

have dried up and disappeared with the forest, and sunburnt fields, once laden with luxuriant crops, scarcely render any return to the husbandman's toil. The climatic influence arising from these changed conditions, although not so marked as in inland countries, are altogether against us."

It is not strange that an island like Prince Edward with such a coast line should be a great loser by floods and freshets as the great woods which covered it are cut away. The loss to the fruit growers has been extensive, too, and if measures be not taken to repair the general removal of the forest, there may well be grave doubts entertained as to the island's future as a fruit country. This feature professional horticulturists have been quick to grasp, as will be seen by another excerpt from the same source.

"Writing to me last summer just before taking passage for Europe, Professor Macoun, whom we are all glad to have with us here to-day, said :

"'Whenever and wherever you can, preach the preservation of your woods. If the protection afforded by your fine woods is removed, I fear that fruit growing there will not be nearly so successful as it promises to be.' Nobody doubts the truth of this statement. But without a healthy public sentiment, an awakening to the knowledge and needs of the case, as well as proper action on the part of the government, what can be done? Prof. Macoun, no doubt, believes that our province will lose its adaptability for fruit raising, not only by the fact that the loss of the forest may bring adverse climatic conditions, but also because we must also protect our trees from the summer gales to mature good fruit, no matter how well they may do otherwise. This question of protection enters very largely into the economics of fruit-growing. The past year has demonstrated that, beyond the peradventure of a doubt. Ontario alone lost millions of

dollars by her storm-swept orchards, the other provinces were also heavy losers, and here those who had no proper windbreaks have lost their entire crop. I remember well asking an enterprising tree agent from New Brunswick, where proximity to the United States makes men veracious, if it wasn't necessary to get up a good windbreak in this country before attempting to grow apple trees. 'If our apple trees won't stand it out in the open I won't ask any man to plant them,' was his answer. They might stand it in the open, but stand is about all they would do. We want fruit—and to produce fruit in this country, apart from all other considerations, we must protect it, after it has formed on the trees. I have a windbreak on the N., N. E., and N. W., the exposed points of my situation, and while my neighbors' trees were swept early in August, I harvested my entire crop. The importance of forest protection to the fruit growers of the country cannot then be overestimated."

The Government which owned all the land originally has never moved to preserve any portion of our beautiful forest. We might be receiving a big revenue from our timber lands to-day, when revenue is so much needed, had some prudent system of reserve been adopted. The timber is gone and monetarily the country has not benefited to the extent it ought, while in every other way the wholesale slaughter of trees has been a great curse to it. The practical question is, what are you going to do about it? The representative men of the country, the Governor, Premier and ministers of the local government, Sir Louis Davies and the visiting professors and the press declared the discussion most timely and no doubt it will be productive of much good. This resolution crystallized the whole matter :

Moved by A. A. Moore, seconded by D. P. Irving, and

"*Resolved*, That the Government be asked to give its serious consideration to the