

posterity, and no eyes for anything but their own immediate requirements.

Gentlemen, there are no more melancholy reflections than those suggested by the sight of a country, once rich and equipped with all the majesty and panoply of power, which has become a waste and a stony desert through the reckless improvidence of its own people.

It is the object of this Convention to fix the attention of the people of the Dominion on the warning which these and other countries hold out to us as to the practices we should carefully avoid, if we are in earnest in our hope that our beloved Canada may fulfil the high destiny which will be fulfilled if this generation is gifted with sufficient foresight and self-control to husband the resources so abundantly lavished upon it by a bountiful Providence.

It is because I hope that this Convention may be the means of averting from every part of Canada the sad fate of those countries to which I have referred that I have gladly accepted the request that has been made to me to open this Convention. I sincerely hope that the results which will flow from the Convention he has called will realize the hopes of Sir Wilfrid Laurier. I am glad to see so many here and I note with peculiar satisfaction the presence of the eminent gentlemen from the United States who have come here in a spirit of fraternal sympathy and co-operation to give us the great help of their assistance. I now, with great pleasure, declare this Convention open.

SIR WILFRID LAURIER—In the name of the Canadian Forestry Association which has conceived and planned this Conference and in the name of the Canadian Parliament, which has authorized and approved it, it is my privilege and my pleasure to extend to you all a most hearty greeting. Welcome to one; welcome to all. Especially should I welcome, even after the words of His Excellency the Governor General, the representatives of the American Republic who are present with us on this occasion, and who bring to us the benefit of their knowledge and experience. Welcome also to the representatives of the Provincial Governments, without whose aid and co-operation our efforts could never have the full fruition which we anticipate from them. Welcome also to the representatives of the great railway companies which are placed in a position to give, perhaps more than any other class of the community, the benefit of their experience and knowledge to us. Welcome also to the representatives of the great lumbering class, who, perhaps, are more interested than any other class of the community in the maintenance, preservation and protection of the forests. Welcome to the University men whom we see afore us, welcome to the traders, welcome to the sportsmen,