

SIR EDMUND WALKER, C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., President ALEXANDER LAIRD - - - General Manager JOHN AIRD - - - Assistant General Manager

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The Bank of British North America

Established in 1836

Incorporated by Royal Charter in 1840

Paid_up Capital - - - \$4,866,666.66 Reserve Fund - - - - \$3,017,333.33

Head Office in Canada, Montreal H. B. MACKENZIE, General Manager

Branches in British Columbia

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Bella Coola	
Duncan	
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Fort George	
Hedlev	

Kaslo Kerrisdale Lillooet Lytton North Vancouver 150-Mile House Prince Rupert Quesnel

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Victoria

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in every community, and provided settlers with a market for both their labor and their produce. In the majority of the villages and towns in the Province prosperity will return quickest through revival in the lumber business. There is no lack of timber to cut; there is no lack of mills to cut it. It is the market that must be sought, both in Canada east of the Rockies and in the United States from the Mississippi Valley eastward, in Australia and the Orient, and to a certain extent in Europe. An aggressive campaign for the capture of these markets is now under way in the Northwestern States, lumber manufacturers and the Federal Government pushing it together. We cannot too strongly urge that the most important duty of the Forest Branch at the present time is to assist in extending the markets for British Columbia's forest products. If the present opportunity is lost the lumber industry of this Province will have a long uphill fight in establishing its position.

Forest Reconnaissance.

The survey of the forest resources of the Province, commenced in 1912, was continued during 1914, but on account of the great need of funds for administrative work fewer parties were engaged on this work than in previous years. Besides the work done by the regular reconnaissance parties, however, reports on many areas were obtained from Forest Assistants, Rangers, and Forest Guards, a number of whom were able to make satisfactory surveys of territory into which their other duties took them.

Altogether 12,000,000 acres were reported upon, and, as was expected, considerable bodies of valuable timber were discovered. At the time of writing this report the results of the year's work have not yet been tabulated and placed upon the records, and only a preliminary estimate can be made. Roughly speaking, some 5,000,000 acres of statutory timber land were located, carrying a stand of 30,000,000,000 feet of merchantable forest. Undoubtedly a considerable proportion of this will be found to be in the Crown reserve of unalienated timber. While most of this timber will not come into the market for many years, it will be logged in time, and will eventually yield a large revenue to the Province, besides providing material for an extensive lumbering and sawmilling industry, which will be a strong influence in promoting agricultural development. It forms a reserve of timber capital which, provided we protect it from destruction by fire, can be drawn upon any time in the future.

Lumbering Industry.

From the earliest days the pioneer industry of British Columbia has been the manufacture of forest products. Of all the resources with which the Province is endowed, the forest, because of its quantity, high quality, varied usefulness, and accessibility to many waterways and transportation routes, has been the resource from which the population of most districts first sought their livelihood. The fact that agricultural development in many sections of the Province has waited upon the market for labor and for produce provided by the lumber industry has done much to make our forest industries prominent.

A Province so noted for its forests has naturally attracted workers and investors who have received their training in other forest regions, and who are eager to take part in the development of the last important stand of commercial timber in Canada. It is not surprising, with these considerations in mind, to find that British Columbia led all the Provinces in Canada in lumber production in 1913, and that the manufacture of forest products was the Province's most important source of wealth.