

where in the neighbourhood the farms can find such a market for labour and produce as the timber industry affords.

**Investigations  
Required**

The continuance of investigations, similar to the study of the Trent Valley watershed, by the Commission of Conservation, will have undoubted effect on the popular valuation of our non-agricultural lands. When it is shown that such lands will in 70 years produce a timber crop worth \$96.00 per acre, provided a fraction of a cent per acre per year is expended in fire protection, the public will readily support the fire protection policy.

**PROPORTIONS OF NON-AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

The importance of timber industries to Canada, and the certainty that such industries cannot be permanent unless the growth of another crop of timber is assured, makes the practice of forestry imperative as an economic measure. Every section of the Canadian public is interested. Roughly, the proportion of non-agricultural land in Canada south of the 60th parallel is : Nova Scotia, 81 per cent ; New Brunswick, 72 per cent ; Quebec, 76 per cent ; Ontario, 64 per cent ; Dominion Lands, 51 per cent ; British Columbia, 85 per cent. Some of these Governments already have forestry departments ; none can afford to be without some forestry organization, charged with the study, protection and administration of timbered and non-agricultural Crown lands. Such lands should be studied in order that the protective and administrative measures adopted may be decided with a full knowledge of the value of the products to be expected from the land. In this way expenditure is avoided on inaccessible and non-productive land which will not yield returns, and the investment is made on those lands where quality and situation guarantee a profitable crop. In each province the area of timber-land is very great. The conditions of forest growth, of fire hazard, of utilization, are so variable that no rule of thumb methods may be safely adopted. The Forest Branch must include men trained to, and free to study, each of these problems, in order that loss of revenue may be prevented, and the most economical possible scheme of administration and protection worked out for each section of the country.

**British  
Columbia's  
Experience**

Our experience in British Columbia has been that the best results are secured at the least expense where the one organization, call it "Forest Branch" or "Timber Department," is responsible for the necessary forestry studies in fire protection as well as the routine, but highly technical,