

Resolved, that this meeting recommends that the serious attention of the Government be drawn to the decrease of the maple sugar industry, and to the denudation of large areas formerly covered by the maple tree following the effect on the maple sugar industry of the adulteration and imitation of maple tree products, which can only be obviated by restricting the use of the word "maple" to pure products of the maple tree.

Interview With Government.

At 12.15 most of those present proceeded to the office of the Prime Minister, in the East Block, where they were received by Rt. Hon. R. L. Borden and Hon. W. J. Roche, Minister of the Interior.

The President stated the objects of the deputation, and briefly reviewed the points of the different resolutions presented, the same being handed to the ministers in writing.

He was followed by Hon. Clifford Sifton, Chairman of the Commission of Conservation, who was present by request, and who spoke at considerable length on three subjects, namely: 1. The necessity of preventing settlement on lands unsuited for farming. 2. The lack of a scientific policy on Dominion timber berths, and 3. The need of a trained forest service under Civil Service regulations. He briefly illustrated each of these points. In regard to the second, he pointed out that the Branch of the Department of the Interior, which sold the timber, had no scientific foresters in it, and had no officers to see that the regulations as to cutting, disposal of slash, etc., were carried out. On the other hand, the branch which had the trained officers and field staff was not charged with the care of the timber on the licensed timber berths. In connection with the third point he held that both the Dominion and the provinces needed a trained staff, and also needed to have the appointments to the same made in a way that would insure that good men would get the positions, and that promotions would be upon merit. He gave instances where men appointed by the ordinary political methods could not travel a quarter of a mile into the forest without being lost, and of search parties being sent out to find forest rangers. He urged that the service should be classified and put under a Civil Service Commission. He promised that if that were done that within five years such an advance would be made in forest conservation that it would astonish them all.

He pointed out that Canada was progressing in regard to trained men, for whereas in 1899 he was informed there was not one trained forester in Canada, there was now as head of Toronto University Forest School Dr. Fernow, the greatest

forester in America, and this and other schools were turning out trained men.

Hon. Mr. Sifton concluded by reading a letter written in 1871 by Sir John Macdonald, then Premier of Canada, to Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, then Premier of Ontario, in which he said that the sight of huge timber rafts continually passing under his window made him anxious that something be done to protect the forests, and he was constrained to wonder what would become of the Ottawa Valley after all the timber was gone.

Mr. Geo. Y. Chown pressed the necessity for employing trained foresters. He reminded the Prime Minister that in 1912 a deputation from the Association had pressed for the extension of Civil Service regulations to the outside service. The Prime Minister had said at that time that he thought some action would shortly be taken, and the deputation was again appearing to urge that that be done.

Hon. Mr. Borden, in replying, said he appreciated the importance of the matters which had been emphasized. So far as a trained forest service was concerned, it was not only desirable, but necessary. In the pressure of Parliamentary matters, the subject had escaped his attention, and possibly the same was also true of the Minister of the Interior, but he was prepared to take this matter up with him as soon as possible. He had been thinking about the subject of a Forestry Congress, of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier had spoken to him, and he wished to know if the deputation were prepared to express any views on this matter.

Hon. Mr. Charlton said that, speaking offhand, he could only say that the Canadian Forestry Association would be immensely pleased if the Government would call such a national gathering.

The Prime Minister, on being informed that the annual meeting was still in session, asked them to consider this question before they concluded, and to give him their views on this whole subject.

The deputation then withdrew.

Afternoon Session.

The meeting reassembled at 2.30, Hon. Mr. Charlton again in the chair.

The report of the Treasurer, Miss M. Robinson, for the year 1913, was presented by the Secretary as follows:

Receipts.

Balance from 1912	\$2,234.37
Membership fees	2,466.00
Copies of <i>Journal</i>	30.46
Advertising in <i>Journal</i>	97.13
Refunds	19.00
Grant from Dominion Government	2,000.00
Grant from Ontario Government.	300.00
Grant from Quebec Government.	400.00
Grant from B. C. Government..	200.00