

Quebec, who dealt with the question of "Conservative Lumbering in Quebec."

Mr. Piché dealt with the industry in the past and with its future prospects. He pointed out that the demand for lumber for exportation was increasing and there were now few countries which were in position to export. Canada was bound to become the greatest wood exporting country in the world, and the Province of Quebec, on account of its immense forests and other natural facilities, would take the lead in this respect. Mr. Piché gave a detailed description of the lands available and outlined the precautions that should be taken to preserve the timber as much as possible. He classified the land in Quebec according to the kind of proprietor and showed that the management of the woodland depended upon the will of its owner. The land belonging to farmers amounted to 5,000,000 acres, that belonging to timber limits 45,000,000 acres and the woodlands not yet explored were estimated at 85,000,000 acres of virgin forests. The lands in possession of farmers were almost entirely culled so they could not depend upon them for much in the future. With regard to the timber limits he recommended the practice of cleaning out the young wood, cutting all the trees which manifested signs of age, watching carefully the fires, and favoring the development of those trees the wood of which would be most valuable. He announced that the Gouin Government being desirous of encouraging the farmers to re-wood their land established last fall a farm for the raising of forest trees at Berthierville from which in 1910 they would be able to assist the re-forestation. It was the urgent duty of lumber merchants to retain a staff, competently directed, and to prepare plans of exploitation which were accommodated to present conditions and which would assure the perpetuation of the forests.

Very little information was yet available about the third group of forests though the reports of explorers indicated that there was still immense wealth of lumber, but the industries in the valley of the St. Lawrence should not count too much on that reserve for they would have to take into account the growth of immigration which would follow the expansion of the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Mr. E. Stewart, an ex-President of the Association and formerly Superintendent of Forestry for the Dominion Government, read a most interesting paper on "The Lumberman and the Forest."

Of all men the lumberman should, said Mr. Stewart, be the most interested in the forests of the country. The growing timber should be to him what the grain and root crops were to the farmer, and he should be just as solicitous that the land producing his timber might continue to reproduce indefinitely his supply as the farmer was that his fields might from year to year