

and that every possible way of improving matters be discovered and made use of.

Time forbids that I should say more on this occasion and I will confine myself to emphasizing one final point. The Conservation movement has succeeded in making the public realize that, region by region, and State by State, many of the forests of this continent are being cut out. It is human nature for people to console themselves with the thought that the forests will last their time and that nothing much can be done.

I think that it is just here that the failure to give people a real interest in forest business has occurred. There have been too many glittering generalities; too much talk of benefitting posterity. Thus it comes that the average timber owner would as soon as think of allowing what he imagines is meant by 'forestry' to interfere with the practical handling of his limits as he would permit the science of Eugenics to dictate to him whom he should marry. He, and I am afraid the public with him, think of forestry as something theoretical, like German philosophy, that is out of touch with the hard facts of life today.

What we need to drive into the understanding of the people is that 'forestry' as we practise it means the scientific management of the Government's immense timber business, so that the citizen who would otherwise have to pay \$15. in taxes only has to pay \$10. so that in years to come the citizen will have to pay still less; so that while producing these effects on revenue the system of forest finance will be so adjusted as to offer the maximum of encouragement to the growth of the lumbering industry; and—above all other considerations—so that our forest capital, the source of our prosperity, may be preserved intact.

## AT THE BANQUET

*(Speech in reply to the toast to the Canadian Forestry Association)*

I occupy to-night a dual position. It is my privilege to be one of the Vice-Presidents of the Canadian Forestry Association and therefore one of the guests of the evening and on the other hand I occupy the position of Minister of Lands, and am to some extent, at least, responsible as one of the hosts of this evening's gathering. Consequently it is a difficult matter for me to decide which line I should take in responding to this toast, whether I should render thanks on behalf of the guests or whether I should extend further words of welcome on behalf of the hosts.

I was particularly interested in the striking statements just made by our Premier, and by other speakers with reference to the expansion of the forest industry which is expected to take place within the next few years. On account of my intimate association with the business of the timbermen, owing to my position as Minister of Lands, I think perhaps this phase of the matter comes home to me in a very emphatic way, and I can see the expansion which is bound to take place and the rapidity with which it is bound to occur.

The great extension in the last few years of the lumber industry, the presence of the pulp industry now as an active factor in our commerce, the early completion of the great transcontinental railway lines and of the Panama Canal make me feel keenly the responsibilities which fall upon the shoulders of those who are administering the Department of Lands in this Province. And it makes us feel that we must not limit our administration to the mere current business of the day, but