

Technically Trained Foresters in Demand

Qualified Men are Destined to Play Larger Part in Handling Forest Resources

The increasing realization of the value of technical forestry training is proved by the number of corporations in eastern Canada which now employ men with such training. Among these are the Canadian Pacific Railway Company and the following timber-owning concerns: Laurentide Company, Riorion Pulp and Paper Company, St. Maurice Paper Company, Brown Corporation, Belgoo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Company, and Canada Paper Company. It is expected that both the Abitibi Power and Paper Company, and the W. B. Snowball Company will establish forestry departments in the near future. The latter formerly employed a forester.

The Laurentide and Riorion Companies are already engaged upon extensive reforestation propagandas, and the Abitibi Company is expecting to follow suit in the near future.

Aside from forest nursery and planting work, foresters in private employ in Canada have thus far found the greatest demand for their services in connection with forest mapping and cruising. There is an increasing recognition of the superior results accomplished along these lines by men with technical forestry training, supplemented by practical experience. Like other members of the engineering profession, the forester recognizes fully the necessity of securing practical experience after graduation, before he is ready for a position involving responsibility and the exercise of mature judgment.

The forestry profession is still one of the youngest on this continent. The time is however, rapidly approaching when foresters in both public and private employ will wield a much greater influence than at present in so shaping the methods of logging, that cut-over lands will be left in a condition to produce successive crops of timber indefinitely. Present methods of logging are, as a rule, destructive rather than constructive, in that the productive capacity of the soil is largely destroyed as a result of the way in which the operation is carried on.

—C. L.

REVENUE FROM FORESTS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

During the past year the forest revenues of the Province of New Brunswick, from Crown Lands, reached the highest figure in the history of the province with the exception of the years 1913 and 1914, when there were very heavy revenues in the form of bonuses, consequent upon the renewal of timber licenses. The forest revenues for the year ended October 31, 1918, aggregate \$582,533. This figure includes \$30,555 from the fire protection tax. The aggregate of forest revenues during the preceding year was \$443,848. These figures show the extent to which the Provincial Government is dependent upon its revenues from Crown timber lands, to meet the

expenses of administration of the Government. New Brunswick has a well organized forest service, which is exerting every effort to protect the forest lands of the province, with a view to the perpetual maintenance of their productivity.—C. L.

New Notifiable Disease

Another epidemic disease has been recently made notifiable in England and Wales under the name of "lethargic encephalitis". The disease has been known in Europe since about 1890, but "the first case noted in England occurred in February, 1918". Other cases followed and the epidemic—confined to a relatively small area—was apparently stamped out in June. In all, some 164 cases were reported during that time. "Clinically the disease is a general infectious disease characterized by manifestations originating in the central nervous system of which the most frequent and characteristic are progressive lethargy or stupor and lesion in or about the nuclei of the third pair of cranial nerves. . . . There seems to be little doubt that there is always a certain amount of fever in an early stage, although occasionally it will not be observed for several days after the onset of the symptoms. The common range is between 101° F. and 102° F. but temperatures up to 104° F. are not very uncommon. . . . A period of subnormal temperature not infrequently follows."—*Abstract from Bulletin of the U.S. Public Health Service.*

RURAL INDUSTRY

The government of Great Britain has announced a policy of constructing central power plants at strategic points throughout the country for generating electricity in large units, which is much more economical than the operation of small individual plants. Lloyd George in referring to this said:

"One of the most important things the Government has in mind is the utilization of our great mineral resources for the production of electrical power on a great scale. This will enable rural industries to be created so that workmen should find remunerative employment under conditions where they can bring up their children in the healthier atmosphere of the country. A great electrical power scheme would also assist in cheapening and increasing the efficiency of our town industries, so as to increase the output, diminish the cost, and thus enable all classes interested in production to benefit."

WILL PRODUCE FISH MEAL

It is hoped to produce a million pounds of fish meal annually from fish waste and offal at a plant that is to be established at Tiverton, Nova Scotia. Most of the product will probably be marketed in the Maritime Provinces.

The production of oysters in British Columbia, though limited as yet, is increasing. In 1917, the province produced 1,789 barrels, which is approximately 15 per cent. in excess of the 1916 catch.

BEWARE PATENT PILLS

The oft repeated warning must again ring out! Beware of the so-called "patent" medicine pills!

According to a report in a recent issue of a western paper, a little four-year-old girl died on Wednesday, March 19th, after eating some of these pills with a very seductive name. The paper states that the doctor who conducted the post mortem, declared that the pills "contained strychnine, belladonna and aloin, which were all of vegetable origin and he imagined a few taken would cause serious trouble in a young child". The coroner, "expressed the opinion that the advertising on the boxes was desperately misleading. They might be a very good pill for purgative purposes, but they were fixed up so nicely that children would eat them readily, and a number of inquests had been held over children who had done so". The coroner stated that "juries had passed recommendations urging that regulations should be passed requiring them to be labelled 'poison' but nothing had come of them".

A recommendation such as the foregoing is but reasonable and is simply following the custom in Great Britain where all preparatory preparations containing "poisons" are so labelled, as laid down by law. The suggestion of the British Columbia jury is a very wise and proper one.

—C. A. Hodggett, M.D.

QUEBEC'S FOREST EXPENDITURE

The legislature of Quebec has appropriated \$100,000 for the provincial forest service and the inspection of lands for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1920; also \$7,000 for the maintenance of the provincial forest nursery at Berthierville. These amounts are very materially supplemented by the expenditures on forest fire protection incurred by the Ottawa River, St. Maurice, Laurentian and Southern St. Lawrence forest protective associations, which patrol the great bulk of the licensed and privately owned timber lands in the province. The expenditures of these four associations on fire protection during the past year total \$177,729.—C. L.

DANGER IN UNSIGHTLY RUINS

Why is it that so many villages, towns and cities permit the wreckage resulting from serious fires to remain in the very centre of their business areas? Every traveller who visits villages and smaller towns especially, must have noticed these disfigurements. Ruined buildings extend right to the sidewalk, filled with water and partly burned timbers, without even a railing to prevent accidents to pedestrians. Canada has long held the world's record in the matter of fire losses, and the fact that burned ruins are permitted to remain for years in scores of communities, indicates how shameless Canadians are with respect to their prodigality.

Give Kiddies a Chance

Every baby should have a fair fighting chance to survive the first year of life undamaged.

At present one baby in every ten dies before its first birthday, and more still die before they are born, but terrible as is this waste of valuable young life, the child damage rate is an even greater menace to the country.

Two-thirds of the children who attain school age are found to be suffering from preventable physical defects which entail suffering to them in the struggle for life.

The National Service figures show that 40 per cent of the male adult population are classed as C3, and there is evidence to show that the statistics of the female population are closely similar.

The waste of life and this damage rate could be largely prevented.

At least half of these baby lives could be saved and made worth living—if we cared enough; if we, parents, doctors, teachers and all citizens, worked together to give the children a better chance.

Decide now that you will take some direct share in the campaign for saving the babies.

Give your own children every chance to grow up healthy citizens by ensuring that your home is healthy.

Dust and refuse should be burnt, flies destroyed, your rooms flushed with fresh air day and night, and your children supplied with regular meals of well-cooked, wholesome food and allowed ample sleep.

Take an interest in the children of your neighbourhood.

Get all the information you can about Baby Welfare.

Visit the nearest Mothers' and Babies' Club or Infant Welfare Centre and offer your help to the committee.

Help to cultivate local public opinion in support of Maternity and Child Welfare work.

Ask at the Town Hall or the offices of the Health or Sanitary Authority for information about Child Welfare work in your district.—*Bulletin, National Baby Week Council.*

TO CONSIDER INFANT WELFARE

A National Conference on Infant Welfare will be held in London, England, on July 1st, 2nd and 3rd, 1919. Problems related to the medical, social, racial and industrial aspects of infant and child welfare will be discussed. The Conference is being called by the National League for Health, Maternity and Child Welfare, the officials of which urge that similar conferences be organized in other countries during the present year. Then in 1920, an International Congress is planned to bring together the results and findings for further detailed discussion. It is hoped in this way to carry out the plans of the League, which, but for the war, would have convened an International Congress in September, 1915.