

farmers get the wood they need, where will they work in the winter months, how will our mineral resources be developed without wood? We must protect our forests from fire and we must manage them for a continuous yield. New industries are good but they must not be developed beyond a point where the supply of raw material ceases to be sufficient. The first essential is an accurate estimate of the total supply of wood and the total amount growing each year. When this is ascertained the consumption must be fitted to the annual production. It is only a question of time until this will be absolutely necessary and the Province which first has the courage to take the bull by the horns and handle its forest resources rationally will do most to stabilize its wood using industries and to perpetuate its prosperity. If this is not done, the time will inevitably come in eastern Canada when the forests will begin to dwindle and the industries to decline and we to take their place. We have only to look at sections of the United States which were once thriving communities and are now abandoned, for proof of this. We have only to see the situation of the news print industry in the United States and to hear its cry that its raw material is nearly exhausted and that they must have Canadian wood in order to exist to know the truth of my statement. The Canadian pulp and paper industry realizes this and has come to realize it through a careful stock-taking of its timberlands. See how many of the large companies are beginning to reforest artificially!

#### CHANGED WOODS METHODS.

But, and here is a very important query, why do they not change their methods of logging, why do they not utilize more of the wood that is wasted? In not a country in the world is natural regeneration so easy and so certain as in Eastern Canada and it is absolutely necessary that natural and artificial reforestation should go hand in hand. The reason that no attention is being paid to natural regenera-

tion or to better methods of logging, is that operators wish to keep down their logging costs, and the manager of woodlands operations is judged on no other basis than the price at which he delivers his logs. He makes his logs and delivers them as cheaply as possible and no one can blame him. The history of logging has been that it has followed the line of least resistance. Only the best timber was marketable, only cheap wood could go into paper in the early days or concerns would have been bankrupted. The most accessible timber was logged first, river banks and lake shores were cut clean, then the easily drivable streams. Logging was contracted because it could be done cheaper by a small contractor and required no capital outlay for logging gear and so forth. The waste by these jobbers has been enormous. They have taken the best of the timber and left that which was difficult to get out and now this timber is scattered and difficult of access and the price of getting it out would be almost ruinous. Everyone is looking for new bodies of timber to log cheaply.

#### PRICES AND FOREST METHODS

Now while prices are good, when there is a market for all kinds of wood, is the time to make a radical change in the management of our forests and in the methods of exploiting them. We must begin to manage for a sustained yield and most of the large paper companies are carrying on experiments looking to this end. Different methods of cutting have been tried and the results are being studied. Such methods have been carefully worked out in Europe and have the sanction of experience. Here it will take years to develop the best methods but we know enough to begin and a beginning should be made at once.

#### NO BLANKET SYSTEM

Let it be stated most emphatically that there is no one method for handling Canadian forests. That is the great mistake which our Provincial