



QUESNEL RIVER—FALL ON NORTH FORK.

About two miles below Cariboo lake. Attempt to construct fish ladder seen on left.

COMMISSION OF CONSERVATION

## CONDITIONS IN PRAIRIE PROVINCE FORESTS

*By H. C. Wallin, Chief of Surveys, Dominion Forestry Branch.*

We have examined in Manitoba altogether 46,272 square miles. This area covers the country from the settled districts northwards to about township 58, east of Lake Winnipeg, and to township 51 west of said lake and Lake Winnipegosis. It also includes the country adjacent to the Hudson's Bay Railway, and the Riding Mountain, Duck Mountain, and Porcupine No. 1 Forest Reserve. In the following estimate, these reserves and the country along the H. B. Railway are not included. The area to which the figures, I now give, refer is therefore 30,340 square miles. Of this 24 per cent is timbered (posts, poles, included)

36% recent burn or covered with young reproduction;

35% muskeg;

5% grassland, water or cultivated.

Of the timber, approximately 25,000,000 cords, about 30 per cent is poplar, 25 per cent jack pine, 25 per cent spruce, and the remaining 16 per cent is tamarack, birch and poplar.

### IN SASKATCHEWAN.

In Saskatchewan the total area examined is 27,504 square miles, covering a tract reaching from the settled district northwards to about township 66. If we deduct the area of the forest reserves, with the exception of the Big River Reserve, we have an area of about 20,000

square miles, covering the country around Big River, Beaver River, Waterhen Lake, Dore Lake, Montreal Lake, Candle Lake, and Amish Lake. Of this—

41% is timbered;

18% is burn;

33% is muskeg, and

8% is grassland, water, etc.

The amount of timber per square mile is here greater than in Manitoba, no doubt due to the fact that a lesser area has been burned over in recent years. The total number of cords available is estimated to be between 40 and 50 million cords. Of this, about 75 per cent is aspen and poplar, 13 per cent spruce, 10 per cent jack pine, and 2 per cent tamarack, birch and balsam.

### ALBERTA'S FORESTS.

In Alberta, we have examined 63,000 square miles covering the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve, the Grand Prairie and Clear Hills District, the Peace River Block, the country between the Athabasca River and Lesser Slave Lake, the Pembina Mountain, Lac la Biche, Christina Lake, and Cold Lake Districts, leaving out the Rocky Mountain Forest Reserve. This area occupies 41,371 square miles, of which