

The diggings are usually twelve, fourteen or eighteen inches deep, depending on the character of the particular stratum of soil. In a large part of the Miramichi watershed, we get from eight to twelve inches of pure grey sand under possibly half an inch to one inch of partially decayed forest litter. Under such conditions we consider it useless going deeper because that grey sand makes the land unsuitable for agriculture. Where there are better soils, and a possibility of something below, we go to 14 or even 18 inches. Our field men give the character of the humus, forest litter and the first layer, three to four inches, whether sand or what it is, and so on down to plough depth. In this matter we have had cooperation with the Conservation Commission. Mr. F. C. Nunnick, of the Commission, and Mr. W. L. Graham, of the Dept. of Agriculture, brought back samples to Ottawa, had them analyzed and submitted a report to us. Their report corresponded exactly with our reports from the field.

That represents the laboratory work done on them, thus far, but, next year, we hope to get an agricultural expert to come down again, or, possibly, to employ an agricultural expert to go over certain of these sections to determine the real value of the land for farming purposes. At the same time we will try to have an agricultural expert go over and re-classify the land and determine any questions of doubt which arise in connection with our surveys.

DR. SHUTT: You have no means of distinguishing between clay loam, etc?

MR. CAVERHILL: Except by the one distinction between clay loams and sandy loams. The distinction is very arbitrary there.

Senator EDWARDS: Are you likely to undertake an investigation as to the advisability of converting a large amount of land in New Brunswick from attempted farming into forests?

MR. CAVERHILL: I am not in a position to answer that question.

MR. SNOWBALL: You say you took up the question of the cost of driving from certain localities to the mills. How do you get that information?

MR. CAVERHILL: We tried to get it from the lumbermen but we found them very conservative, and hard to get information from. In a few cases we have found out the number of men employed, and, knowing about the average rate of pay and the time for which the men were employed, we got close to the cost of the driving. The cost of driving, of course, depends on the season, and varies. The logging is different. The cost of logging is pretty generally fixed.