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At the American Forestry Congress a resolution was adopted favoring the establishment of experimental stations of forestry throughout the United States, similar to the Gorman plan, and urging that Agricultural Colleges should take an active part in the work.

A factory for the manufacture of furniture veneering from gum wood, so abundant in almost all sections of the southwest, has been erected at Poplar Bluff, Mo., on the line of the St. Louis & Iron Mountain railroad. The grain of this wood is said to be very fine, and when polished, remarkably beautiful.

COMMENDABLE zeal for tree planting was shown in Ohio, among other states. It took the novel form of proclamation by the governor, in accordance with a resolution adopted by the legislature, advising people to turn out on April 27 to plant saplings by the roadsides, around their houses, or, when practicable, in groves.

WILLIAMS, JEROME & BROWN are surveying for the purpose of ascertaining the feasibility of constructing a canal from the east branch of the Au Gres, above the bar, to Canada Creek, in order to facilitate the getting out of logs on the east Branch, and also surveying with a view, if the canal is not feasible, of building a railroad from the east branch to the bay.

THE *Northwestern Lumberman* says about 100,000 rolling-pins were lately corded up on Bear river, at the foot of Mitchell street, Petoskey, Mich. That amount of rolling-pins means a vast development of woman's muscle before the 100,000 dough mashers are worn out. Besides, it means a utilization of northern Michigan timber in one of the many peculiar ways.

THE Thorold pulp mill have added many additions to their mill to meet the large demand for its commodity. Among the additions is another water wheel 12 feet in diameter, which will give 20 feet head additional water, and two sets of stones have to be put in, to take the place of two which were recently broken. These improvements are calculated to double the capacity of the mill.

THERE are probably no more valuable forests in the world than those of Oregon, Washington Territory, and British Columbia. The yellow fir, which grows there to a great height and luxuriance, scarcely has an equal for shipbuilding. The supply at present is very abundant, accessible; but there is danger that waste will change the present abundance into scarcity before many years. The rule is: "Let those who live nearest have their timber furthest, and in seeking the best now, much that is really good and valuable is ruthlessly destroyed."

QUEBEC FORESTS.

We find in the annual report of the Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Province of Quebec the following interesting information.

On comparing the receipts of the present year—especially those from the Crown Lands, Woods and Forests, Mines, etc.—with those of the preceding years, it will be perceived that a very considerable increase has been derived from the same sources. Since confederation, the woods and forests have not yielded so large an income, the mean revenue having been \$393,910 (and the annual revenue since 1875 having been even below the average.) The same may be said of the Crown Lands.

The main cause of increase in revenue is due, not only to the present prosperous state of the province, but also to the more strict attention on the part of the department, and the adoption of more efficacious measures for the protection of our woods and forests, and the collection of the revenues derived therefrom, as well as those arising from the sale of lands. Competent bushrangers have been appointed in every part of the Province where they were most needed; and I am happy to state that their services have been very useful from all points of view.

The Act for the protection of forests from fire has received my particular attention, and with a view to prevent the recurrence of fires such as have at times laid our forests waste, I have taken measures to have the provisions of the law better known, and have instructed all timber and land agents, all forest-rangers and game-overseers, to see that it is strictly enforced. The Province of Quebec has been happily preserved from such conflagrations as have lately destroyed vast timber limits in the Province of Ontario and the United States. This protection of our woods and forests is undoubtedly one of vital importance to the Province, not merely from economic and climatic points of view, but also with regard to the revenue. I have, therefore, been careful to give particular attention to this part of the duties devolving upon me.

Another question of importance directly connected with the preceding is that of restoring and keeping up our forests.

We have not yet, as in parts of Europe, especially France, adopted any system of tree culture. This question was brought before the American Government, by whom Mr. Franklin B. Hough was commissioned to obtain all the information that could be procured on the subject; and in 1877 this gentleman submitted an elaborate and very interesting report. The United States Government has not yet, to my knowledge, adopted any general system of forest restoration. There have only been a few attempts made in that direction on the western prairies, in accordance with laws passed in 1873 and 1874.

The Legislaturo of the Province of Quebec,

decreed in 1875 that it should be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor in Council, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Crown Lands, to set aside certain portions of the forest lands of the Crown, vacant at the time, to remain forest. This law further adds:—"The territories so set apart shall be reserved for the production and culture of timber, and shall be worked and managed, and the timber thereon be cut, as shall be ordered from time to time by regulations made by the Lieutenant-Governor in Council.

Up to the present time, the Department of Crown Lands has not deemed it necessary to give practical effect to the provisions of this law, but its importance is likely to become evident at no distant date.

There can be no doubt that the value of our woods and forests must increase year by year; and I do not hesitate to say that the greatest care and prudence should be exercised in the sale of our timber lands. It is true that two sales have been held since I have been in charge of the department, but in both cases there were strong reasons for such action, which was also in the public interest. A comparison of the average price obtained at these two sales with those obtained in former years is sufficient to convince anyone that the value of our forest lands must increase annually.

It is proper to remark that the receipts from woods and forests for the year embraced in this report were not affected by the change or slight increase of the timber dues lately made. The effect of this change will only be felt in the fiscal year ending 30th June next.

THE FORESTS OF RUSSIA.

The United States consulate-general, of St. Petersburg, has prepared a report upon the timber trade of Russia which is replete with facts and figures. The wood trade of the northern regions of Russia, and particularly the basin of the White Sea and its affluents, is pronounced excessively slight in comparison with that of the neighbouring countries of Norway and Sweden. The radius of the forests of Vologda and Archangel has a superficial area of 197,100,000 acres, it is estimated.

The wooded regions of Sweden cover an area of some 40,500,000 acres, and those of Norway 16,200,000 acres. Notwithstanding the fact that the figures show Russia to have considerably over twice the estimated radius of area, the wood exports of these countries differ to the extent that the two Russian governments export 124,000,000 cubic feet, and Sweden and Norway export 1,200,000,000 cubic feet. Only a minor portion of this wood is exported abroad, the amount being:—From White Sea ports, 10,775,000 cubic feet, Swedish, 200,000,000, Norwegian, 82,891,000 cubic feet. The export of the Northern ports of Russia, is accordingly 94

times less than that of the Norwegian ports, and 88 times less than that of the Swedish ports, in face of the fact that the Russian governments possess nearly five times as much now land as Sweden, and 12½ times as much as Norway. The export of forest products from Sweden is even superior to that of all Russia, which is but 637,000,000 cubic feet. The revenues of Sweden from this source, largely increased each year during the past decade, now amount to 220,000,000 francs.

The most striking fact in the Russian wood export trade is that the largest export comes from the less-wooded districts, for while these districts export 122,715 cubic feet per acre, the northern governments export but 8,451 cubic feet per acre. With Russia there has been an immense falling off in export during the last seven years.

In order to increase the revenues to be derived from wood, it is unnecessary that the raw material should be worked up on the spot. In Sweden, in 1871, there were only seven manufacturing of wooden articles, but five years thence the number was increased to 29. The governments of Valogda and Archangel possess but 11 saw mills, whereas in Sweden there are 1,350. The great majority of the imperial forests of Russia are concentrated in the northern and northeastern at the north of the Volga and Kama, and on the right bank of the Volga, in the Government of Ljmbirsk. The governments richest in forests yield the least average income. —*Northwestern Lumberman.*

FOREST PRESERVATION.

Senator Sherman, of Ohio, has introduced into the senate a bill for the preservation of the woods and forests of the national domain adjacent to the sources of the navigable rivers and their affluents in the United States. It provides that all the public timbered lands adjacent to the sources of the navigable rivers and their affluents be withdrawn from public sale and entry, that Major General Wright, chief of the corps of engineers, United States army, Major General William B. Hazen, commanding the signal corps, Dr. George B. Loring, commissioner of agriculture, and Professor Spencer F. Baird, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, shall form a commission for the examination of the subject of the preservation and cultivation of woods and forests adjoining the sources of the navigable rivers and their affluents, for the purpose of preserving the same and increasing their growth by planting there, and along the source of these rivers where land is timberless, so that the rivers may be kept in a navigable condition by promoting a continuous supply from their sources and affluents, the fact having become universally known that the destruction of the woods causes all countries to become arid and unprofitable deserts. —*Northwestern Lumberman.*