

of the fields and forest, set about improving his condition.

He found that in the wild state every genus of tree consists of one or more species or strongly marked individual sorts. For instance, the wild cherry, the sour cherry, the mazzard cherry, etc. These species in their natural state exactly reproduce themselves. That is, they come true from seed. This they have done for untold generations and will continue to do as long as they exist under natural conditions only.

Cultivating New Species.

On the other hand, suppose we gather the seed of one of these species and plant it in our gardens. We shall find that the leaves and habit of growth of many of the seedlings it produces do not entirely resemble the original species, while of course having some of its characteristics, and when they come into bearing there will also be a great diversity in the size, color, and flavor of the fruit. Each one that differs

from the original type constitutes a new variety. Once in possession of a new variety—an artificial product—especially if it has marked differences or shows improvement over the original, we have in our hands the best material for the improving process.

Why do not varieties produce the same from seed? Why if we plant the stone of a Lombard Plum will it not always produce a Lombard Plum, or if we plant the seed of the Fameuse apple will we not always get a Fameuse? It will be remembered that our garden varieties of fruits are not natural forms, they are the artificial products of our culture. They have two strong tendencies: one to improve, the other to return to the wild state. Between these two tendencies it will be generally seen how unlikely it is for the progeny of varieties to reappear in the same forms. In fact, if culture were abandoned for a few years, cultivated varieties would disappear and return to their original forms.

Canada's Tree Farm of 250 Million Acres

(From Dominion's Royal Commission Report.)

The forest resources of Canada undoubtedly form one of the most valuable assets of the Empire. The extent of the timber lands of the Dominion is so vast and so varied in character that no adequate survey of their area and commercial value has yet been undertaken. Estimates of the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior place the extent of land covered by timber in the Dominion at between five hundred million and six hundred million acres, or about a quarter of the land area of Canada. A large proportion of this, however, does not yield commercial timber. Estimates of the amount of merchantable timber vary greatly. The Minister of the Department of the Interior has given us a figure of 250,000,000 acres as the estimated area covered with trees which could be used for sawing into

timber. In addition, there is land covered with timber which is valuable as pulpwood, and for other purposes.

The main distribution of the commercial timber throughout the Dominion has been estimated by the Forestry Branch of the Department of the Interior to be as follows:—

	Acres
British Columbia.....	50,000,000
Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba.....	11,000,000
Ontario.....	70,000,000
Quebec.....	100,000,000
New Brunswick.....	9,000,000
Nova Scotia.....	5,000,000

In the north of Alberta there are very large areas covered with wood which is of no commercial value, except for local purposes such as firewood and fencing. The North-West Territories and the Yukon