

Notes of Forestry Progress

Mr. J. Fraser Gregory, of St. John, N.B., was one of those who gave evidence before the Dominions' Royal Commission on Imperial Trade Relations before the work of that body was postponed because of the war. Mr. Gregory, who is an authority on lumber conditions, confined himself entirely to that subject, discussing the rate of tree growth, timber leases, the deterioration of the forests through the coming in of inferior species of trees, and the driving difficulties on the St. John River owing to its international character. The work of this Commission, which will be of great benefit to the Empire, will, it is expected, be resumed as soon as war is over.

Mr. F. E. Buck, B.S.A., assistant to the Dominion Horticulturist, is the author of Bulletin No. 19, on the 'Planting and Care of Shade Trees.' The bulletin deals with planting methods, what trees to plant, rapidity of tree growth, hints on selecting trees, distances apart to plant, ornamental trees, wind-breaks, care of trees, pruning, injuries to trees, how to protect trees, with general suggestions as to the system of planting trees in cities. The bulletin may be had free by those desiring it by addressing the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont.

The New Brunswick Government has decided to suspend during the war that provision of the law which prohibits the exportation of timber for pulp purposes cut on the Crown lands of the province, so far as it relates to Great Britain. This will allow pulpwood and pit props cut on Crown lands to be shipped to Great Britain.

Human carelessness was responsible for 75 per cent. of the forest fires in District No. 1 of the United States Forest Service, which includes Montana and Northern Idaho. The percentage is high, but probably is about a fair average in districts where the population is comparatively dense. The ordinary man rarely gives a thought to what may happen when he leaves a camp fire alight, or throws a burning match away.

The forestry movement in Pennsylvania owes much to the women of the State who were active in its organization, and have been its firm support individually and through their clubs and federation, and a number have been liberal contributors to the support of the association.

The British Columbia Forestry Branch, in addition to interesting woodsmen, and all who live near the woods in forest protection by the distribution of unique posters and useful articles which suggest carefulness, has sent out to members of the Boy Scouts one thousand pocket whetstones, which bear this motto: 'Build camp fires in safe places. When you leave put them out. Boy Scouts be prepared. Help protect our forests.'

The Canadian Engineer notes that the mines and metallurgical plants of northern Ontario are now for the most part operated by water powers, and that these powers have been of the greatest service in providing cheap motive force. Everybody knows that the permanence of these powers depends upon forest being maintained upon the headwaters of the streams, which is a reason added to that of our need for timber for protecting our northern Ontario forests.

A writer in the *Toronto Weekly Sun* notes that the farm in Halton County, Ontario, on which Honourable W. T. White, Minister of Finance, was born, was originally covered with some of the finest pine that grew on this continent. Mr. James Lyall White, son of the original settler, was afterwards a leading lumberman in Michigan, and he stated that never in all his experience as a lumberman did he see finer pine than that which grew on the old homestead.

In a recent address, Hon. W. H. Hearst, Prime Minister of Ontario, pointed out that the capital invested in lumber interests in the province was \$260,000,000. The wages paid amounted to \$39,000,000, and \$2,500,000 worth of farm products went into the lumber camps as supplies. The Government and lumbermen between them spent \$325,000 on fire protection in 1913.

In some parts of the United States native birds have begun to increase in numbers after having reached a very low ebb. This change is attributed to the dissemination of information by bird lovers and bird societies as to the great work done by birds in protecting farm crops and forests.

A movement has been on foot for some time in the United States looking to the formation of a treaty between the United States and Canada for the better protection of migratory birds passing back and forth between the two countries.