

"RESOLVED, that this Society hears with pleasure of the reported acquirement by the Federal Government, of railway woodlands in Northern Manitoba, with the object of conserving our valuable northern forests. Large areas of these northern forests should undoubtedly be maintained for all time as forest reserves, and

"RESOLVED, that this Society endorses the plan of tree distribution in the west as carried out by the Department of Interior and would advise a continuation of the same within reasonable limits as to the varieties distributed, so as to cause as little injury as possible to our important home nursery interest, an interest which has done a great work in encouraging horticulture and forestry throughout our prairie regions; also, that special attention be given to the planting of trees on government lands in the prairie provinces which are not suited for general settlement."

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The past month has been unusually dry and warm in the Northwestern Provinces and as a result the Dominion Forest Fire Rangers were called out earlier than usual.

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Reports received at the Forestry Office, in Ottawa, record numerous fires as having been started. Generally, they have originated on the prairie, but in some cases have, notwithstanding the efforts of the rangers, assisted by the settlers, spread into the timber. In the southern part of the Spruce Woods Forest Reserve, in Manitoba, it is feared considerable damage has been done to the young timber and in the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains along the valley of the Red Deer River a large fire was fought for a week. Something like six miles of trench was dug, from which back firing was done, making a fire break around the timbers. Notwithstanding this, a strong wind sprang up and the fire leaped over this guard, got into the timber and destroyed a small sawmill which was operating there. It was feared that another larger mill with some 400,000 feet of lumber would also be destroyed, but was saved by very hard and continuous work. It is to be hoped that the dry and warm weather that has prevailed in Alberta and Saskatchewan ever since the spring set in may soon change or serious consequences will result, both to those interested in the forests and in agriculture.

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We notice a very strong popular demand for government control of water powers. If we wish to protect the power for the use of the people, we shall have to start at the source and withhold from private control the watersheds from which the supply of water comes.