

XII.

Instruction in Agriculture.

The Government of Canada pays careful attention to agriculture, sending expert advice to the farmers through bulletins and by letter, when asked, and carrying on various farming experiments in different parts of the Dominion. This system is the most thorough of its kind. There is a Dominion Department

of Agriculture and there are also, in all the Provinces, Ministers or Secretaries of Agriculture, who look after the varied interests of the farming community.

AGRICULTURAL SCHOOLS.

In Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Manitoba there are special agricultural schools. Dairy schools have been established in most of the Provinces, and there are also many farmers' institutes; live stock, fruit growers', agricultural, and horticultural associations; and travelling dairies, all assisted by the several Provinces. Valuable practical experiments are carried on, and the results distributed in Government reports and special bulletins, to all who apply.

The largest agricultural school is the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph, Ontario, founded in 1874. It has a large staff of experts and gives a splendid course of training in all branches of agriculture. A short course lasts for two years, and is intended to prepare young men for life on the farm. A student may remain a third year and go up for the examination for the degree of Bachelor of the Science of Agriculture (B. S. A.). This admirable college is known throughout America and abroad.

EXPERIMENTAL FARMS.

The work done by the five Dominion experimental farms is of great value and interest. The central farm is located at Ottawa; two are in the Northwest (at Brandon and Indian Head); one at Agassiz, British Columbia; and one at Nappan, Nova Scotia. Specialists carry on experiments in all branches of agriculture, the results being published in bulletin form. During the last few years seeds and specimens have been sent out through the mails to about 200,000 farmers.

In addition there are held annually, in almost every part of Canada, agricultural fairs, at which the products grown by the farmer are shown, addresses are given, and prizes awarded. In fact, agricultural education is so thorough that Canadian in-

structors are sent for by foreign Governments and large farmers in various parts of the world, as for example, in the United States, South Africa, and Australia.

XIII.

Forests of Canada.

Some people in Europe think that forests still surround all the cities and farms of Canada, but this, of course, is not the case. All the settled portions are cleared of their timber almost as completely as in Europe. A great deal of wood has been used for building homes, for railways, for fuel, and for all kinds of manufactures, while millions of feet have been exported.

FOREST RESERVES.

Great reserves of unbroken forest in various portions of the Dominion have been set apart as national parks. Such are the Rocky Mountains Park on the Canadian Pacific Railway, 96 miles long and 46 miles

wide; the Yoho Park on the Pacific slope of the Rockies, 40 miles long and 15 miles wide; the Algonquin National Park, of 1,200,000 acres, in Central Ontario; Queen Victoria Park, of 154 acres, at Niagara Falls; and a large timber reserve in the Timiskaming district. In Northern Quebec

a tract of 1,620,000 acres in which a dozen or more rivers originate, has been set aside. These reserves are, of course, very small in comparison with the forest area still left.

FORESTS OF THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have each over four thousand square miles of forest. Along the coast the spruce and fir are chief trees, but in the higher uplands of the interior, hardwood trees, such as maple, beech, ash, and birch, are most numerous. There is also some spruce and pine. When the hard woods are cut down, spruce, balsam, birch, and tamarack grow up in their place. These forests enrich the soil, and when cleared, the land is suitable for stock raising and fruit growing.

Outside the Maritime Provinces there are three great forest belts in the Dominion: (1) the British Columbia belt; (2) the Southern timber belt; and (3) the Northern spruce belt.

FORESTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

The British Columbia forest belt extends 770 miles northward, and is from 200 to 300 miles wide. Owing to the mild climate a great number of different species thrive here, some of them attaining an enormous size. Here are found not only the valuable red fir or Oregon pine, but also the red and yellow cedar, the western spruce, white and yellow pine, the maple, and western oak. In the northern portion black and white spruce become more plentiful and constitute an extensive pulp wood range. British Columbia has the most valuable timber belt on the North American continent.



Roadway in a Timber District.



mbia.

Average size
of farms
acres
1901

252

Canada. Its
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lum, cherry,

is prevented
years ranch-
al crops out
in this Prov-
n the south



Y.

1900

1,442,566
267,078
91,741
73,790
17,328
955,946
635,988
170,187
61,830
299,717
1,092,555
1,649,741

\$33,491,978
\$5,467
\$27,287,065
\$6,204,313

Am.