

ago, introduced into one of its departments a forestry branch. It has done a great deal of good in that respect and I hope that Mr. Stewart, who is the administrator of this branch, will give us some information as to the work which he has done. It has done a great deal already to my certain knowledge and to the knowledge of everyone who has been in the North-West. It was my privilege last September to visit the Province of Manitoba and the new provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta. Fourteen years had elapsed since I had seen them before and of all things which struck me in this wonderful country the thing which perhaps gladdened my heart more than anything else, is the attention which is given to forestry. Fourteen years ago when I first visited the Province of Manitoba and the Territories of Alberta and Saskatchewan the farms were absolutely barren of trees; you could not see a tree around them. Now, I am glad to say that around most of the farms of Manitoba and many in Saskatchewan and Alberta you can see groves of trees. The City of Winnipeg in that respect is an example to the cities of the east. The City of Winnipeg has done marvels in the way of tree planting. The streets of Winnipeg to-day are a credit to that city and would be a credit to even an older city than it is. But, there is a great deal to be done in the east and in that respect perhaps my own province of Quebec is the greatest sinner. My own countryman, the French-Canadian, is the man with the axe. There is no better man in that respect than he. He goes into the forest and there is no man who can equal him in forest work, but, in the meantime, he has not been as careful as he should have been in preserving the trees in his midst. I should like to impress upon every Canadian farmer the necessity of covering with trees every rocky hill and the bank of every running stream. It is very easily done. He has only to scatter the seeds on the ground, fence it and nature will do the rest. These are some of the questions which I hope will be taken into consideration by yourselves. I do not intend to limit the number of questions which shall be taken into consideration but these are some to which, with others, I invite the serious attention of this Convention. I have much pleasure in calling upon Mr. R. L. Borden, the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons.

MR. R. L. BORDEN.—I welcome the opportunity of being present at this Convention and of expressing my appreciation of the importance of our forest resources. To men familiar as you are with the subject all that I can say must seem trite and commonplace; but I venture a few remarks merely for the purpose of indicating my interest in this great question.

Canada is remarkable not only for the extent and variety of her resources but for the diversified nature of the country