



Photo D. Roy Cameron, 1911.

PLATE 7. Big Brule, Swan Creek Valley.

In this region I have estimated that some 140 square miles of country have been fire-swept. Of this, an area of some 110 square miles, or 70,000 acres approximately, were spruce. Remnants left average from ten to twenty-five thousand feet, board measure, per acre. Putting the average run over this area as five thousand feet, board measure, per acre, 350,000,000 feet of merchantable timber must have been destroyed. These two fires have destroyed enough timber to supply the needs of a large community for a great many years.

The head-waters of the Otauwau show another fire slightly older. This occurred some twenty-five years ago. It burnt about forty-five square miles of lodgepole pine, jack pine, black spruce and poplar.

Several areas have been burnt along the Klondyke trail. The largest is along Deep creek where ten square miles along the creek were burned over about fifteen years ago. A burn of about the same size was noted near the head-waters of the Swan river. This is conspicuous because it is the only burn in a very large area of country.

In the Martin mountain district there is a new burn in the summit-plateau type, covering some seven square miles, and another east of Divide lake around the head-waters of the east branch of Martin creek, which has burnt over about six square miles.

REPRODUCTION.

The burned areas in general show little sign of good reproduction. This is due to the fact that most of the fires have occurred within the last few years. It is a well-known fact that muskeg areas are a long time in restocking. As most of the country burnt is of this type it may be expected that the new growth will be slow in coming. At present these areas are for the most part destitute of reproduction of any kind.

The spruce tract south of the lake which was burnt fifteen years ago had restocked well, but the second fire has exterminated the second growth and totally destroyed the