

close enough to carry a fire easily, and I again repeat that due caution should be taken to guard this northerly portion because directly due east is a good cut of tie timber, Crown timber, which lies northwest of G.T.P. Block #10, another old slashing, operated by Geo. E. Farlinger, Sioux Lookout, Ontario.

Owing to the fact that a quick break-up came this Spring, Mr. Cox was unable to get all the ties out of the bush, and you will note that 12753 ties are still scattered through the bush, not skidded, at the far ends of each workings.

I believe, that, although Mr. Cox started operations rather late last Fall and was "caught" this Spring by the elements, he is operating to the best interest of the Indians. He has a large amount of money invested in this operation and it would be to his own interest to protect this area.

From one's first observance of the workings, it appears that the whole surroundings have been just cut over, but from my supposition and experience it looks as though he cut all his main roads first and took out the best that came along. His purpose being to later put in small jobbers to clear up the scattered bunches of timber and one and two tie trees, of which there are quite a number left, and finally take out the pulpwood.

Owing to Lac Seul's present low water level and it being a very dry Spring makes the fire hazard the greatest obstacle, and I suggest that some precautionary measures be taken to place the men at the camp under moral obligations by having them visited by a representative of the Department, fire rangers, also a periodical visit by the Forestry airplane. This would tend to help protect this area.

Taking the first opportunity to get out, the ice having practically gone, the foreman wished to go to Hudson, and get instructions from Roy Cox, who is at Robinson, Ontario. I deemed it advisable to accompany him out, although I am not positive whether I have checked all ties left, as I have not visited all workings, not having time to do so, but my plans were to report as soon as possible when I could get out--it being in a difficult place to get in or out this time of the year--so that the Department could obtain facts and make plans accordingly.

On my arrival in Hudson, I received a letter from Mr. Frank Edwards, dated April 26, 1928, requesting that I scale the tops of boomsticks, or waste from same, as taken out by C. W. Cox from the northern area of the Keewatin limit. Not knowing the exact location to look for these tops, the Licensee's foreman having been in the hospital during the period of time that these sticks were cut, I went to the Keewatin office at Hudson, and conversed with the clerk who was employed by those people last winter, named Neal Smith. He claims that about 140 sticks were cut and hauled by tractors, taking the whole tree in some instances. That these sticks were cut before permission were given them to take same and that he did not know what arrangements were made between Mr. Cox and his company concerning these boomsticks.

I left Hudson enroute for Kenora to consult with Mr. Frank Edwards also compile this report, arriving there Monday, May 14th. I suggest that if the Department desires me to finish this operation it will require about ten days time with a canoe, and one can visit the whole workings by doing so.

I also suggest that as there will be greater activity on Indian Reserve #28 this coming season, Mr. Cox planning on cutting about 60000 to 70000 Norway pine logs from the mid-western portion of the Reserve and operating several jobbers camps, it would be a greater advantage for the Department to have a Government Scaler to check the whole Reserve. The Keewatin people, I believe, would also agree