

**Saving Our Forest Heritage.**  
(Continued from page 8.)

**Fire Protection Work.**

We have not been wholly idle in the matter of fire protection. One of the first acts of the Conservation Commission was to initiate legislation under which machinery was provided to deal with fires caused by railway agencies—a factor of enormous importance in the situation. Every administrative department in our Dominion and Provincial Governments, charged with the management of timbered areas, today is engaged in the campaign to prevent and control forest fires. Their efforts are being strongly supplemented by those of independent commercial or educational organizations. During the last decade about \$10,000,000 has been spent in protection, but the fact remains that the safety of our forests is still too largely dependent upon weather conditions.

**What About Cut Areas?**

The final phase of this subject that I wish to place before you relates to reproduction of commercial timber on areas that have already been cut over. What is to become of these areas when the present crop has been removed? We have it on the best of authority that 3,000 manufacturing plants in the southern states will discontinue operations within the next five to seven years owing to the depletion in the supply of southern pine. This wholesale closing of a basic industry is a serious prospect for any nation to contemplate. We are not making huge capital investments in pulp and paper mills with the idea that the usefulness of such plants will extend over a very limited period. Our timbered areas should be kept in a state of constant productivity and constitute a perpetual source of raw material.

**Affects Everyone.**

In regard to forest conservation, the organization of public support is facilitated by the fact that the question directly affects the pocketbook of practically every member of the community.

It affects everyman who wants to build, buy or rent a house—or furnish a home. The rising cost of lumber has been a decided factor in retarding building of houses to relieve the housing shortage that has contributed so largely to the dissatisfaction and unrest that are current today. It affords every man who buys a newspaper or periodical, a book for his library or textbooks for his children at school. It touches the pocket of every merchant, manufacturer or other business man who buys advertising space. It affects every man who has a dollar invested in forest industries and our total capital investments in these enterprises approaches the stupendous sum of \$400,000,000. Finally it affects every man employed in such industries of whom they are more than 80,000, with many additional thousands employed in wood-working establishments of one form or another that are directly dependent upon forest production.

There isn't any question as to the motive behind forest conservation. It is a question purely of hard business sense—not of sentiment."

**A New Motor Lifeboat**

The work of the National Lifeboat Institution of Great Britain was largely held up during the war, but an extensive programme of boat-building has since been started. It includes a number of motor-propelled lifeboats, this type having proved its superiority. On one occasion a motor lifeboat travelled forty-four miles in a terrible storm and rescued fifty people from a vessel which four other lifeboats of the old type had tried in vain to reach. One of the latest motor lifeboats to be put in commission has many interesting features. It is of the self-righting type and is driven by a 45 horse power petrol engine at a speed of about 8 knots. When a lifeboat capsizes it is necessary to stop the engine, as otherwise the boat will steam off and leave its

crew in the water. This condition is met by means of two contacts in an ebonite box with mercury, so arranged that when the boat is sailing normally the contacts are immersed in the mercury. When the boat capsizes, the mercury is emptied out into a little reservoir and breaks contact, stopping the engine. Elaborate "jacketing" is resorted to in order to prevent water getting into the engine. Both magnetic and accumulator ignition are installed, and a hand pump is available as well as the force feed system of lubrication. These and other precautions are adopted in order to prevent breakdown.

**Another Firm Takes Out Group Insurance**

Walter Blue and Company, Limited, Clothing and cloth manufacturers of Sherbrooke, Coaticook and Montreal, have shown their appreciation of the services of their employees' loyalty and efficiency by presenting each employee with a life insurance policy.

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The entire cost is paid by the Walter Blue and Company in appreciation of their employees. The announcement regarding the insurance has been received with much satisfaction.

This was made possible through the group system of the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada. Amounts range from \$500, increasing to \$1,000.

The government reports show that the number of men employed in Nova Scotia's coal mines last year was 12,925. The production per man in tons was 566.

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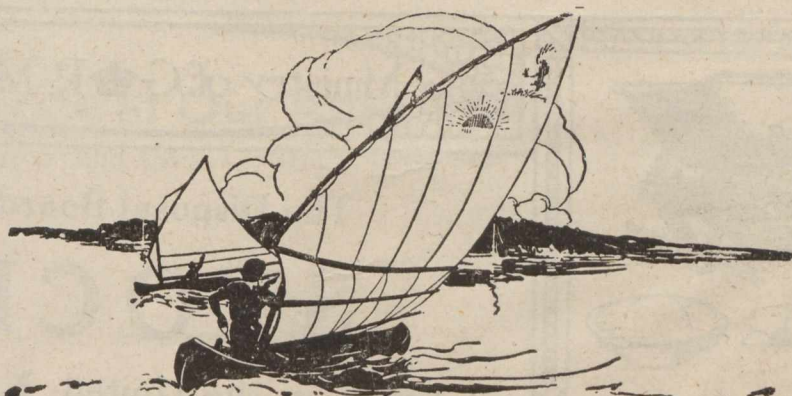
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