Great Meetings at Quebec Association



QUEBEC Forest Protective Association, largely through the vigorous executive work of Mr. Henry Sorgius, held the most successful meeting of their history at the Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, on Tuesday, January 23rd. The attendance was never before equalled and the excellence of the addresses well repaid those who had in many instances travelled long distances to be present. It is the intention of the Canadian Forestry Magazine to publish in full and to distribute in other ways some of the papers presented at the meetings.

The programme covered addresses by Professor Stephen Leacock (which is reproduced elsewhere in this number); Dr. C. D. Howe, W. G. Power, R. P. Kernan, G. C. Piché, E. T. Allen, Forest Economist of the Western Forestry and Conservation Association, and Lt. R. B. Adams, of the U. S. Forest Service, whose radio address was greatly aided by a demonstration put on by the Northern Electric Company with Secretary J. Evans of the St. Maurice Forest Pro-

tective Association speaking from the other side of Montreal on the necessity for spending more money on education in prevention of fire.

The first paper of the afternoon was read by E. T. Allen, Forest Economist, of the Western Forestry and Conservation Commission, the subject being "Co-operative Forest Protection." Mr. Allen reviewed the experiences of seventeen years in the work, the troubles, the criticism and the advances made and laid down the dictum that the individual cannot successfully work alone. stressed the necessity for educational publicity, saying that by fire preventive publicity tremendous changes had been effected in public sentiment. Mr. Allen declared that \$2,000,000 had been spent last year in fire-fighting in this area. Had but two per cent, of that amount, \$40,000, been allowed to him for advertising, the benefits would have been incalculable. He spoke of the method of approaching the public and said that the psychological appeal must be such as to

reach the unconscious perception and the reasoning perception.

The discussion which followed covered a wide range. The first question was regarding the use of aeroplanes in patrolling. Mr. Allen said that considerable patrolling had been done by the army air service, but their methods of look-out patrols and telephones were regarded as more efficient. Regarding penalties for infractions of laws, Mr. Allen did not believe in placing them excessively high. As to rangers, efforts were made to interest the best men and to find work for them during the winter period that would interest them in studying matters concerned with the calling.

Lieut. Adams gave a review of the application of the air and signal services of the United States Army towards the observation and the reporting of forest fires. He also detailed the instruments used, and recorded the advances made in transmitting and receiving wireless telephone apparatus.

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