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A National Warning.

WHEN Canadians read, with horror, of the fearful devastation wrought recently by floods in Ohio and Indiana, two of the most prosperous states of the great Republic to the south, and our hearts and purses open in response to the wail of suffering thousands; but how many of us realize the original cause of these disasters, and are cognizant of the fact that Canada, because of unsystematic methods, is rapidly approaching an era of floods and destruction, which will, in turn, excite the sympathy and charity of foreigners?

Canadians, unmindful of repeated warnings and unwilling to profit by the mistakes of others, are destroying annually over two thousand square miles of virgin forest and leaving the land a barren waste, which, if utilized properly, would continue producing timber and serve, as a great sponge, to retain the excessive spring floods by absorption, and release them gradually instead of in torrents. However, it is becoming quite evident to many that, unless our governing bodies take some radical step towards forest preservation, thousands of our people cannot rest assured that their fate will not be similar to that of the citizens of Dayton, O., and that our fertile soil will eventually become impoverished.

The effects of forest destruction in decreasing the regular flow of rivers has been demonstrated with lamentable consequences in many parts of Canada and the United States. For instance, the clearing of the forests from the Alleghany Mountains has reduced