

I should prefer to call them, the national forests - for they are set aside for proper use, rather than reserved for a future generation); we have endeavoured to eliminate from such reserves those lands which had true agricultural value, for as a general policy, we in Canada with the large land areas at our disposal do not need to use agricultural land for the growing of timber. And we have from time to time set aside, as national forests, lands which were incapable of successful agriculture, but which afforded excellent opportunities for timber production.

My hearers will recall that in earlier years this district had two very large sawmills, one in Prince Albert, the other at the town of Big River, some 90 miles to the northwest of this City. So long as these mills were in operation, they contributed greatly to the hum of industrial activity at these two points. These splendid mills, however, disappeared long since.

However, the situation is not hopeless, let us look at the brighter side. Any of you who have taken occasion to enquire, will have discovered that scattered here and there throughout the district a considerable number of much smaller sawmills have developed, and that these mills are operating on the raw material supplied on a much more permanent basis from the national forests of the district.

One of the main efforts of our Forest Service in this district has been to improve the means of fire detection and fire control. Three seasons ago a separate unit of air patrol operation was established

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