

now, that the lumbermen of the country are monopolists—that the young men of the country are being driven out by reason of the fact that lumbermen hold all the lands and land for settlement cannot be obtained—that the smaller operator cannot compete with his richer neighbor. If heed is given to these cries, nothing will be effected and the result can only prove disastrous to the interests of the province in the years to come. The public domain of the province belongs to its people, not to any one class, and until public opinion is aroused to the importance and necessity for its immediate protection, the destruction and waste which has been carried on in the past will still continue. It is not only those who are engaged in the lumber industry that are interested—everyone in the province has a vital interest in these lands—the merchant, the agriculturist, the professional man, the mechanic, the laborer, and all others, and not only the present generation, but future generations.

“I have always been of the opinion that when the Crown licenses its timber lands the licensee is entitled to have these lands properly surveyed and the boundaries of each block marked. Past experience in making surveys has proved that very often there is more land in the district surveyed than appeared by the plan and maps in the Crown land office. Some years ago surveys were made on the Tobique and in Restigouche County, and very much more valuable timber lands were found by actual survey than were known to exist. The result was that the extra lands produced, if not sufficient to pay the whole cost of survey, at least a considerable portion of it. Another strong reason for having these lands properly surveyed is that it is much easier for the lumber cruiser or scaler of the government to ascertain what quantity is actually cut upon Crown lands. Very frequently the claim is set up by the operator that a large portion has been cut on granted lands, and where these granted lands adjoin the licensed land of the government, and where the lines are obliterated, it is very difficult indeed for the scaler to properly estimate the quantity liable for stumpage, and in most of such cases the benefit of the doubt is given to the operator. It would also be much easier to enforce the regulations of the department relating to Crown lands.

“There are large quantities of land which will never arrive at a growth that will meet the requirements of the present regulations, namely—make an 18 ft. log 10 inches at the top. These lands are of a thick, stubby growth, and are to be found all over the country, but the quantity in proportion to first class lands is not known and is only a matter of conjecture. Now it is apparent that the Crown should be in possession of this knowledge, so that it might intelligently deal with the pulp wood