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## Forest Fire Losses for present year in N. B. Lowest Ever Recorded

Damage mostly to private lands. Very little Crown Land burned

Fredericton, N. B. August 14th. With the number of forest fires to August 12th ninety-five, total acreage burned over 6,200 and total damage to timber \$25,355, the season of 1925 has the lowest fire loss on record. As the season for fires runs into October there is ample reason to "knock wood" when making that statement but the conditions at present are so encouraging that those in charge of the protection of the forests against fires feel most optimistic. The acreage covered in the former record season was 8,400 in 1922.

There is every indication that the public has learned and is learning the lesson that fire must be kept out of forests. This attitude which is in contrast to that displayed not so many years ago is the result of the publicity and other work done by the Department of Lands and Mines and various interested organizations, for the purpose of showing to all the importance of forest protection. The press has been a most valuable instrument in this connection.

Educational as well as publicity work has been carried on and today New Brunswick and Nova Scotia stand as the only two provinces of Canada with Forest Fire Prevention prescribed by the Department of Education as a part of the curriculum of the public schools. Teaching in this connection is having a far-reaching influence.

The number of fires to the end of July in New Brunswick was just half the number which occurred in 1924, when the total to that date was 190. For the five years preceding 1923 the average number of fires to that time was 278. For the past seven year

the average damage to timber caused by fires was \$729,020, the heavy losses of the year 1923 serving to bring the average up. The past month of July had just four fires compared with 71 in July, 1924 and a seven-year average of 78. This makes the month the record July for small number of fires reported and low losses.

Few fires of consequence have occurred so far during the season of 1925. Of ninety-five reported only three spread over more than five hundred acres and sixty per cent of the fires were extinguished before covering five acres. Crown Lands escaped with less than one thousand acres burned and damage to timber about \$2,500. The 5,200 acres of private lands which were burned over, however, sustained damage to the amount of \$14,000 and property damage arising from forest fires totalled \$42,140, a high figure.

Classification of the causes of forest fires shows that 26 were from railways, 18 from pleasure parties of various kinds, 16 from uncontrolled land clearing fires burning in violation of the fire law, 6 from lightning, 3 from burning buildings, one from children playing with matches and 25 from causes unknown.

A feature of the classification is the decreasing number of fires caused by those in the woods for recreation and pleasure. Education and propaganda are showing their work there. The lookout system which now covers almost the entire province proved most valuable in reporting and locating fires. Those in private lands have been fought by private persons under the direction of municipal councillors most effectively.

## PEOPLE SHOULD GUARD AGAINST DANGERS OF HEAT

Light and heat are great and, as we would have said lately, rare luxuries but it does not follow that we can always make use of them indiscriminately and unrestrainedly to our advantage.

A young City clerk cooped up all the week in a dingy office takes a drive on the top of a 'bus and removes his hat the better to bathe in the life giving warm h. In evening he finds his head throbbing, his heart beating weakly and a cold damp sweat breaking out on his skin. That sun bath has done him no good.

I find a distinguished medical authority saying: "The sun is our greatest physician. It is a healer, an antiseptic, a life bringer." Yes, that is true but not always when other circumstances are taken into account. Some infective diseases are more prevalent during hot weather than in cold.

Colds are also prevalent during heat waves. The ser-

ies of events is of this kind. The heat wave often comes quickly. The average man sallies out in his average clothes. He becomes unduly. He perspires. Then, perhaps he sits in a draught or even if not, he remains long enough in his moistened wear, to endure the same effects as would follow from being "wet to the skin" in a downpour of rain. He is, in fact, wet to the skin.

But let us come to a few practical hints. For headgear a turban is the best, but as we can hardly dare to appear in that fashion, then the nearest approach may be used—a white hat of soft material. Straw hats should be protected round the temples. Black hats can be worn only by the most sun drilled individuals.

Light colored clothes are also better. Next to the skin a light silk singlet may be worn. If flannel has been used, it should not be too readily discarded but a thinner set substituted.

For drinks—it is best to drink as little as possible. The best of all is a cold drink of water and oatmeal or, again, cold weak tea or something of the mint julep or der sucked through a straw.

## LITTLE CHANGE IN CANADIAN TRADE

No material change in Canadian business conditions is noticeable, according to dispatches to Dun's Review from branch offices of R. G. Dun & Co. in the principal cities, midsummer quiet being still the rule in numerous lines. The continued favorable progress of crops in almost every section, and the belief that remunerative prices will be realized for most products of the soil, however, result in a marked increase in the confidence with which the future is regarded, and expectations are general that an active buying movement will develop in all staple lines with the termination of the vacation period.

Although the weather has not been wholly favorable at Montreal, retail distribution is in well-maintained volume for this period, and the number of orders being received in moderate amounts for prompt and future shipment encourage expectations of an active Fall and Winter trade. Payments are fairly prompt.

Business in both wholesales and retail lines at Quebec is fully up to the average for this period, and wholesalers are preparing for a substantial merchandise with the ending of vacations and the harvesting of the crops. Collections are fairly prompt.

Retail trade is maintained in satisfactory volume for this period at Toronto, and sentiment in wholesale lines is decidedly optimistic regarding prospects for the coming season. Orders covering wide variety of commodities for Fall shipment are being received in encouraging numbers, reflecting the confidence derived from favorable crop reports and the promising industrial outlook, and collections are improving steadily.

The business outlook in the Far West and Northwest is slowly, but steadily improving, and, though buyers are still practicing conservatism to a considerable extent, there is a perceptible increase in the confidence with which they enter into engagements for the future. Retail distribution is about normal for this period, but both inquiries and orders are making favorable comparison with those of this time a year ago and, if present crop promises are fulfilled, there seems to be every reason to anticipate an active Fall and Winter trade. Collections show some improvement.

### FIRE ALARM

The Fire Department was called out Wednesday morning at 12:25 o'clock for a blaze in Mr. William Hogan's wood-working shop in the rear of the Empress Theatre. The fire was quickly extinguished on the arrival of the department, with no damage sustained.

## SUPPLEMENTING SHORT PASTURES

(Experimental Farms Note)  
When pastures become dry and unpalatable during mid-summer they should be supplemented with grain and either green feed or summer silage. Otherwise the milk cows will drop so badly in milk yield that they cannot be brought back to profitable production when stable feeding starts in the fall.

Grain feeding is advisable with heavy milking cows. Cows yielding twenty pounds of milk or over, should receive one pound of grain for every six to eight pounds of milk which they produce.

Pasture grass contains a higher percentage of protein than mature hay, and for this reason the summer grain ration need not contain so high a percentage of rich protein feed; such as oil cake and cotton seed meal, as the ration fed in winter. It is more economical to depend largely on green feed or summer silage than grain as a sole supplement to scant pastures. Cost of cutting and hauling green feed each day makes it more expensive than silage, but owing to the danger of spoiling, summer silage is seldom practical unless a farmer has at least fifteen cows.

Last year at the Experimental Station, Fredericton, owing to the dry weather during June and the first two weeks of July, pastures were poor. Oats and pea green feed was fed to the heavy producers from July 20, and to the entire herd from the first of August. They were changed to oats and pea silage on September first. There was no appreciable difference in the milk when the cows were changed from green feed to silage. The mixture used was Banner oats, 2 bushels, and Canadian Beauty peas, 1 bushel sown at the rate of three to three and one-half bushels per acre. The cows were fed from 25 to 40 pounds of roughage. This feed, together with a small grain allowance, maintained the milk flow and kept the cows in good flesh.

If cattle are allowed to fall away in flesh and milk yield in mid-summer, it will take much more feed to carry them through the winter. Therefore, every effort should be made to maintain the flesh and milk flow during the period of short pastures. If green oats are available they will give fair results, although not so good as oats and peas. In grain feeding the farmer should bear in mind that while he may not get immediate returns, the improved condition of the cows will reflect itself in greater production during the winter as well as during the ensuing lactation period.



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