

the land for agriculture. Besides that, fire has destroyed the forests of Kamouraska to a very considerable extent, and the farmers are obliged to bring the wood they need from a great distance and at very great expense. During the winter when the habitant should be otherwise employed, he must spend a great part of his time in drawing wood. In all the old counties wood is the important consideration; the cost increases annually and people are asking themselves where the next generation will procure it. Mgr. Laffamme would look favourably on the pulp industry and the money it brought to the farmers if this source of revenue were not of so temporary a character, but as things are now the farmer took more annually from his wood-lot than could be reproduced; for every 100 feet produced, 1,000 was cut. On some farms the wood was being cut so rapidly that there would soon be none left and then the settler would not only draw no further profit from his wood-lot, but would have to procure at great expense elsewhere what he needed for himself. These were the facts, but it would be unfair to generalize too quickly and believe that this state of things existed everywhere. This was not the case, and in some places sufficient care and foresight were exercised to preserve the privately owned forests; but, nevertheless, it must be admitted that with too great a number of the habitants there was a deplorable improvidence in this respect. It was necessary to inculcate into the interested parties the need of thinking of the future, to make them realize that they must not occupy themselves exclusively with the present; after they were gone their children would either profit by their wisdom or suffer from their improvidence. There was then an important social and patriotic work to be undertaken and followed to a satisfactory end. Naturally we cannot think of preventing owners of private wood-lands from exploiting their forest reserves, for very often the exploitation of his wood is made necessary by the conditions by which the colonist is surrounded. All that we can and ought to do is to suggest a rational means by which he can draw profit from them. We ought to make him understand that his duty is not to work in such a way as to cause this source of revenue to disappear forever; that they ought to demand from their wood-lands only the equivalent of what grows each year; that they ought to exploit them in a way that would add to instead of destroying their value; that they ought to renounce the large profits of to-day and content themselves with the modest but more permanent one that would continue forever. We should be able to make the farmers understand that it was to their interest to gradually re-forest their lands. It was necessary, above all, to make them understand that if they did not themselves enjoy the fruits of their work they would leave a valuable heritage to their children.

The address by Mr. E. G. Joly de Lotbiniere on "Compulsory