

PUBLIC MUST PILOT FORESTRY POLICIES

Col. Henry S. Graves, head of the United States Forest Service, speaking at Boston on "The Need of Private Forestry," said:

"If the war emergency had come fifteen years later we would have had great embarrassment in obtaining the lumber needed for general construction. Four-fifths of the timber of the United States is in private hands and 97 per cent of our wood comes from that source. According to leaders of the southern pine industry the original supplies of southern pine in the south will be exhausted in ten years, and in five years not less than 3,000 mills will go out of existence. Pacific coast timber is already enter-

ing the eastern markets, and this means that the price of home grown timber has risen to a point making it possible to ship lumber 3,000 miles in competition with it."

Col. Graves said that in order to obtain good timber the state must direct the work of fire protection and enforce drastic fire laws. He believed that the public should provide a sane system of taxation and should co-operate in such economic problems as over-production of timber, problems of labor, technical questions relating to forestry and a variety of other industrial and technical matters that are encountered in carrying out in practice a systematic programme of forestry.

FORESTRY PROPAGANDA IN CANADA

At the invitation of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association Mr. Robson Black, Secretary of the Canadian Forestry Association, addressed a gathering of Americans on Canadian forestry problems and the methods of operation of the Canadian association. Great interest was displayed in the rapid progress of forest fire preventive work throughout the Dominion, and particularly in the success of educational work.

Mr. Black explained to his audience that unlike ordinary propaganda, the spokesman for forestry could not promise quick, tangible profit. People accustomed to political and commercial appeals, based upon immediate likelihood of gain were slow to take up cudgels for a cause that spoke of a social and national profit fifty or a hundred years hence. Yet, in a country where 90 per cent of the forest lands were owned and governed by the people and where timber operators were annual tenants, any advancement of state control of forest policies depended absolutely upon arousing the masses of citizens to their public privileges and responsibilities. The Canadian problem was, therefore, not quite the same as that of the average American state, where only a small fraction of the forest wealth had not been alienated and placed beyond public control.

The methods employed by the Canadian Forestry Association were explained in detail by the speaker, who claimed that one of the basic

reasons for success in forestry propaganda is to keep the organization free from any governmental or commercial affiliation. This allowed perfect liberty to carry on constructive agitation, which, at times, must run counter to governmental tradition, and perhaps displease certain commercial interests. Mr. Black described reforms in province after province of Canada due largely to educational campaigns.

The Forestry Association, he said, devoted the greater part of its attention to improvement of public policies and administration. At the same time, it initiated and carried out scores of educational enterprises aimed at securing the good-will and co-operation of the individuals responsible for setting forest fires. Scores of thousands of school children and teachers, settlers, railroad men, and other classes were reached year by year with attractive literature, and by motion pictures and special public speakers. This was a branch of work, said Mr. Black, which plays directly into the hands of practical rangers and their scheme of patrol, for it went far deeper than mere fear of the law and gained voluntarily what under no circumstances can be compelled by magistrates and fines.

Leaving out of consideration the overcutting caused by the war, the forests of Denmark yielded a net return varying from 3.9 per cent to 13.9 per cent, and averaging 7.7 per cent.