

Government will enact in this matter, very little will result from it unless individuals put their shoulders to the wheel and help along the subject by planting trees, and planting them plentifully themselves. (Applause.)

Mr. WELD—Will young walnut trees succeed by cutting the top off? will they re-bud and form trees? and will the horse-chestnut?

Mr. MORRIS—The black walnut will sprout if it is not large, perhaps not over a couple of inches. I would say the same as to the horse-chestnut, while the latter are small, say up to an inch at the bottom, there are generally buds near the surface, or below the surface, that will sprout. Of course after they get large, and these buds disappear, they will not sprout.

Mr. J. M. PETTIT moved, seconded by Mr. A. D. LEE. That this Association do memorialize the Ontario Legislature, and urge upon them the necessity of enacting such laws as would encourage the protection of existing forests, and further assist farmers and others in planting shade trees and wind-breaks.

This resolution was carried unanimously.

FORESTRY IN INDIA.

The following paper was contributed by Mr. R. S. Dodds, Conservator of Forests in the territories of the Nizam of Hyderabad in India:—

For some years I held the appointment of Conservator of Forests in the territories of His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad. Forest conservancy had been in existence about fifteen years previously, but the department had been presided over by native element entirely, and, partly on this account and partly from a grasping wish to realise an unduly large revenue, the system introduced was lax and unsatisfactory and the forests themselves were depleted to an alarming extent.

Apart from the destruction caused by the axe, each year many miles square of valuable forest land were devastated by fire, which every year crept in and which when once fairly alight, it was almost impossible to extinguish. These fires were sometimes the result of accident, but more frequently they were set going by the natives themselves so as to destroy the old dried-up grass and improve the village pasturage in the following year. The ashes of the burnt grass forming an excellent manure, and, stimulated by copious monsoon showers, bringing up a fresh succulent crop the following spring.

Besides the trees actually destroyed by fire, through the intense heat many others were gnarled and stunted in their growth, thus greatly lessening, if not totally destroying, their commercial value. In British India forest conservancy is carried to high perfection and although the working expenses are very high a large revenue over and above expenditure is realised each year from this source.

To minimise the loss from fire, in British India the more valuable forests are demarcated and are protected most carefully. All access on any pretext is forbidden, except of course to departmental subordinates; to check the ingress of fire a broad space a couple of hundred feet wide is cleared of undergrowth and all other combustible matter, right round the limits of this demarcated forest—this is called a "fire line." To carry out this work, of course incurs considerable outlay, but it is found to pay.

By far the most useful and valuable timber in the forests of India is "Teak" (*Tectarya grandis*), but the demand for this has been so great that at the present day it is rare to find a tree of exceptionally large growth. I remember seeing a table made of a single teak slab 8 feet in diameter; such would now be simply unprocureable.

The other valuable timber trees are the "Deodar" (cedar of Lebanon). The habitat of this is principally on the Himalayan range. It is called the oak of India, the "Sal" (*Shorea robusta*); "Satin-wood" (*Chroroxylon swietenia*), which gives a very ornamental wood; "Black-wood" (*Dalbergia latifolia*); "Ebony" tree (*Diospyrus melanoxylon*).