

CANADIAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

SECOND ANNUAL MEETING AT OTTAWA.—A NUMBER OF INTERESTING PAPERS GIVING PRACTICAL ADVICE REGARDING TREE PLANTING AND GROWING.

The second annual meeting of the Canadian Forestry Association opened in the Railway Committee room of the House of Commons at Ottawa at 10 a. m. on March 7th. In the absence of the president Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, the chair was occupied by the vice-president, Mr. William Little. Amongst those present were the following: William Little, of Westmount, vice-president; F. Stewart, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, Ottawa, secretary; R. H. Campbell, Ottawa, treasurer; Dr. William Saunders, Superintendent of Experimental Farms, Ottawa; Dr. James Fletcher, Dominion Entomologist, Ottawa; Dr. C. A. Schenck, principal School of Forestry, Biltmore, N. C.; Thomas Southworth, Ontario Superintendent of Forestry, Toronto; Prof. John Macoun, Geological Survey, Ottawa; George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa; John Bertram, Collins Inlet Lumber Company, Toronto; John Waldie, Victoria Harbor Lumber Company, Toronto; D. C. Cameron, Rat Portage Lumber Company, Rat Portage; J. B. McWilliams, Crown Timber Agent, Peterborough; William Pearce, Calgary, N. W. T.; Norman M. Ross, Biltmore, N. C.; W. C. Edwards, M. P., Ottawa; Aulay Morrison, M. P., New Westminster, B. C.; Hon. J. B. Snowball, Chatham, N. B.; Dr. Christie, M. P. for Argenteuil, Que.; Hon. J. V. Ellis, St. John, N. B.; Hon. William Kerr, Cobourg; Hon. T. A. Bernier, St. Boniface, Man.; J. J. Bell, Toronto; W. T. Macoun, Ottawa; T. S. Young, CANADA LUMBERMAN, Toronto; Prof. W. L. Goodwin, Kingston; J. C. Langelier, Superintendent of Forest Rangers, Quebec; Hiram Robinson, Hawkesbury Lumber Company, Ottawa; A. C. Campbell, Ottawa; J. A. Gemmill, Ottawa; Otto Klotz, Ottawa; W. N. Hutt, Southend, Ont.; Leighton McCarthy, M. P.; Hon. Mr. Emerson, M. P.

Letters of regret were read from Hon. G. W. Allen, of Toronto, and Dr. A. H. MacKay, vice-president for Nova Scotia.

The minutes of last meeting being read and confirmed, the secretary submitted the report of the Board of Directors, which reviewed the work of the association for the first year of its existence. It showed the membership to be 244, five being life members. The report referred to the meetings which had been held in Manitoba, the North-West, and British Columbia, in which provinces forestry associations have been formed. During the year two timber reserves were set apart. In Manitoba all the lands north of township 38 and west of Lake Winnipegosis have been reserved from settlement, as most of this tract is already well timbered and known to be largely unfitted for settlement. The other reserve was set apart by the Ontario Government, and consists of about 1,000,000 acres surrounding Lake Temagami, which includes a large quantity of white pine and timber and covers the head waters of a number of streams flowing into Lake Nipissing and the Ottawa river. The great extension of the pulp

industry and the demand created thereby for spruce timber, the report stated, especially rendered it advisable that a special study of this tree should also be made, so that we might know what our resources for this purpose are and when and how steps should be taken to ensure that the returns from this source of wealth should be retained at the highest possible permanent figure. The report in conclusion urged the extension of the fire ranging system and the holding during the current year of a number of public meetings in the large centres of population.

On motion of Mr. E. Stewart, seconded by Mr. J. M. Macoun, the report of the directors was adopted.

The treasurer submitted the financial report, which was referred to the auditors, Messrs. George Johnson and J. M. Macoun.

The chairman, Mr. Little, said that he sincerely regretted the unavoidable absence of the president, who had done much for the cause of forestry. He read a letter and telegram from him wishing the Association success. He also referred to the irreparable loss we had sustained in the death of our Queen, and instructed the Committee on Resolutions to prepare a suitable memorial.

Dr. Saunders then read a paper by Mr. J. R. Anderson, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for British Columbia, entitled "Forestry in British Columbia." It was a most complete review of the forest resources of that province, giving the location and adaptability of the various classes of timber. This paper, together with a synopsis of the interesting discussion which followed, will be printed in our May issue.

Reforestation of Dominion Lands

"Forestry on Dominion Lands" was the subject of a paper read by Mr. E. Stewart. Mr. Stewart showed that the Dominion Government was, contrary to the general impression, the owner of vast areas of timber lands. He referred to the methods employed in Ontario and Quebec to prevent forest fires, and to the Riding Mountain timber reserve in Manitoba, but paid particular attention to the question of tree planting on the plains, a matter which has been under consideration by the Dominion forestry branch for some time with a view of working out a plan that would be practical for adoption on our western prairies. The European systems would not succeed in our North-West, where the climatic conditions are so dissimilar and where the government machinery is different. He stated that several attempts had been made to encourage tree planting on the plains by the United States Government. One of these was what is known as the Forest Tree Culture Claims, by which a certain amount of land was earned from the Government by the planting of a certain area in trees. The system has not been effective. In Canada the Government has experimental farms at Brandon and Indian Head, from which large quantities of tree seeds and young trees have been supplied to settlers, but it was well known that many of these never

succeed, largely owing (1) to bad planting, (2), to their being planted in land not sufficiently prepared, and (3) to lack of cultivation and attention after planting by the settlers.

The Federal Government of the United States had at last adopted a system of co-operation with the settlers, and the main features of this system have been utilized in framing a system for the Dominion, but it was proposed to go further than they do, in that it is hoped to be able to furnish seeds and plant material.

The system as proposed by Mr. Stewart is as follows:

1. It is proposed that any owner wishing to avail himself of the co-operation of the Government in the planting and cultivation of a forest plantation, wind-break or shelter-belt, shall make application to the Forestry Branch at Ottawa.

2. On receipt of this, the local supervisor of tree planting for the district in which the property is situated is directed to visit and examine the lay of the land and its quality, any streams on it, the location of the buildings, etc., and in case he thinks trees can be successfully grown on it, he will show the position of the proposed plantation, the kind of trees to be grown, their distance apart, etc.

3. This sketch and any other detailed information he may consider necessary will be sent to the head office, where a working plan will be prepared drawn to scale and showing the general features of the farm as compiled from the notes and sketch made by the local supervisor, and also the position of the proposed plantation and other necessary information.

4. A copy of this plan along with the agreement will be sent to the owner. He will keep the copy of the plan for his guidance and return the agreement duly executed.

5. According to the terms of the agreement, the owner agrees to prepare the soil for the plantation and to plant and properly care for the same after planting according to the plan under the direction of the said supervisor or agent of the Department of the Interior.

6. The Department will as far as the means at its disposal permit, furnish seed and plant material for the purposes of planting the said plantation.

7. The Department proposes to render all services above specified wholly without charge.

8. The Department under the agreement reserves the right to enter and take from the plantation for use elsewhere any young seedlings that may be growing up and which should be removed in the proper management of the location, unless the owner wishes the same to extend his plantation. The same privilege is stipulated for with reference to cuttings and seed.

9. It is also provided that the Department shall have the right to publish and distribute the said plan and its results for the information of farmers and others whom it may concern.

The two prominent features of the proposed plan, Mr. Stewart pointed out, are (1) the furnishing of the seeds, cuttings and young trees by the government, and (2) government supervision in tree planting and cultivation by the settlers. As to supply the plant material will be a matter of some magnitude, it is proposed to allow the Department the unused product in any plantation for use elsewhere. The Department would be permitted to enter and take young seedlings which are not required by the owner to extend his own plantation. By this means it is believed that the difficulty in supplying the plant material will be met.

DISCUSSION.

A gentleman from the North-West said that he thought the plan proposed by Mr. Stewart would meet the needs of that district, and urged that it be adopted at once. Of course, difficulties would be met, settlers would not fall in line as readily as they might. He suggested that the plan of taking small trees and seeds from the farmers' plantations should be restricted to seven years.