

These crews must be outfitted with tools, food, blankets, and so forth, and they must be transported to the scene of the fire as quickly as possible. All this requires forethought and planning, and a very considerable degree of executive ability. In extreme cases, local supplies of labour may not be sufficient to deal with a bad fire, and arrangements must be made through the district or head offices to bring in extra crews recruited in towns or cities.

Fires that start must be put out as quickly as possible, but the ideal of all protection services is to prevent them from starting. Means taken to reduce the number of outbreaks include the posting of warning notices along roads and portages and in camps; restriction or prohibition of travel in forest areas during periods of exceptional danger; radio addresses, and plays, and articles in the press advocating care with fire in the woods; talks in schools; and settlers who wish to burn slash are required by law to obtain permits and to conduct their burning under supervision at times when the fire hazard is not great.

For protection of forests against injurious insects and tree diseases the provincial forest services co-operate with the Forests Insects Division and Forest Pathology Division of the federal Department of Agriculture, although one province also maintains its own entomological and pathological services.

Disposal of Timber

Governments sell timber standing on Crown lands, but do not go into the logging business themselves. The felling of timber and its manufacture into useful products - lumber, paper, etc. - is left entirely to private enterprise. In order to carry on logging operations a company or individual must have the right to enter on land where the timber stands and, when a large body of timber is concerned, that right must be extended over a number of years. Furthermore the operator must have some legal protection against the cutting of his timber by unauthorized persons. Since Crown timber lands are not sold outright, it is necessary for governments to grant leases to would-be operators, giving them the right to cut timber from described blocks of land. Leases may be drawn for a specified number of years, or they may be good as long as merchantable timber remains on the area provided that the lessee abides by conditions laid down in the lease. Rights to cut timber are usually disposed of by competition, either by public auction or by calling for sealed tenders, but there are certain exceptions to this general rule.

Holders of timber leases are required to pay annual ground rents for the use of the land, usually running from \$5 to \$10 per square mile in eastern Canada, but amounting to \$140 per square mile on the west coast of British Columbia. Lease holders must also pay fire protection taxes or other protection charges, the basis for which differs in different provinces.

The timber itself itself is usually paid for shortly after it has been felled and scaled. Payments are made at rates of so much per thousand board feet, or per cord, or