

Should this prove to be the case, then the Government could study the subject and adopt the best means for inducing a succession of the conifers, which varieties of timber are best adapted for the requirements of this country, being so easily floated to the manufacturing points.

The White Spruce, the predominating variety of timber in this Province, is so prolific a seeder naturally, that many are of the opinion that, provided mature growth only be cut, crop after crop can be taken at intervals of the same variety off the same territory. If this be the true state of the case, then the perpetuating of our Spruce Forests is a forestry problem easily solved. We have only to exercise ordinary care and we will continue to maintain the position now held, viz., the most extensive spruce growing country.

I submit a district map of the Gaspé Peninsula with the territory outlined in green which I would suggest being created a reserve. A glance thereat will show how vitally important it is to this locality to have the sources of rivers left in forest. About a dozen large streams take their rise in the Shick-Shock Mountains which form, as it were, a backbone to the peninsula; these streams run in all directions from the main apex, *i.e.*, the said mountains.

We all know the character of the soil in this district, viz., sandy loam and friable, until one reaches the foothills of the mountains. Imagine the consequences if the sources of these rivers were denuded of forest growth—disastrous floods in the spring, the streams nearly dry in the summer time, the soil carried away from the declivities in immense quantities by the freshets, and finally the whole territory rendered, comparatively speaking, a desert and uninhabitable.

Should the projected railway from Casupscull to Gaspé Bay be completed there would be an additional reason for protecting lands to the north of same, as we have had experience of a bitter nature as to the forest fires by operation of railways.

At the present time it is quite true that there is no danger to be apprehended of lack of timber or water in the Gaspé Penin-