

SUGGESTIONS RE FUTURE POLICY.

Although the pulpwood industry is regarded as inimical to forest culture, it must inevitably increase year by year and it is with this trade that the owners of timber lands, whether Government or individuals, have to deal, as the denudation of the country will be affected by this trade in a greater ratio than by logging. It is well to bear in mind how much owners of private lands are interested in this question and that we have not to deal with Governments alone.

The inroads pulpwood will make on our timber reserves will increase in an unknown ratio and, if conducted in a judicious way, will tend to the perpetuating of the trade in the same way the judicious logging of spruce has done. Of course, much of the country which is pulpwood-producing is not a desirable logging territory and consequently, the Government of the Province of Quebec permit cutting of black spruce of 7 inches at the stump.

The reproductive qualities of spruce will act forcibly as a saving clause against annihilation of our spruce forests, and this alone, in my opinion, makes the forest wealth of the Province of Quebec greater than that of our sister Province Ontario, and of a far more enduring character.

I believe the interest of this country is to discourage by legislation, or otherwise, the cutting of trees for pulpwood under 7 inches in diameter at the stump and the shipping of pulpwood under 5 inches in diameter.

Increasing value of stumpage has a tendency to make people more conservative with their timber lands, as it pays to be so and the teachings of the Forestry Conventions and Associations will be useless if they do not coincide with what the State and the individuals forming that State consider to be their interests.

Pulpwood affects all our interests directly or indirectly; it makes the article of paper which is used to spread the gospel this Convention is preaching.

If this Convention is the forerunner of a policy, as regards pulpwood, producing the best financial results with a minimum of destruction, it will have justified its being.