

In 1899, with the encouragement of the Minister of the Interior at Ottawa, the Canadian Forestry Association was formed with headquarters at Ottawa. This Association was joined at once by representatives of Queen's and the School of Mining, and, in addition to the older friends of Forestry, many of the larger lumbermen, such as Mr. Booth, Mr. Rathbun, Mr. Robinson, Mr. Bertram, and others, showed a strong interest in it. Among the representatives of Queen's and the School of Mining were Dr. A. T. Drummond, a trustee of Queen's University, and Dr. Goodwin, Director of the School of Mining.

In the autumn of 1900 the subject was once more brought before Principal Grant, who was convinced that the time was ripe for the introduction of Forestry as a college course in Canada. The Board of Governors of the School of Mining and Agriculture gave the proposition favourable consideration, and in January, 1901, they brought Professor Fernow, then Director of the New York State College of Forestry, to Kingston to lecture and take part in a conference of those interested in Forestry.

The circular in which this conference was called was dated 14th January, and described the purpose of the gathering as "to consider the best means for the preservation and renewal of our forests, for using them to the best advantage, and for providing proper education to these ends." Prof. Fernow's lecture, which was illustrated by lantern views, was on "The Forest, Its Care, Its Use, Its Enemies, Its Management and Reproduction."

Three days later, 17th January, 1901, the Board of Governors of the School of Mining not only considered the matter, but decided to include Forestry in their scheme of education; as appears from the following extract from minutes of meeting of Board of Governors of the School of Mining, held Jan. 17th, 1901:

"Moved by G. M. Macdonnell, seconded by R. Crawford, and carried, that the proposed bill enlarging the scope of the School of Mining to include all branches of electrical engineering, optics and forestry, and all branches of geological, biological and physical science be submitted to the Hon. Mr. Harcourt and the Attorney-General for their opinion as to its necessity. If necessary the required notice to be given."

Thus as early as January, 1901, the School of Mining was contemplating the teaching of forestry and was actively and energetically stirring up public opinion on the subject.

The lecture by Prof. Fernow on Jan. 21, '01, was a great success and convinced any present who had been doubtful the time had come for the advent of the forest engineer in Canada. It was well attended, and there were in the audience, besides the local University men,