

only gradually find their way to the lakes. As in other sections of both Ontario and Quebec, the country here is now reaping the results of a past unwise Government policy under which no practical effort was made to protect the forests from fires or to punish those who carelessly or wantonly were the causes of these fires, and under which the right of cutting timber on the Crown lands has been freely sold with the object of securing for the Government a present cash return, and without the slightest effort at conserving the forests in order to make them a continuous source of revenue in coming years. Though somewhat late and only after so many of its townships had been largely burned over, an effort has been made during recent years by the Ontario Government in conjunction with the lumbermen, to limit forest fires, but more or less apathy still prevails in Quebec, and the general criminal law of the Dominion still fails to grapple practically with the subject. Nearly all forest fires are the result of criminal carelessness or of wanton destructiveness, and are therefore preventable. When will our Governments learn that by year after year showing apathy over the burning of the country's forests, they are wasting not only the country's present revenues but the revenues which would continue to be derived from timber for scores of years to come.

#### HEIGHTS OF THE LAKE LEVELS.

Assuming the waters of Lake Ontario to be 237 feet above the sea—some authorities mention 232 feet—the heights above tide water of the different Rideau lakes and of some of the upper lakes which supply them are, as determined by the Government surveys, as follows:

	Feet.
Upper Rideau.....	402
Lower Rideau.....	398
Mud, Clear and Indian.....	398
Opinicon.....	386
Sand.....	377
Whitefish and Cranberry.....	317
Bobbs.....	621
Knowlton.....	454
Loughborough.....	403
Canoe.....	466