

visited by fire during past fire season. The types of forest lands destroyed are as follows:

	Acres.
Merchantable Timber-----	12,468
Young Growth-----	13
Old Burn-----	1,959
Recent Burn-----	825
Cut Over Land-----	32,711
Miscellaneous-----	621
	50,598

Over \$48,000 have been expended to extinguish the above 188 forest fires, being an average of \$255.32 for each fire. A total sum of \$38,000 was paid to extinguish only one fire.

Although no fire permit was issued to settlers from May 15th to June 15th, our rangers have given out over 5,000 permits. An area of over 10,000 acres of land were actually cleared for agricultural purposes in our division according to above permits without injuring forest areas to any extent.

We had to prosecute 55 transgressors to fire laws and secured conviction in most of the cases.

The Value of Education.

Considering the character of the season we feel that the results obtained are satisfactory and encouraging for the future. We believe that our Association has done a great deal in forest protection work and the educational campaign carried on since its formation did a great amount of good in every part of the territory placed under our jurisdiction. This campaign ought to be continued and intensified if we wish to get rid of the fire plague within the shortest time.

FISHERMEN CAUSED HALF OF NEW BRUNSWICK'S FIRES.

Fredericton, N.B., Dec. 1, 1921—The past fire season was the most serious ever recorded. The snowfall for the winter of 1921 was below the average, while the usual heavy spring rains did not follow in March and April. During the months of May, June, July and August, the records show the rainfall was 30 per cent to 70 per cent below the average. Periods from six to twenty-five days occurred without any rainfall, not even showers. The very dry condition of the soil, the lack of water in the swamps and brooks, coupled with drying winds and continual hot weather made fire fighting much more difficult, greatly increasing the cost of extinguishing forest fires.

A summary follows:—

	Acres.
Number of fires reported to the Forest Service-----	450
Total area burned over-----	72,700

Private land burned is 40 per cent of total area burned.

Crown land burned is 60 per cent of total area burned.

Of the 72,700 acres burned 80 per cent was previously burned over land.

Area of Crown Land protected 7,500,000

Area of private forest land--- 4,500,000

Area burned is therefore only 6/10 of one per cent of forest area.

In comparing the past fire season with that of 1920 the 1921 fire season extended over a period about three times as long. Over 100 more fires occurred, but the acreage burned over is only about seventy per cent of the acreage burned in 1920. The loss to standing timber is considerably less than in 1920, while the loss of property caused mainly by the Westfield Fire was about the same as the loss of property and wood products at St. Quentin in 1920.

Large Staff on Patrol

In addition to the permanent staff of forest rangers, a temporary staff of over 1,000 men, consisting of voluntary and co-operative fire wardens, road supervisors and extra patrolmen, were organized into a fire protection staff and rendered valuable service by their prompt action in fighting fires in their respective districts. In the matter of forest fire detection, the look-outs became very efficient and the value of this means of forest fire detection cannot be too greatly emphasized in this province. As practically all districts are connected by telephone, fires were promptly reported to the local wardens.

Causes of Fires.

Owing to the length of the fire season many causes were recorded which had not caused serious fires in previous seasons.

Fishermen, campers and picnic parties caused 50 per cent of the fires.

Railways caused 18 per cent.

Settlers caused 12 per cent.

Miscellaneous caused 17 per cent.

Lightning caused 2 per cent.

The causes of fires are not in the same proportion as in previous seasons and the damage resulting is not in the same proportion as the causes. Settlers' slash fires gave little trouble, due to the fact that all slash burning was closed off on May 10th until the fire season was over. Railway fires were greatly reduced by the systematic inspection of fire protection appliances on locomotives and the maintenance of railway patrolmen through forested sections. This was possible through the hearty co-operation of the railways in all matters pertaining to fire protection.

Miscellaneous causes, such as hay-makers, working on meadows within the forest, woods crews peeling pulp, cigar butts thrown from automobiles, farmers and others smoking in the woods while hunting stray cattle and poachers, all caused a few fires which did considerable damage.

Lightning caused a few bad fires for the first time on record in this province. This was no doubt due to the very dry condition of the forest and the absence of rains following the electric storms. Look-outs have proved so successful that several more are now under construction and nearing completion. Several telephone lines are also under construction.

A MONOLOGUE

I am a Timber Tree.

I grow where no other crop will grow.

I ask not one inch of farm land in order to give Canada a whopping profit.

There's about a million square miles where once I grew and where I grow no more.

Does anything else grow on the lands from which I have been banished.

The answer is, No.

I am a Big Employer.

I had pay envelopes to 73,000 men in the lumber industry and to tens of thousands of lumberjacks who make their logs in the woods.

I have on my pay sheet every week of the year 25,000 men in the pulp and paper mills and I provide wages for another 25,000 workmen getting out pulp logs.

I don't know how long I can keep up this proud record. In a good many districts I have been chased out by forest fires and I can't return before the year 2,022 at the earliest. I didn't like to see the mills close in those deforested districts and the workmen turned adrift, but it couldn't be helped. If you can't make bricks without straw, you certainly can't make forest-jobs without forest.

Give me half a chance and I'll personally pay the national debt.

A CHRISTMAS TREE FARM.

The city of Stockholm, Sweden, maintains a large plantation of evergreens which are used entirely for Christmas tree purposes. The plantation is paying a profit and at the same time providing abundantly for Yuletide decoration, without the necessity of transporting trees from great distances.