

The cutting on crown lands of trees under twelve inches at the stump should be punishable by a heavy fine, which would be easily collectable at the mills when the drives of logs come down after the spring freshets. This would have the effect of preserving the younger trees until they attained a merchantable size.

The starting of forest fires should be made criminal. Nineteen-twentieths of the forest fires are preventable. There is no reason why camp fires should not be put out, and the knowledge that to allow them to spread was punished by imprisonment, would quickly make camp parties careful, more especially if every member of each party were made responsible.

Not only in the forests which have been cut over by the lumbermen, but wherever fires have swept through areas of crown lands not specially suitable or available for settlement, resowing or replanting should take place. Where burned areas are left to themselves, trees of a less desirable kind almost invariably spring up. How to effect this resowing and replanting economically is a question of some importance. It can be done in part by the forest rangers hereafter referred to, but, I think, that as a condition of every lease of timber limits, it should be made incumbent on the lessee either to pay a given sum per square mile of territory included in his lease towards the expenses of the Forestry Department of the Government, or that he should actually plant and care for a young tree for every trunk he fells. This would not be an expensive proceeding. It would involve the cultivation of one or perhaps two acres as a forest nursery, and the subsequent setting out of the young trees, and to this might be added the duty of collecting and sowing through the forest, of seeds of desirable kinds of trees. When it is remembered that each forester in Cape Colony is expected, without assistance, to annually raise 40,000 young trees, and that his duties involve the transplanting of these to the burned and other districts within his section, it will be observed that the task thus proposed to be imposed on the American lumberman is not formidable.

Lastly, each Government, in the case of Provinces still possessing forest areas of importance, should organize a Forestry Department in connection with the management of its crown lands. The objects of the Department would be :

*First.* The general preservation of the forests from fires, and from deterioration by improper working.