

blazing we have him arrested and clapped into prison. Let the same fire fiend burn down a million dollar forest and we make little effort to apprehend him. Why? Because we are so old-fashioned as not to see in a burning forest a share of our personal property.

Instead of saying: 'Why doesn't *some one* put a stop to this firing of our common goods—the forests?' suppose we get down to business and say: 'Let *me* make up my mind to do everything possible to save the woodlands from fire.' If all the Boy Scouts in Canada will say that and live up to it, we shall consider the problem more than half solved.

How the Fires Start.

How do forest fires start; by lightning?

Not one in fifty cases.

By 'spontaneous combustion?'

This phrase is handy for some fires but it means little in accounting for forest losses. The combustion comes usually from a neglected camp fire, or the clearing fires of settlers on the edge of growing timber, or a lighted cigarette or cigar or hot pipe ashes or locomotives. Human hands and human heads supply the spark, without which few of our great forests would ever be abandoned to flames.

"How can *I* prevent a forest fire?"

There is no better answer than is contained in these rules. Veteran hunters and fishermen, the best mountain climbers and guides make a point of carrying out such sensible prohibitions because they know for one thing that carelessness with fire is a sign of the amateur, and there are no good times for anybody in a wrecked forest.