

the native sons of our forest province will receive their training for the businesses they are to follow in after life. The present generation of lumbermen have mostly gained their knowledge in the good school of hard experience, but their sons, in presence of the great development in the use of complicated machinery, and the larger scale of modern operations, will need to prepare themselves to follow in their fathers' footsteps by studying the science of forest engineering. We require moreover a forestry school at which our young men may train themselves for the entrance examination that will be established for the Provincial Forest Service; and an auxiliary school at which our forest rangers may be taught what it is necessary for them to know concerning surveying, scientific cruising, the mechanism and upkeep of forest telephones, and similar forest matters.

In connection with this same school of forestry, I look for the equipment of an experimental plant for such matters as, for instance, tests of the strength of our principal timbers, studies of practical ways of making piles teredo-proof and railway ties rot-proof and all such useful matters.

With the data gained by this experimental work, the Forest Service will make a business of advertising our Provincial timber in the markets, and in the publications of the world. I can foresee the yellow pine of the Southern States going down before the conquering Douglas fir of British Columbia.

There is one other matter to which I should refer before I resume my seat. I ask you gentlemen why should British Columbia continue to be a mere producer of forest raw material: why should she be a mere hewer of wood that is shipped to other portions of the continent and the world for the use and profit of foreign manufacturers of wood products? Here is another field of study for the commercial branch of the Forest Province, namely, the investigation and publicity that will hasten the establishment of wood manufacturing industries right here where the wood is grown.

I have nothing more to say except this that as a Minister of the Government that has been to some extent responsible for the coming of this Convention to British Columbia and for its entertainment here this evening, I hope that the delegates in looking backwards on this Convention after they have gone to their homes, will feel that it has been one of the most successful in the annals of the Association.