

sense of public duty and with regard only to facts which have been demonstrated to exist. We look upon the present situation as a departmental inheritance of the present Government which only awaits open discussion to be solved satisfactorily.\*

The Commission of Conservation has repeatedly urged upon the Dominion Government the necessity of applying the authority of the Dominion Forestry Branch to the technical operations on licensed timber lands. This would not necessarily dislocate the present organization of the Timber and Grazing Branch, but would, rather, initiate a line of work—technical forestry—which does not now exist, so far as licensed timber lands are concerned. It forms, in our view, a very simple method of fulfilling the obligation of the Dominion to handle the western forests in the best interests of the western people. The reading of Section 58 of the Dominion Lands Act would lead to the conclusion that action along this line was originally intended by Parliament.

#### Unequal Supervision.

As your committee is concerned also in the question of duplication within the Civil Service, it will, no doubt, give due attention to our argument that once the principle of expert forestry supervision on Dominion timber berths is endorsed, the Dominion Forestry Branch is obviously the instrument for the application of such a principle.

At present, the Timber and Grazing Branch maintains six timber agencies. The field inspection as to the carrying out of the timber regulations is done by Crown timber inspectors numbering about thirty-five. In many cases the work is combined with that of land inspection, and in any case such a staff cannot closely supervise lumbering operations scattered over more than six thousand square miles of country.

#### Foresters Available.

The Dominion Forestry Branch, on the other hand, has divided its field work into four inspection districts, corresponding with provincial boundaries. These are in charge of district inspectors, who with one exception are technically-trained men. The inspector is the business manager of the reserves in his district. Each district is subdivided into administrative units, each in charge of a forest supervisor, the latter also being with rare exceptions a technically qualified forester. Assisting the supervisor are one or more forest assistants, graduates of for-

estry colleges. The 1918-1919 field staff of the Dominion Forestry Branch consists of 4 inspectors, 15 supervisors, 5 forest assistants and 165 rangers, making a total of 189 men, under the supervision of a head office staff of technically trained foresters.

In tree-cutting in the crown forest Gullberg, in the province of Ostergotland, of south Sweden, there was cut down a 56 years old pine that bore a fresh living branch of spruce of 51 years at 5 feet from the ground. A nearer investigation showed that the spruce branch was really grafted on the pine in a natural way and has lived so without communication with the mother spruce at least 14 years.

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