

Reserve Regulations Revised.

More Adequate Provision for Grazing and Fire-Protection.

The new Regulations for Dominion Forest Reserves, which became law in August, 1913, are in some respects much superior to the old regulations of 1906. These latter made no adequate provision for grazing, in fact, it was prohibited except by special permit from the Director of Forestry, and could only be obtained by an actual settler in the vicinity of a Forest Reserve in Manitoba, Saskatchewan or Alberta, and then only for fifty head of cattle. But the new Regulations are framed to encourage grazing rather than discourage it, for, not only settlers, but also ranchers and non-resident land-owners, can now obtain permits from the local forest officer to graze cattle to the full extent of the range capacity of such Reserves, as determined by the Director. The number of head which each cattle-owner is allowed to pasture is determined by the number of applicants for permits and the range capacity of the Reserve, the minimum number being fixed by a 'grazing unit' based on the number of cattle which can be carried through the winter by a homestead or small ranch. The minimum dues for cattle and horses shall be five cents per head per month and the maximum shall be ten cents per head per month, the dues for sheep being one-fourth of those for cattle. As many applications have already been received for grazing

permits, it is likely that the revenues of the Dominion forest reserves will be substantially augmented by this new law.

Quite as important from the standpoint of the forester are the improvements in the regulations regarding fire-protection on Dominion Forest Reserves. Previous laws provided for the maintenance of plowed fire-guards and the clearing of rights-of-way within Reserves, and also for the maintenance of fire-rangers by the railways during the construction of the same, but in the case of railways not subject to the control of the Board of Railway Commissioners, no regulations had been made previous to those of 1913, for the maintenance of fire-patrols by railways in actual operation within Reserves.

These new regulations also requires that all timber-cutting upon the Reserves shall be done under the control of the forest-officers, permittees and existing licensees being required to dispose of tops, of branches and other debris, to prevent, as far as possible, the danger from fires. Lopping of branches and piling of brush is already required of all settlers and others cutting small lots by permit. Whether licensees lumbering large areas within the Reserves, can be induced to take similar precautions against fire is conjectural.—G. E. B.

United States National Conservation Congress.

Washington, Nov. 18-20, 1913.

The Fifth National Conservation Congress has been called to meet in Washington, D.C., Nov. 18-20, 1913. While the Congress will take up the whole subject of conservation, special attention is to be given this year to the subject of forestry. It has been decided that at least two full sessions of the Congress will be devoted to forestry matters. Special committees have been at work since the last Congress under the direction of the Forestry Committee, of which Chief Forester Henry S. Graves is the Chairman, investigating subjects of importance to foresters and lumbermen, and these committees are to make their report at the meeting. The President of the United States is expected to address

the Congress. Members of the Cabinet, Senators and Representatives, the Chiefs of the government bureaux and the representatives of practically every State, will be heard. There will be a number of important social functions, including a reception by the President of the United States. The headquarters will be the New Willard Hotel, Washington, in the assembly halls of which most of the sessions will be held. The President of the Congress is Mr. Chas. Lathrop Pack and the Secretary Mr. Thos. R. Shipp, New Willard Hotel, Washington, D. C., from whom information in regard to railway rates, registration, membership, etc., may be obtained.