



Evening Telegram

The Evening Telegram, Ltd.,
Proprietors.

All communications should be addressed to the Evening Telegram, Ltd., and not to individuals.

Thursday, August 30, 1923.

The Possibilities of Timber Reproduction in Newfoundland.

References have been frequently made during the past few weeks to the great asset which we possess in our forests, and we have criticized the policy which permits of the destruction of those forests by indiscriminate cutting, particularly for the purpose of export in its raw state.

Reassuring statements have been issued regarding second growth by persons who were supposed to speak with authority, but it is questionable whether their estimates were based so much on experience as prompted by personal interest.

In order to ascertain the views of an experienced woodsman who in company with others has spent some years studying our timber resources, and experimenting scientifically in reforestation, we obtained as full an account as possible of his observations and the conclusions arrived at, and they appear in another column of this issue. We feel confident that those who are interested in the future of the resources of the country will find there information which is educative, but which at the same time will not tend to reassure them of the wisdom of our forest policy.

We cannot too soon begin to revise the regulations which are in force to protect our supply of wood. It is not unlimited, far from it, and as the report indicates the new growth is very slow, and in connection with our spruce, it does not reproduce itself to the extent generally imagined.

The first matter that we have to decide is that the exigencies of the hour cannot be considered in this connection. Our legislators must be made to understand that they cannot barter away our rights and those of our children. Ample protection against the ravages of fire must be provided, and the selection of fire wardens must be made with careful consideration of their qualifications. Young and energetic men are best suited for this work, and there should be a proper system of supervision. Once a fire obtains a hold on a forest it is practically impossible to check it by human efforts, and the only safeguard is in preventive measures.

Here as in other directions our watchword must be Economy, but if we are determined to continue the policy of depletion, then in all conscience let us reap the benefit. It is a miserable course to adopt, but far better is it that our own people should reap the rich harvest obtained from the manufacture of our timber than that it should go to outsiders.

In almost every publication of the shipping lists appears the notice, "Bound outwards with a load of pit props," a considerable portion of which is cut on Crown land. How long are we going to remain mere hewers of wood? How long are we going to permit the undermining of our Fishing industry by the depletion of the timber supply? It is quite time

that we roused ourselves to the whole situation, and demanded a halt in this policy of destruction.

Silver Cliff Mining Co.

CAPITAL INCREASED TO \$100,000.

At the annual general meeting of the Silver Cliff Mining Co., Ltd., held in the Board of Trade Rooms on Tuesday a resolution was passed unanimously to increase the capital of the Company from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The increased capital will be used in the purchase of some machinery necessary for the extension of operations. The meeting was largely attended and great interest was taken in the proceedings. Mr. McKay, Managing Director of the mine, reported that machinery to turn out 5 tons of concentrates per day would be in operation by Sept. 15th. A report on the concentrates recently received from a firm in the United Kingdom he said was most satisfactory, and a ready market was assured for all that could be produced. The election of Directors resulted in the re-election of last year's Board from which the following officers were subsequently appointed:—

President—R. B. Job.
Vice-President and Managing Director—W. A. MacKay.
Secretary—Treas.—C. C. Duley.

Craig Day Celebration.

ODDFELLOWS OUTING AT SMITHVILLE.

With ideal weather conditions prevailing, the annual I.O.O.F. Craig Day Celebration, held at Smithville, proved very enjoyable. To provide for the convenience of the large number who attended, special busses were engaged. The committee in charge had their arrangements well organized, so that every minute passed pleasantly. During the afternoon a splendid programme of sports was run off. Following a bountiful repast served by the Misses Furlong, an enjoyable dance of 12 numbers was held. In the sports the tug of war between Atlantic and Colonial Lodges proved very exciting. After a hard tussle Colonial won out and received a beautiful silver cup. A ladies' race was well contested, Misses Tulk and Alcock coming out. In the final Miss Tulk won out and received a gold piece as prize. There were ten entrants in the one mile race. Way, of Exploits Lodge, winning in good time. The prize was a beautiful medal. In the half mile Way of Exploits Lodge again carried off the honors and a gold piece. The 100 yards dash, for which a prize of a gold piece was offered, was won by Wm. Gaulton. Three football matches were played as follows:—

1. Atlantic Lodge vs. Past Grands.
2. Colonial vs. Encampment No. 1.
3. Past Grands vs. Encampment.
4. Past Grands vs. Encampment.

Outing on Broad Cove Road.

The picnic organized by Mrs. E. Brennan and held yesterday at her farm on the Broad Cove Road, proved both a social and financial success. The affair was held for the purpose of raising funds for the extension of the local school. An enjoyable dance with which the day concluded added a considerable amount to the funds. Mrs. Brennan is deserving of the highest praise for her disinterested efforts and it is pleasing to remark the unequalled success which attended the function.

St. Andrew's Society Meeting.

WILL BID FAREWELL TO DEPARTING MEMBERS.

A special meeting of St. Andrew's Society is being held this evening for the purpose of bidding farewell to two prominent members Messrs. R. H. Tait and A. G. Gibb, who are leaving here on Saturday by S.S. Rosalind, for Boston, where they intend making their future homes. The Feildian Football team of which Major Tait has been a prominent member will be present at the meeting to join in the farewell festivities.

M.G. Band Concert to-night Bannerman Park, (weather permitting).

From Cape Race.

Special to Evening Telegram.

CAPE RACE, To-day. Wind south west, fresh weather, clear, a three-masted schooner, passed in and steamer London passed E. yesterday afternoon, the Rosalind at 6.30 and schooner Linda Parry arrived at 8 a.m. To-day, several unknown steamers also passed west this a.m.—Ber. 30.15; Ther. 60.

LeDrew's Express. Ring 690, he sure you get the right Number 690.—Aug. 27, 11 a.m. 1/2

Tragic Drowning.

HEROIC ATTEMPT MADE TO SAVE HERBERT PIKE FROM WATERY GRAVE.

A sad drowning accident occurred in the waters of Conception Bay near Chamberlain's Collars, yesterday afternoon, the victim being Mr. Herbert Pike, an employee of the Royal Stores Ltd. While swimming a long distance from the shore he either took a cramp or became suddenly chilled by the water and sank from view before a rescue party could reach him. The unfortunate victim was a member of the Royal Stores Swimming Club, whose members, including other employees of the firm, left the city by motor bus at 2.30 p.m., to spend the afternoon at Topsail. The party put up at Chamberlain's near the C.L.B. camping ground, and an enjoyable evening's reunion was being looked forward to by all. The Swimming Club, which has a membership of forty, including Pike, proceeded to the beach, while the remainder of the party engaged in some other form of amusement. The conditions for swimming were not ideal, as a heavy fog prevailed, while the wind was chilly. Pike, who was a very powerful swimmer, left his companions bathing near the shore, and started out to take a long distance swim, his object being centred on a boat anchored on the "Collar." His companions, who were rather amazed at his taking such a lengthy swim, warned him not to proceed too far, but the warning was unheeded; and he continued on. Pike's swimming abilities were watched with the closest attention by members of the Club and those from the shore. He reached the boat in the offing and after swimming completely around it, started shorewards. Suddenly those on the beach heard him to say ah, ah, which everyone, more or less, understood to mean that he had accomplished what he had set out to do. Others, however, decided it was a cry for help. Pike was then about 100 yards from the shore, apparently resting on his back, but disappeared from view now and again. In the meantime, Mr. Harold Macpherson, President of the Club who, partly dressed, together with Messrs. Scott and Morgan, rushed for a boat that lay on the beach, and having launched her, set out to row hurriedly to the drowning man's assistance. The boat was dry from lying in the sun, rapidly filling with water, soon capsized, and all were thrown into the water. Mr. Macpherson with his boots on, very pluckily swam the remainder of the distance to the place where Pike was last seen, while the two other men held on to the upturned boat, ready to offer any assistance required. Unfortunately for all Mr. Macpherson's plucky effort proved futile. He returned to the upturned boat and held on with his companions until a boat, which put off from the shore, came to their rescue and got them safely to land. All three were very much exhausted after their long stay in the chilly water. No sign, however, could be seen of Pike. The accident occurred about 4.30. A motor boat was then procured, when two men named George and Lloyd Fowler, with jiggers and other appliances on board, went out and made a search for the body, which was recovered in about two and a half fathoms. About one hour later, some 90 yards from the shore. Artificial Respiration was applied by Miss Lydia Miller, ex-V.A.D., with the assistance of Messrs. Alex. Feaver and Harold Rendell. Dr. Burden, who was staying at Manuels, was informed of the tragic happening and was quickly on the scene, but soon decided that life was extinct. After the sad tragedy had been made known, Mr. Harold Macpherson got in touch with Rev. E. C. Barr, who broke the sad news to the bereaved widow. The remains were taken in charge by Undertaker Carnell, and removed from Topsail to his mortuary rooms on Duckworth St., where the body was confined, and later conveyed to his late residence, McDougal Street. The deceased was employed in the Shipping Department, Royal Stores Ltd., for the past five years, where he was always held in the highest esteem by all co-workers. He was an ex-member of the C. L. B. an active member of the Old Comrades. He leaves to mourn a heart-broken widow and two children, the eldest being three and a half years old, to whom will go out the sympathy of the whole community.

As some old timer remarked, "all extremes are wrong" and I'm inclined to think that the solution lies in a course between the old "let nature take its course" stuff and the very scientific methods advocated by some of the more enthusiastic exponents of artificial reforestation. If you log to a diameter limit, and wait for results, you get blow-down and fir thickets. If you log clean and let nature take its course, you get almost pure fir—some day—perhaps. If you log clean and replace you so broke in a hurry. What to do? Suppose you log clean and then grab a time when weather conditions are just right, run a fire over your logged-off country, and look as if you may have given nature a bit of a boost. What you have done is to kill a lot of small trees that would have blown down in a few years, burnt the moss and humus, exposing the mineral soil and giving the spruce seed a chance to germinate; and destroyed the slash left by your logging operation, thereby greatly

reducing the fire risk. This method is still in the experimental stage, but seems to have possibilities. The main objection to it is that it must be handled by men who are dead sure of what they are doing, and, owing to the fact that burning can only be done thoroughly and safely on a few days in each year, cannot be properly looked after by any Government Department. On the other hand, owing to the danger of fire in inexperienced hands, general permission to do broadcast burning is unthinkable. A law that slash must be burnt would probably result in the destruction of most of our small remnant of timber in a few years. We are carrying out experiments along these lines and, so far, are quite satisfied with our progress.

I think that that's about all the information I can give you on reforestation in general. To quote a few figures, I have run into a very nice stand of about 50 year old spruce, reproduced on a burn, that averaged about 6 1/2" breast high and ran close to 20 cords per acre. The average merchantable stand in this country is probably from 30 to 130 years old, with a good deal of defect in trees over 100 years old. The limit of the period of economic growth is reached at the age of 30 to 40 years, after that age, the loss from decay is at least equal to the natural increment. As things are, I very much doubt that we could hope for a shorter logging cycle than 30 years, and, after a couple of cuttings, our local stands would be almost pure fir. If a good system of clean cutting and burning can be developed, I rather think that we might be able to log spruce on a 60 year cycle, but, as I mentioned before, burning is only in the early experimental stage, and it is a case where progress must be made slowly if it is to be at all sure. One had better not burn, which I should mention, is that if, after a place of country has been burned over and reproduction has commenced, another fire runs over the area before the new growth has reached the seed-bearing stage, good bye to all hope of timber on that area for ever. As I stated at the beginning of this article, my conclusions are not backed up by sufficient data to make them reliable. They are, however, considerably nearer the truth than those of some of our experts who talk about pulpwood in 30 years. I would make quite a large bet—if I had any chance of living long enough to collect—that the Three Mile Limit, logged this winter, will be of no value as a source of timber when a good many children now unborn will have died of old age. Sounds rather a cheerless thing to say, but it is backed by a few years' observation.

In my humble opinion (rendered worthless by the fact that I'm a logger and not a politician) if we are to have any timber at all in a generation or two, the following things are necessary:

1. Strict enforcement of the present fire protection laws, pending the introduction of a law with teeth in it. This law should bind the powers of fire wardens, restrict entry to the forests in time of fire risk, arrange for closer co-operation between the Government and Companies owning a timber limit, and, finally, have penalty clauses stiff enough to make the breach of the law a most unhealthy proceeding.
2. Preserve what is left of the Three Mile Limit.
3. Establish Forest Reserves by the confiscation of limits on which dues have not been paid, or which are otherwise illegally held. These reserves should, if possible, contain at least 10 p.c. of the timber stand of the country. A careful survey should be made of the timber on these areas by ordinary surveyors, but by forest rangers—and, of course, whereby the right to log certain parts of the limits could be sold at intervals, logging to be carried out on lines to be dictated by the Government. It seems that, after a few years, these reserves might be brought to yield a continued revenue, and at the same time, if logging was properly done, be a perpetual forest.
4. Prohibit the export of pulpwood and pit props in any form whatever. We have no raw wood to spare.

A Report.

ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF TIMBER REPRODUCTION IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

I have put in quite a little of my spare time for the last few years, trying to get together enough studies of trees and timber stands to plot curves that can be used in the calculation of probable increment and reproduction of local timber. You will realize that, in order to give the well and favorably known law of averages a chance to get in its work, a good many thousand observations must be made—and the making of them takes a lot of time. I am still shy a good many pages of notes, but my tables are reaching a point where they can be used for very rough calculations.

In very round figures, in an average local spruce stand (I mention spruce as it is the most valuable pulp species) you can be reasonably sure of a diameter increment of about one inch per decade in the dominant and co-dominant trees; that is, a six inch tree that is not badly shaded should be about seven inches in diameter in ten years. This is a rough average. To show you how rough it is, I may say that I have measured trees 43 years old and 11 inches in diameter breast high, and have struck others that showed a breast high diameter of 3 inches at 130 years.

On this basis, if you log to a five inch limit, (that is, cut nothing smaller than 5" DBH) you could reasonably expect to come back in fifty years and find the 5" trees you left behind grown to 10". You wouldn't, however. This is one of the cases in which five and five do not make ten. What you probably would find is a blowdown, and a mess of fir thickets, of no value for any purposes. This is due to the shallow root system of our local conifers, especially spruce. Although the original stand on the area in question might have been 30 p.c. spruce, it is very likely that the reproduction, after the trees left behind in logging have been wind-thrown, will be nearer 90 p.c. fir, due to the fact that spruce seed will not germinate in a bed of moss or humus, while fir will germinate almost anywhere. You have now done several things; first, you have left behind wood that, under a system of closer utilization, would have had a certain value; second, you have replaced a superior species by an inferior, that is, you have fir instead of spruce; third, you are faced with the prospect of an indefinite wait before the new stand can be cut over again, as fir has a stolid habit of forming thickets and showing practically no increment for years. These three points have been thoroughly proved in Newfoundland and elsewhere, so the possibility of a sustained yield of timber through selective logging seems to be knocked on the head.

With selective logging, which, in its simplest form, is cutting to a diameter limit, out of the running, the only method left is the closest possible utilization of the virgin stand followed by some system of reforestation. If we cut every tree that we can use off an area, and then wait for nature to repair the damage, we are sure to have a very long wait, with no certainty as to what the crop will be in the end, but a fair assurance that it will be nearly all fir—unless mixed with a large percentage of spruce, cannot be used on fast paper machines. On the other hand, if we try to restock by raising young stock in nurseries and transplanting in the logged-off areas, we are up against the necessity of tying up very large sums of money for long periods. In fact, no private corporation can, at present, tackle any scheme of artificial reforestation, and even the U.S. Government has only been able to practise this method on a very small scale for experimental purposes. Ellwood Wilson (Chief Forester for the Laurentide people) has estimated that an artificially planted forest of 250 square miles will support a 100 ton paper mill for ever, beginning fifty years from date of planting. This is pure theory, of course, but think of the cost of planting an area of this size, and of the loss through an unproductive investment of this amount for such a long time.

As some old timer remarked, "all extremes are wrong" and I'm inclined to think that the solution lies in a course between the old "let nature take its course" stuff and the very scientific methods advocated by some of the more enthusiastic exponents of artificial reforestation. If you log to a diameter limit, and wait for results, you get blow-down and fir thickets. If you log clean and let nature take its course, you get almost pure fir—some day—perhaps. If you log clean and replace you so broke in a hurry. What to do? Suppose you log clean and then grab a time when weather conditions are just right, run a fire over your logged-off country, and look as if you may have given nature a bit of a boost. What you have done is to kill a lot of small trees that would have blown down in a few years, burnt the moss and humus, exposing the mineral soil and giving the spruce seed a chance to germinate; and destroyed the slash left by your logging operation, thereby greatly

Drowning Fatality at Botwood.

YOUNG MAN WELL OVERBOARD FROM MOTOR BOAT.

A message received this morning by the Deputy Minister of Justice from J. W. Alphin, J.P., at Botwood, states that a young man Rowe, son of Edward Rowe of Norris Arm, was drowned at Norris Arm by falling overboard from a motor boat. The latter was on its way to Fogo and the tragedy happened when about opposite Mill Point, Botwood.

Watchful Sails North on Monday Next.

U.S. Watchful is now moored at Bowring Bros. north side premises, where she is being placed in readiness to make a trip north as far as Hamilton Inlet, Labrador, sailing from here on Monday next. Amongst those who will take passage by her, will be the Northern Circuit Court party, presided over by Chief Justice Sir William Horwood. Mr. P. K. Summers, the Deputy Minister of Justice, will also go.

Express Passengers.

The Kyle arrived at Port aux Basques at 8.30 a.m. yesterday bringing the following first class passengers who are on the express due at 8 p.m. to-day:—A. Chaulk, B. Seeds, S. Paragon, J. Pike, T. S. Horner, W. A. Chery, and son, Miss F. Wilson, Mrs. G. Tulk, L. Coleman, W. G. Tupper, Mrs. W. H. Pike, J. S. McFarlane, E. Kirker, Mrs. B. Carroll, J. Burst, E. Lavigne, J. D. Hillmore, Mrs. C. Madore, J. and Mrs. McLeod, R. and Mrs. Feneaux, Miss M. Petrie, E. Moore.

Disorderly Conduct.

Residents of Colonial Street are complaining of the disorderly conduct of a number of boys who congregate nightly in College Square. Windows have been broken, fences torn down and gardens destroyed by these boys. An occasional visit by a police officer is requested so that an end may be put to the annoyance.

Shipping.

Schr. Bartram arrived at North Sydney yesterday from Oporto, all well, according to a message received by Messrs. Earle & Sons.

Schr. Alan P. Ross has arrived at Bay Roberts, coal laden, from Sydney.

S.S. Roxbury has cleared from Botwood, having on board 2,000 cords of pit props. The ship is bound to Cardiff.

S.S. Heckla, now discharging coal at Bowring's, will load fish at Crosbie's for the Mediterranean.

Schr. Ivanhoe, owned by Captain Butt, of Flat Islands, B.B., which went ashore near Grady during a recent gale, has been towed to Batteau by S.S. Watchful.

Schr. Benovolence, formerly the Jean Campbell, will shortly be docked at general wharves after which she will load fish for market. Capt. Rockwood has been appointed to command the vessel replacing Capt. Lahey, who has taken a position on shore.

S.S. Sebastopol, with the Western Circuit Court on board, is due to arrive here on Monday next.

FINE MUD TROUT.—In addition to its other attractions Topsail offers many inducements to the followers of Isaac Walton. On Monday last Mrs. W. P. Ayward, of the city, secured 5 splendid mud trout weighing about 1 lb. each in one of the ponds situated not far from the station.

LONDON DIRECTORY With Provincial & Foreign Sections and Trade Headings in Five Languages

enables traders to communicate direct with MANUFACTURERS & DEALERS in London and in the Provincial Towns and Industrial Centres of the United Kingdom and Ireland, the Continent of Europe, America, etc. The book contains over 250,000 names, addresses and other details classified under more than 2,000 trade headings, including:

EXPORT MERCHANTS with detailed particulars of the Goods shipped and the Colonial and Foreign Markets supplied;

STEAMSHIP LINES arranged under the Ports to which they sail, and indicating the approximate Sailings.

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DEALERS SEEKING AGENCIES can be printed at a cost of 8 dollars for each trade heading under which they are inserted. Large advertisements from 10 to 30 dollars.

The directory is invaluable to every one interested in overseas commerce, and a copy will be sent by parcel post for 10 dols. net cash with order.

THE LONDON DIRECTORY CO. LTD. 25 Abchurch Lane, London, E.C. 4, England.

Business Established in 1814.

TO-DAY'S MESSAGES.

GOVERNOR PINCHOT SUBMITS TERMS OF SETTLEMENT TO ANTHRACITE MINERS.

HARRISBURG, PA., Aug. 30. Governor Pinchot to-night submitted to the representatives of the anthracite miners and operators in joint conference the proposed basis of settlement, providing for a two per cent. increase in pay, recognition of an eight hour day as the basic scheme for working, and full recognition of the union without check-off system but with the right to have a union representative present when men are being paid. The increase in pay would commence September 1st. John L. Lewis, International President, has called a meeting for ten to-morrow morning to consider.

SALMON FISHING SEASON EXTENDED IN NEW BRUNSWICK.

OTTAWA, Aug. 30. The angling season for salmon in New Brunswick has been extended until September 30th, instead of August 31st, as usual. This applies to all waters except those of Restigouche River.

ITALY SENDS GREECE AN ULMATUM.

ATHENS, Aug. 30. The Italian Government has given Greece an ultimatum that an answer must be forthcoming in twenty-four hours to the Note demanding that Greece pay an indemnity of fifty thousand lire, salute the Italian fleet, and punish Greeks responsible for the murder of five Italian members of the Greco Albanian Boundary Commission. Premier Gonatas told the newspapermen all demands were not acceptable, but an answer will be given within the limited time.

MAYFLOWER UNABLE TO COMPLETE RACES.

GLoucester, Aug. 30. The Gloucester schooner Mayflower lost another opportunity to show speed in the race when it was found that her huge cargo of fish cannot be unloaded and the schooner prepared in time for the postponed Lipton Prentiss Trophy Competition to-morrow, of Gloucester. In connection with the ter-centenary celebration three schooners Elizabeth Howard, Henry Ford and Shamrock are ready for the contest which is set for ten o'clock.

DEATH OF A PRINCESS.

LONDON, Aug. 30. Princess Anastasia, of Greece, died peacefully at eleven-fifty-five this evening without regaining consciousness. She was formerly Annie May Stewart, daughter of an Ohio banker. She married William B. Leeds, a tin plate king, who died eight years later leaving forty million dollars to his widow and son, William, Junior, who married Princess Xenia, of Russia, niece of Constantine of Greece.

VESSEL BREAKS LOOSE IN LA-CHINE CANAL.

MONTREAL, Aug. 30. On account of the wall of water released by the breaking of the upper gates of Lock No. 1, of Lachine Canal, the steamer John B. Keetchum crashed through the lower gates of the Lock and averted a collision with a passenger liner and other vessels by hurriedly dropping anchor. The lower gates of the Lock were carried away and hurled into the harbor, while the upper gates were left broken and useless. The John B. Keetchum sustained minor injuries.

BODIES OF ALPINE CLIMBERS RECOVERED.

JUNGFRAU, JOCH, Switzerland, Aug. 30. The bodies of Sir Hubert Hayden and two guides who left Lauterbrunnen, on August 10, for an excursion upon Jungfrau, were found yesterday on the west base of the precipice. Sir Hubert was a director of geological survey in India and during his career did extensive geological work and also wrote on researches.

THE CHESTER CONCESSION CONFIRMED.

NEW YORK, Aug. 30. The famous Chester concessions in Turkey will soon be in the control of Canadian business men, it was officially learned yesterday. The concessions were granted to Rear Admiral Colby M. Chester, United States Navy, retired. Charles Austin Bernard, Montreal business man and his associates will be required to meet certain obligations within the next ninety days to gain control of concessions.

GRAND MASTER RETURNED FOR SEVENTH TERM.

TORONTO, Aug. 30. The reelection for the seventh time of W. G. Farley, Toronto, as Supreme Grand Master of Loyal True Blues Association was the feature of the second day of the convention here. Truro, N.S., was selected for the convention next year.

IRISH ELECTION RETURNS.

DUBLIN, Aug. 30. Freeman's Journal makes the following tabulation of the latest election returns: Govt. Party, 30 seats; Republicans, 14; Labor, 8; Farmers, 5; Independents and Business candidates, 11.

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