

Forestry.

The recent forestry convention held in Fredericton served to show the interest that is felt in New Brunswick concerning the care and preservation of its trees. Not only was there a large gathering of the representative men of the province, but men well versed in the science of forestry from Eastern Canada, and experts from Harvard and Yale were present to discuss the more technical aspects of the question. The members of the provincial parliament showed an intelligent interest in the proceedings. The legislature was adjourned, and the legislative chamber was occupied by the members of the convention during the two days that their important deliberations continued.

A hopeful feature of the convention was the evident interest felt in the education of those who are in future to have the care and control of the forests. As one expressed it, to make foresters you must catch them while they are young. Chancellor Jones of the University of New Brunswick outlined a course which might, with little change in existing conditions, and with little additional expense, provide a suitable education for those who have the science of forestry in view. In brief, a thorough course of engineering would be provided for during the first two years of a student's life at the University, and during the last two years special instruction could be given in forestry. During the course of these students subjects which are more intimately connected with forestry, such as botany, chemistry, surveying and related studies would receive more special attention.

It was urged by one of the speakers that the sons of lumbermen and others who may not desire to take a full course should have the privilege of taking a shorter course; and no doubt provisions may be made for this, especially if the lumbermen of New Brunswick will contribute towards an endowment for this purpose. At Yale University a request similar to the one noted above was made by lumbermen, and the answer was returned that if they provided for it such a course would be established. The lumbermen promptly made a gift of \$150,000. There is wealth and public spirit enough among the lumbermen of New Brunswick to respond just as readily to a call upon them to endow a chair of forestry in the New Brunswick University, or at least to provide for an endowment covering a special course.

Dr. J. R. Inch, Chief Superintendent of Education, in dwelling upon the relation of forestry to our public schools, spoke of the advantage of nature-studies, and the observance of Arbor day in promoting an interest in and respect for trees among children.

Mr. T. B. Kidner, director of manual training, in his illustrative talk about trees and other plants, pointed out what the manual training schools are capable of doing in this direction. The collection of woods and drawings aroused much interest and attention among those present.

It is confidently expected that this convention, the direct result of which is the formation of a provincial forestry association, will do much good in directing attention to the need of better methods in lumbering and the care of forests in New Brunswick. No country in the world is better adapted in its natural condition for the growth of trees than New Brunswick, and the preservation of its forests should be one of the first duties of its government and people.

Free — "The Dictionary Habit."

The publishers of Webster's International Dictionary have just issued a handsome thirty-two page booklet on the use of the dictionary. Sherwin Cody, well-known as a writer and authority on English grammar and composition, is the author. The booklet contains seven lessons for systematically acquiring the dictionary habit. While it is primarily intended for teachers and school principals, the general reader will find much of interest and value. A copy will be sent, gratis, to anyone who addresses the firm, G. & C. Merriam Company, Springfield, Mass. Write to-day. The teacher will find it one of the greatest aids in getting pupils to do profitable work for themselves.

Professor Lounsbury, discussing the question of simple English, said at Yale one afternoon: "There was a little boy who began to keep a diary. His first entry was: 'Got up this morning at 7 o'clock.' He showed the entry to his mother, and she, horror-stricken, said: 'Have you never been to school?' 'Got up,' indeed! Such an expression! Does the sun get up? No; it rises. And she scratched out 'Got up at 7,' and wrote 'Rose at 7' in its place. That night the boy, before retiring, ended the entry for the day with the sentence: 'Set at 9 o'clock.'"