

NOTES.

The "Indian Forester" has for its leading article in a recent issue an editorial on "Forestry in Canada" in which the work of the Forestry Department and Forestry Association is written of in terms of the highest praise. The tone of the article may be judged from its opening paragraph:

"Among the British Dependencies which are now paying serious attention to the future adequate protection of their forests, Canada may be said to take a foremost rank. For many years the destruction of the vast forests existing in the colony had been carried on unchecked and this reckless over-cutting has within the last few years attracted the attention of all thoughtful statesmen and others interested in the future well-being of the Dominion. It became increasingly obvious that if some steps were not taken to put a stop to the existing state of affairs irreparable damage would result, both climatically and financially, to the country. Opinions were also freely stated in the home markets that it would be but a matter of a few years for the supply of Canadian-grown timber to give out, even in spite of the fact that 75% of the Dominion is under forest. This being the state of affairs the forestry movement will be welcomed alike by statesman, financier and merchant."

The Minister of the Interior has introduced an important Bill in the Commons which, if passed, will set aside some seventy Forest and Game Reserves on Dominion Lands within the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta and in the Railway Belt in British Columbia.

The lands proposed to be set aside are *non-agricultural* but suited for a permanent production of timber. They are situated at the sources of water supply so necessary in every district but especially so in a country like our prairie provinces where the precipitation is scant and where under the most favorable conditions summer droughts are always feared.

It is not the intention to prohibit the cutting of mature timber on these reserves but rather to place these to their highest use for the production of timber and with this object in view a rational system of cutting will have to be enforced and care taken that fire does not follow such cutting as has been the general rule in the cut over lumber districts in the past. Prospecting and mining will be allowed under special regulations.

Grazing will be permitted only to such an extent as not to interfere with the growth of the young trees.