

set up a saw-mill which sawed one thousand feet, board measure, a day. Even here, however, the leasing system was the basis.

The underlying theory that the farmer would soon push back the lumberman from his present limits into the unexplored hinterland is the probable reason for the indefinite character of these leases in regard to termination. In the first instance they were all yearly leases and to-day the great majority retain this form. In Nova Scotia the small amount of forest land held by the Crown is leased for varying terms from one year up to 99 years; in New Brunswick there is now a fixed term of twenty years with the right to renew for ten or twenty years under certain conditions; in Quebec, Ontario and the Prairie Provinces the leases are all annual in form. In Quebec, it is stated that where the land is unquestionably non-agricultural the leases have, through custom, become practically perpetual and the government has announced that it will not change the terms oftener than once in ten years. In Ontario, the Crown has always contended that the leases were for one year only and that while it renews them from year to year on non-agricultural land, it can at any time terminate the lease by giving six months' notice. It has also announced that it will not alter its dues and ground rents oftener than once in ten years. Recent sales in Ontario have been by auction for a rate per thousand feet, board measure, of the standing timber. There are no dues or bonuses and the purchaser is given a limited time in which to take off the timber, after which the land reverts to the Crown.

British Columbia has recently made an elaborate revision of its system. By this revision most of the leases become perpetual but the government takes power to revise the terms every five years. These dues are fixed on a basal price for lumber at the mill. If at the end of any five year revision period the price shall have risen above this base price then the government will take an increased royalty or tax in proportion to the increased price.

All the governments make provision for fire protection and have called upon the lumbermen to pay an increasingly large proportion of the cost of this protection on lands leased to lumbermen; the governments, of course paying the whole cost of protection on the areas of forest land where the Crown has not yet parted with the right to cut the timber.

The policy of forest reserves, that is of land unsuited to agriculture set apart to grow timber for ever, is a recent development in Canada and the method of conducting operations on these reserves is one of the administrative problems now being worked out in this country.

#### METHODS OF CANADIAN LUMBERING.

All of Eastern Canada drains into the Atlantic through great lakes and rivers. The great forests were on the banks of these rivers and their tributaries. This was also largely true of British Columbia in respect to the Pacific, so that with comparatively small exceptions all of Canada's lumbering operations have been carried on by water. Under this system the trees are felled in the autumn and winter, drawn by horses to the rivers and