

bility of forming Scout troops who could be utilized, but there are boys galore whose services could be obtained. From information supplied to the writer by Colonel R. H. Palmer, of the Forestry Service in Edmonton, it is apparent that the bulk of the timber fires are traceable to the settlers. Where there are settlers there are boys. Why not use them?

The life of the average country boy is a colorless existence; outside his farm work he has no distractions or pleasures such as the town youth knows, but in common with his urban confrere he has

imagination. I would propose to put some color into his life, enthuse his imagination and make him of use to the forest. All boys delight in badges and decorations of all descriptions, they like titles, and when this is offered in conjunction with a sense of importance, he will go to the full length of his tether.

I would propose to establish a cult somewhat on the lines of the Boy Scout movement, calling it the Fire Patrol Corps, or some similar title, with various decorations for proficiency, in addition to some ornate badge of office or perhaps

uniform, and some prizes for the best record of each Patrol. In addition I would suggest that a correspondence be kept up with the various boys, addressing them by their official title, which would cause them to feel the true importance of their new responsibility.

Wherever there are fires there the boys will be, and I venture to say that in a good many cases the boy Fire Wardens would prevent fires getting away, and when they did would aid in notifying the proper authorities and assisting them to the limit. The duties would consist in preventing fires and spreading the gospel of fire protection through the medium of word of mouth in the schools. In respect to the latter I have found that verbal messages from boy to boy carry more weight than a multitude of printed notices; the latter are rarely read by the youth of to-day, but no comrade can ignore the forceful boy-to-boy talk. It is pungent, pointed and is enforced physically as well as mentally.

There are thousands of country boys whose life at present is a dreary round of the daily task. Brighten their colorless existence with an assortment of badges, medals and titular distinctions, and I will wage that the effort expended will result in large forest saving dividends.

THE WEALTH OF PATRICIA.

A few years ago a large part of what was called the North West Territories of Canada was divided between the provinces of Manitoba and Ontario, giving the latter province a shore line on Hudson's Bay of over 1,000 miles in length. To this new district of Ontario was given the name Patricia. During the last summer Dr. E. M. Burwash, of the University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, has been exploring part of the district, and at the Geological Section meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science held at Toronto recently, gave an account of his discoveries. Parts of this vast district give promise of containing important mineral areas. Its geology is much like that of other parts of Northern Ontario, which has become famous for its Porcupine, Cobalt and Sudbury.



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