

terprise shall not be allowed unduly to trench. We must of course have regard also to the necessity for a certain immediate profit to the capitalist who has invested his money and who has a right to carry on his operations as well as to the requirements of legitimate and bona fide settlement. How shall all these objects be obtained? The state can assist by aiding education in forestry as well as by direct control exercised through state regulation.

Along these lines the Canadian Forestry Association is working. Along these lines it is entitled to and should receive the assistance of our Parliament and Legislatures. I have very great pleasure in assuring you that not only do I take a deep interest in the subject but that I shall be prepared to support any reasonable measures within the limits of federal authority which may be devised for aiding in a work of such vital importance.

HON. FRANK OLIVER, Minister of the Interior—It is a privilege which I appreciate very much to take part in the deliberations of this Convention, the object of which is so important to our country. As the special agent or bailiff of this Dominion Government having the responsibility for the management of its estate, it is for me rather to speak of what has been done, what is being done and what is hoped to be done in regard to the territory in the great North-West which is at the present time under the direct management of the Dominion Government. There the question is the direct opposite from what it is in these eastern provinces. Here the great question is the preservation of the forests with some small part of attention to production. There, the great question is not preservation; it is creation of the forests, with a small part of attention to the preservation of such forests as there are. Everything that has been said here or elsewhere in regard to the necessity of woods to successful agriculture is borne out not only by the scientific knowledge that has been acquired regarding the North-West, but also by the experience of the people who have lived there. It is accepted as a fact that the forest brings rainfall. We know that the forest is an evidence of rainfall and that the forest brings rainfall. It is interchangeable. If you have the woods you have the rain and by getting the woods you get the rain. It was some time before I assumed the responsibility in this connection that the Government took up this question of forestry in the west and while the requirements are so vast as they are—I say vast in comparison even with the available resources of this great country—it cannot be expected that the conditions have yet been met or even measurably met. The area of the North-West is so great and the conditions of lack of forest have prevailed for so many years, for so many ages, it may be said,