

Forestry Department

it will continue to expand. I was also very pleased to hear from him that it was the intention of the government to double the expenditure on research.

Apparently with regard to this bill we are all of one purpose this afternoon, although we may have different ideas as to the details in the administration of this new department. The forestry industry in Canada faces an urgent need for economy allied to efficiency. There is no question about that, in view of increasing world competition and the present situation with respect to our forest resources. I may say before passing on that I was disappointed with the meagre press reports of the previous debate on the resolution which preceded the introduction of this bill. I notice that quite frequently when it comes to the question of conservation or the question of the forest industry or subjects of that kind the press does not seem to use its imagination to the same extent as it does on other questions. There is very little glamour about this subject from the immediate point of view, but I do want to suggest to the press that there is a great wealth of material in connection with the forest industry in Canada, and I believe if they think more seriously about it a great opportunity for colour, too, in the reporting of what happens with respect to the development of our green gold resources.

The authority of the federal government and, therefore, its responsibility in forestry matters is limited, as we all know, to lands under its direct ownership or immediate control. Any other work, whether it is the result of plans to promote forest inventories or fire protection or anything else of that nature, must be the result of co-operation and agreement with the provinces. The provincial administrations, on the other hand have ownership and control of forest lands within their own boundaries, and upon them rests responsibility for the maintenance and improvement of those forests and their administration. Therefore the revenue from such lands goes directly to the treasuries of the provinces.

However, there are some aspects of the forest industry which come under the direct control of the federal government, as do other industries. Revenues to the federal treasury from various sources in this connection have been estimated in recent years, according to a brief presented to the committee on mines, forests and waters, to be in excess of \$200 million a year, so we are dealing with a very important subject as far as the Canadian people are concerned.

Since the debate on the resolution preceding the introduction of this bill I have received further evidence of the interest of

the forest industries and the Canadian forestry association, the Canadian lumbermen's association, the Canadian tree farmers' association and other groups across Canada in this measure, and all of them wholeheartedly support the principle and purposes of this bill. Of that I think there can be no question. That is shown by the unanimous support being given by all parties to the principle of this bill. I mention again—and I cannot resist this, you know—that this is something which members of this group urged former governments to do year after year.

I now wish to take this opportunity to deal particularly with the recommendations of the Canadian lumbermen's association. I do this because I have a fairly close association with the Canadian lumbermen's association, which represents over 800 sawmill operators in Canada only 200 of whom could be considered large operators. I want to quote very briefly from their brief before passing on. I think it was an excellent brief which they presented to the committee on mines, forests and waters.

This is a brief of June, 1958; the forest products research proposals of the Canadian lumbermen's association. They deal first of all with the revenue collected by the federal government and the amount spent on research in connection with forest resources. Here I would like to mention that when I was speaking during the debate on the resolution I happened to mention that about \$1 million was provided for research by the forest products division in this year's estimates. Apparently the minister misunderstood me. In reading the record afterward I saw that he was including the total research expenditures, which was absolutely correct. Anyway, they say in this brief:

It is apparent that the amount of money spent on forest products research should be increased to bring it more in line with the amount spent on agricultural research. The needs are equally as important and as pressing and, in fact, may be considered in many cases to be more so because a great deal of forest research must necessarily be of a long term nature.

Then they go on to say:

We are in complete agreement with the applied and fundamental research, publication and exhibit work now being carried out by the forest products laboratories of Canada but feel that the present services of the forest products laboratories of Canada would be greatly increased by the implementation of work in three main fields, as listed below, in addition to the extension and implementation of the research projects listed.

Not enough Canadians realize the excellent work which is being done by the forest products laboratories and the excellent staff we have in charge of those laboratories. I refer particularly, also, to the magazines and