

New Brunswick to the Fore! And Why?

By G. H. Prince, Provincial Forester.

Go-ahead Policy of Practical Forest Management—Political Control of Rangers Outlawed.

The present marked development in forest administration in New Brunswick, may be traced largely to a Forestry Convention held in Fredericton just eleven years ago. At that important gathering of practical and scientific men, the many problems of Proper Utilization, fire protection and forest conservation were fully discussed and many far-reaching resolutions were presented to the Government. The most important and immediate result of the convention was the establishment of a four years' course in Forestry in the University of New Brunswick in the following year.

In all, twenty-four foresters have since graduated from this university a small number, but well worth the effort when you consider the great part they have taken and are taking in the development of forest conservation in Canada.

Before attempting to state further what the Government has done, let us consider the progress of forestry with owners of granted forest land. One company owning over one and one-half million acres of forest land in New Brunswick early started the surveying and cruising of their limits. This forest survey, a task that took over five years, furnished the company with accurate timber maps, timber estimates, reports on the conditions and growth of the timber, etc. This information has had much to do with shaping this company's policy in regard to the disposal of its timber towards an increased income and a perpetual supply. Quite extensive surveys have also been made by two other large owners of private lands.

Learning true Conditions

The Government of New Brunswick, no doubt realizing, as the

private companies have done, that the best results in the management of its greatest resource, the forest, could not be obtained without a full knowledge of that asset, passed the Act which provided for the Forest Survey and classification of the seven and one-half million acres of Crown Lands. This survey, commenced in 1916, has been continued as rapidly as possible, consistent with war conditions, and already nearly one-quarter of the total area has been surveyed and mapped, at a cost of approximately four and one-half cents per acre.

The objects of the survey as defined by the Act, are, briefly: First—To report with as much detail as possible upon the character and quantity of the lumber, estimating the quantity of timber and the reproductive capacity of the forest.

Second—to estimate as accurately as possible the annual growth of timber upon each area or tract.

Third—To report upon the accessibility of the timber on each section estimating cost of logging on the different areas and cost of driving.

Fourth—To report the location of lands deemed suitable for agriculture, distinguishing them from other lands that might be regarded as suitable for the growth of timber only.

In order to obtain the above information the most modern and scientific methods of timber estimating and mapping have been employed, and this survey is said to be the most extensive of any survey of its kind in regards to area in North America.

What the Survey Does

Of what use is the Forest Survey to New Brunswick. Briefly:

(1) It will give definite informa-