

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

FORESTRY BRANCH,

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,

OTTAWA, March 20, 1912.

SIR:—I have the honour to present herewith a report by Mr. D. Roy Cameron, B.A. B.S. F., of the 'Timber Conditions Around Lesser Slave Lake,' and to recommend its publication as Bulletin No. 29 of this Branch.

The information contained in this report was obtained by the author as chief of a party which made a reconnaissance survey of the district in the summer of 1911.

The report outlines the work of the party throughout the summer, and proceeds to give a survey of the general conditions of the district under the headings of topography, soil, climate, forest growth, damage to the forest growth by fires, and, finally, the manner and extent to which the forest is being reproduced or renewed.

The country examined is then taken up by districts, ten in number.

The importance of reserving designated portions of the territory, the seeds of which cannot profitably be used for agriculture, is urged, not only for the beneficial effect on the navigation of the rivers and for the prevention of erosion of the land, but also in order to render available a timber supply when the country is settled, as it must be in no very long time.

A scheme of fire protection, illustrated by a map, is also submitted.

A number of tables, summarizing important information about the country, are given as appendices.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. H. CAMPBELL,

Director of Forestry.

W. W. Cory, Esq., C.M.G.,

Deputy Minister of the Interior,

Ottawa.