from the work done by the Dominion Government, there is little ground for congratulation in respect to this particular and important feature of the work, as the report states that "only about fifteen per cent of the tuberculous in Canada can now be accommodated in sanatoria and every bed available is much needed and many more are still required." The secretary emphasizes, however, the important fact that the great majority of patients will always be treated in their homes and therefore he points out that the visiting nurse is necessary and essential.

The Department of Soldiers' Civil Re-establishment is caring for 1,660 patients in sanatoria, many of whom are acquiring vocational training. The patients are divided into three classes, namely:

- Bed cases, suffering from the disease in acute stages and who remain in bed until their temperature is practically normal.
- Porch cases, who go to meals three times a day and rest in chairs in the fresh air.
- Exercise cases, who commence by taking a fifteen-minute walking exercise daily, gradually increasing to two hours morning and afternoon.

It is interesting to note that patients in class "A" sometimes undertake light work such as lace-making, drawing, weaving, etc., while class "B" do more of this same class of work, and as their strength increases, go on to heavier work. The more extended vocational training is taken up by class "C" who are prepared for it by suitable physical exercises.

## Forest Revenue Increased in N.B.

Reorganization of Forest Service Splendidly Vindicated by Results Attained

The forest revenues of New Brunswick have more than doubled during the past year. It is estimated that the total will amount to about \$1,500,000. This is nearly three times the forest revenue for 1917 and closely approximates the forest revenue of Quebec. It falls only a few hundred thousand dollars short of the forest revenue of Ontario. This is on a cut of some 343 million feet of logs, ties, poles and pulpwood, supplemented by some minor sources of revenue.

The province of New Brunswick has achieved this highly satisfactory result by a thorough reorganization of its forest service. This is now administered by an Advisory Board consisting of three representatives of the Provincial Government of the timber owners. Patronage has been eliminated and efficiency and economy have been furthered by making the one organization responsible for the various lines of forest work, including fire protection, enforcement of cutting regulations and timber sealing. The staff employed consists of full-time men, who work for the Government only. Hence the sealing has been much closer, and this fact, together with a higher royalty and perhaps a slightly increased total cut, has brought about the immense increase in revenue and thoroughly vindicated the Government's progressive forest policy.

The arts and crafts work includes basketry, carving, art metal work, picture-frame making, engraving, clay modelling and designing. The whole of this work, as well as that of general education, is looked upon as of the nature of occupational therapy and the results, as we have seen, are very satisfactory.

The outstanding features of the year's work are in the province of Quebec, where the Laval Hospital at St. Foye was erected at a cost of \$250,000, and in British Columbia, where a dispensary, financed by the Rotary Club of Vancouver, has been established, to be known as the Institute for Diseases of the Chest.—C. A. Hodgetts