

race of Grey Spruce; collect seeds from White Pine which show the strongest resistance to blister rust. In other words, select your seed-trees with the utmost care.

You will thereby avoid making all the mistakes we have made in the old country.

Hoping that this article may prove of interest, I remain,

Yours truly,

OTTO SCHIERBECK.

Can. B.C. Forests Stand Coming Strain?

By R. W. Hibberson

(for 17 years a British Columbia timber estimator and surveyor)
in an address before Associated Boards of Trade, Vancouver



*Within ten years our coast forests may
be subject to treble present demand*



"To the average man in the street," said Mr. Hibberson, "British Columbia is all timbered. He travels by train through the interior of British Columbia, or by steamer up the coast, and everywhere looks green; therefore, it must be timber. If you told him there is every danger of timber famine in British Columbia within fifteen years, you would be ridiculed. But there is a very decided danger of a timber famine, and before many years lapse we will all begin to feel it.

"Ten years ago the centre of the logging industry was within a radius of fifty miles of Vancouver. To-day it is from one hundred and fifty to two hundred miles from Vancouver, and in some cases operators are towing logs as far as six hundred miles to their mills, and an average tow of two hundred miles is quite common. Ten years ago the average cost of logging was \$5 per thousand feet; today it is nearly \$20 per thousand feet, and in some of our cedar camps last year the cost was over this figure.

"Nineteen-nineteen figures give lumbering production as \$70,000,000, one-third as much again as mining and fishing combined, which only total forty-eight millions. There are many other industries dependent on the lumber industry. Our wire rope plants, iron works, food supply houses and farmers will all feel the loss. Our salmon canneries, mines and railroads are large consumers of lumber, and will keenly feel the loss of our timber, which will increase their operating expenses enormously.

Not an Alarmist.

"I have no doubt that you think I am painting a very harrowing picture and one that can never come about, but it has come about in other parts of this continent and will certainly come about here unless we can take measures to prevent it. The fact that we can ship lumber across the continent by rail into New York State, to keep the wood-using plants there alive, proves it. New York State once was heavily forested, like British Columbia. Her requirements today are 300 board feet per capita. She can only get from her forests thirty feet per capita; the balance of ninety per cent. she must import from Canada, the Pacific Coast and the Southern States.

"Less than five per cent. of the original forests of the New England States remain. The original pine forests of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin, estimated to contain 350 billion feet, talked of as inexhaustible, are now reduced to six billion feet. These densely populated States are now dependent on timber grown and manufactured elsewhere, and in a very few years will be absolutely dependent on Pacific Coast timber.

"The bulk of the timber used in the Eastern and Central States during the past fifteen years was grown in the pine forests of the South, but these forests have been so heavily cropped that they have now been reduced from 650 billion board feet to 150 billion board feet. Much of this is small