

At the head waters of the Kokisilah river, I found a six-inch alder growing in the centre of a log shanty that I had slept in 25 years previously.

#### GARRY OAK (*Quercus garryana*)

This is the only species of oak in the Province. It is almost entirely indigenous to Vancouver Island. A few odd trees have been noted on the mainland. It is abundant in the immediate neighborhood of Victoria. It forms a few park-like groves on Saanich peninsula and in Cowichan and Comox districts; also a few trees at Quatsino and on the Gulf islands. It grows on dry, well-drained table lands, frequently rocky. It is a very slow growing tree, reaching occasionally four feet in diameter, with short trunk and broad spreading crown. Age limit is probably about 500 years. It is not sufficiently abundant to be of much commercial importance, although on account of its valuable properties should receive the forester's attention.

I have thus briefly sketched the character and occurrence of all our forest trees of special commercial importance. There are quite a number, of limited occurrence, which may be regarded more in the light of scientific interest, although having a certain value for special purposes, namely: Arbutus, Birch, several Willows, Black Spruce, Dogwood, White Bark Pine, Mountain Hemlock, \*Alpine Fir, Alpine Larch, Yew, Vine Maple, Cherry, Crab-apple, Balm of Giliad, Juniper, Ash, Elderberry and Bearberry, and possibly several others.

It will now be in order to take a summary view of the relative extent of the forest lands of the whole Province. Some writers have, in glowing terms, dwelt upon the vast and unlimited extent of our forest wealth, so that the general public have, I think, erroneous impressions regarding our timber resources.

It is high time that we should look the actual facts full in the face, and not be carried away by inflated notions.

I beg to state that the timber resources of British Columbia are comparatively limited. In comparison with the vast