

so that those reserves form one of the most important watersheds in the Province of Manitoba.

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

Fort a La Corne.—This is a tract of some 513 square miles lying along the Saskatchewan river, both on the north and south sides, in the vicinity of Fort a La Corne. At this point there is a row of sand ridges interspersed with muskeg which carries a stand of jack pine with some spruce. This sand ridge runs along the north side of the river and continues in a north-easterly direction for a considerable distance beyond the point where the inspection has been made. The soil is a light sand and is absolutely non-agricultural land. It is not of any value for any other purpose than timber growing. It has been cut over for ties and other purposes and the timber at the present time is not of great value, but the reproduction of jack pine is good, and it should be a very important timber tract in the future.

Pines Forest Reserve.—This is a sandy tract of land lying south of the Saskatchewan river, a short distance south-west of Prince Albert. The land is sandy except for a large muskeg which runs through the centre of it. The sand lands are timbered more or less with jack pine, although the cutting of ties and other timber, which was done very wastefully on this reserve, was followed by destructive fires which have left but little timber in some parts of it. At points where the fires have not reached, however, the reproduction of jack pine is good; and on the lower parts spruce and tamarack are found; and there is considerable young growth coming on. This is one of the most important reserves on account of its vicinity to an extensive prairie country, which is not extensively wooded, and on account of its being in the vicinity of the city of Prince Albert. It is proposed to add 73.15 square miles of similar sand lands on the edge of the reserve.

Nisbet Forest Reserve.—This is an extension of the same sand area included in the Pines Forest Reserve. This sandy tract crosses the Saskatchewan river at the north-west corner of the Pines reserve and then, turning in an easterly direction, follows the north branch of the river to a point a little to the east of Prince Albert. This land is all a very light sand which would become drifting sand hills if it were opened up to grazing or agriculture, and the only possibility of getting permanent value from it and at the same time preventing the danger of drifting sand is to keep it under timber and to handle the timber in such a way as to keep a forest cover regularly over the area. This tract was cut over for ties, and some parts of it are being cut over for firewood. As a consequence the timber of large size has all been taken out. There is however, a splendid reproduction of young