dead leaves ran up the trunks and on others these had fallen off branches growing closely to the ground on a fairly gradual slope. A few balsam poplars (*Populus balsamifera*) were dead, about the margins of dried rivulets. Some spruces (species uncertain) held dead or partly dead leaves. Gravel, loose rock, and earth formed a soil which was overgrown by grass, bearberry (*Arctostaphylos Uva-ursi*), etc.

I was careful in going over the ground to look for insects or disease, but an examination of a number of trees gave me no reason to suspect that either of these had affected the trees. As the meteorological conditions during the last two years may have caused the conditions described above, especially the amount of moisture precipitated, the following data are submitted:

The snowfall from January to October, inclusive, was for:-

| 1902 | 1903 | 1904 | 1905 |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 97.45 in. | 78.83 in. | 50.14 in. | 21.25 in. |

The rainfall was for:—

1902 1903 1904 1905 20.96 in. 16.04 in. 7.89 in. 13.18 in.

The snow on the mountain slope would possibly be more than in the valley.

As to the temperature for October.

The lowest recorded was 3.3 on the 18th October, 1905, with about 2 inches of snow in the open valley; the lowest previously recorded, occurred on the 31st of October, 1893, with

about 8 inches of snow in the open valley.

The snow on the ground for October 1904 was on the 7th, 0.65 in. with practically none to the 20th November, when 5.25 in. fell, and from 5 inches to 1.75 in. to end of November. For December practically none to the 16th, then 5 to 8 in. to the end of month October 1905, no snow on the ground till the 17th, then 2.45 in., from the 20th practically none till the 26th November, when 2 in.

The snowfall for 1905 was exceptionally light. Precipita-

tion below the average for 1904 and 1905.

I therefore attribute the dying of these trees to the low temperature coming rather suddenly, and earlier than usual, after comparatively mild weather, with perhaps insufficient moisture and winter protection, as a secondary cause. I would ask what is the opinion of others.

N. B. SANSON, Curator, Rocky Mountains Park Museum, Banff, Alberta.