## PROSECUTIONS

	Jail Sentence	Fines Levied.		Suspend- ed Sentences.	Total Con- victions.	Cases Dis- missed	Total Cases.
Year.		No.	Amt.				
British Columbia <sup>+</sup> 1914 1915 1916	6 1	19 E	\$1,100 250	$ \begin{array}{c} 5\\1\\3\end{array} $	30 6 4	7	37 $6$ $4$
Prairie Provinces	1	3 9 3	8 75 150 77	2	$10 \\ 3$	<u>2</u> 1 	11 3
New Brunswick, 1914 1915 1916		3	8 60			<u>3</u>	No report 6 No report
Nova Scotia		$_{\substack{3\\3^*}}^{\rm Several ~ \circ}$	Not stated 8 90 50		3 3	2	2 3 3

## TABLE 2.-SUMMARY OF PROSECUTIONS FOR INFRACTIONS OF FOREST FIRE LAWS

\* In 1914 damages were paid without suit in three cases. In two of these the damages amounted to \$6,000. In 1916 damages of small amount were paid in one case without suit.

†All on Provincial lands, outside of the Railway Belt.

Note: No data available for Ontario and Quebec.

## NUMBER AND AREA OF FIRES

## BRITISH COLUMBIA AND PRAIRIE PROVINCES

Table 3 is intended to show the severity of the three fire seasons in the four western provinces, both inside and outside the Dominion forest reserves. The statistics of the total number of fires, the number of large fires (those burning more than ten acres) and the total area burned over are given to illustrate this. As pointed out previously in connection with the weather charts, in British Columbia the season of 1914 was the worst; while in the Prairie Provinces, 1915 was the worst. The forest reserves in Alberta, however, came off lightly in 1915, but were hard hit in 1914 by a small number of very large fires which took place during a comparatively short but very dry spell.

The columns giving the percentage of large fires out of the total number of fires, and the average areas of large fires, have been added to illustrate in another way the comparative severity of the seasons. Naturally, in a dry season both of these factors tend to increase. The main value of these figures, however, is that when a comparison of them is made over a series of years for a given region they should serve as an index of the efficiency of the fire protection staff. The aim of any fire preventive organization is to put out, before they spread over more than ten acres, as large a proportion as possible of the total number of fires started. Also, it is the endeavour to keep down to the smallest possible area the size of the large fires. Thus a gradual decrease in