

APPENDIX A. (Page 18.)

In our Canadian forests, east of the Rockies, there are ninety species of trees, but the greater number are confined to a comparatively small area. In our northern forests the principal trees are cedar, balsam (fir and poplar), aspen, white birch, tamarack or larch, banksian pine, white and black spruce.

The dimensions of our great northern forests are vast that they seem almost incredible. The central portion of the forest belt may be described as starting from the vicinity of the Straits of Belle Isle, and following a south-westerly course till it passes to the south of James Bay, then turning north-west it follows this course all the way to the border of Alaska, opposite the mouth of the Mackenzie River, the total distance being 3,700 miles. The breadth of the spruce belt taken at ten almost equal intervals in the above distance is as follows:—

From Halifax to Ungava Bay	MILES
In the Labrador Peninsula.....	1,000
From the north shore of Lake Huron to Richmond Gulf, on the east main coast.....	600
From the international boundary on the northwest side of Lake Superior to Cape Henrietta Maria, on Hudson Bay.....	600
From the international boundary on Lake of the Woods to Cape Tatnam, on Hudson Bay....	600
From Yorkton, East Assiniboia, to Fort Churchill	
From Battleford to the limit of forest north-east of Raindeer Lake.....	600
From the summit of the Rocky Mountains on a north-easterly line passing through the Athabasca Lake.....	800
From the water shed of the Pacific slope on a north-easterly line passing through Great Slave Lake.....	800
From the water shed of the Pacific slope on a north-easterly line crossing the Mackenzie River on the Arctic circle.....	700
	3500

This gives an average breadth of 700 miles. If we multiply the total by this breadth the result is an area of 2,590,000 square miles as the approximate area of our northern forests, in which the black and white spruces are the prevailing trees.—DR. ROBERT BELL, Assistant Director Geological Survey.