

water into the soil and making it very difficult for reproduction to take place. Wind when admitted to the forest dries the soil, removes the soil cover, and produces an unhealthy condition of the stand.

As a remedy for these defects, Dr. Clark advised:

1. Shutting out of all stock.
2. Planting wind-breaks, especially on south and west.
3. Planting up failed places.

An interesting discussion followed Dr. Clark's address, which was taken part in by Mr. Nelson Monteith, M.P.P., Mr. Southworth, Mr. R. D. Craig, and others.

Dr. Clark gave also a short course of lectures, with practical demonstration in the Ontario Agricultural College, on wood-lots, to the Farmers' Institute speakers, so that they would be able to discuss the question more intelligently at their meetings during the winter.

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British Columbia has, in company with some of the western states, been a great sufferer from forest fires during the past season, the drought which made them a possibility lasting on through the summer. The air was filled with smoke throughout a great part of the summer in many districts. Survey work was seriously interfered with, and some parties could accomplish absolutely nothing in consequence of the smoke interfering with the view of the country. A member of one of such parties states that in the district in which he was working, or rather attempting to work, in southern British Columbia, fires were occurring on every hand, and nobody seemed to consider it his business to interfere. There were no railways in that vicinity, so that the blame for starting the fires could not be placed on them. In one case a prospector's stakes were found which were six days old, and a fire which cleared the claim and a tract around was evidently about the same age. One fire was approaching a small town day by day, and the only action taken by the inhabitants was to sit down and watch it from afar and speculate as to whether or not and how soon it would reach the town. Beautiful hillsides clothed with timber of the finest quality, green and flourishing when first visited, were found in a week or two after a mass of smoking ruins, their beauty and wealth reduced to smoke and ashes. The Bush Fires Act of British Columbia provides that all officials of the Government are required to enforce the provisions of the Act, but no special staff is charged with that duty, and as a consequence no vigorous action is taken. It is a remarkable fact that British Columbia is the only province of the Dominion having control of its own forests, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, which has very little forest, which has not made