

plain that these regulations will be entirely separate and distinct from the regulations under which timber is sold by public auction, and will not interfere in any way, with that system.

#### New Regulations Required.

The proper framing of regulations for cutting on the reserves is a matter of considerable difficulty and a great deal of care will require to be exercised in order that the conditions may be equitable, and of such a character as to be workable, while at the same time precautions are observed against fire. The general principle would be to have only such timber cut as is designated by the Crown foresters, and the debris cared for in such a way as to reduce the danger from fire to a minimum and give the undeveloped wood a chance to grow to the best advantage. It is possible to estimate the annual growth of pine under certain conditions. There are methods by which forestry bureaus all over the world can do that. These methods of computation would give a very, very large annual increase in growth on an area as large as that covered by our permanent forest reserves. But eliminating the extreme estimate and adopting most conservative figures there is no doubt that the increased growth in these reserves will amount to several millions of dollars a year. (App.) This, of itself, would give to us as much revenue as we are receiving now from our Crown Lands, so that we need not feel at all uneasy as to our future revenue from this source. In order that we may have complete, detailed information it is intended to have a close estimate made—(we already have a general estimate)—of these reserves as soon as it is practical, and have a timber map prepared which will be on file in the department, and which will give valuable information as to the exact location of our pine timber in the largest quantities, and the different stages of growth. In this way we can have information available at all times, which will be a guide as to selling, in order that the best results may be obtained. In this connection I would like to say a word or two with reference to islands in Lake Temagami. Some

members of this House may have visited that lake. If they have they will know something of its beauty and of the 1400 or 1500 islands estimated to be situated there. The Government has decided, and the department has completed an arrangement to have these islands all surveyed, and the work will be entered upon at once. Each island will be numbered and mapped, and a competent timber estimator will accompany the survey party in order that details as to this timber may be on record in the department. The question of disposing of them is a matter that will require a good deal of consideration, and, from letters we are already receiving, will be of considerable interest to the Province. There are many now who are anxious to obtain islands in Temagami for the purpose of summer resorts. Of course those with summer homes in Muskoka, or in Lake Simcoe and the Peterborough districts think they have the prettiest and most desirable sites that can be found. It is a good thing that we have these differences of opinion, and that we do not all desire to locate in the same place. These Temagami islands will open up a large field for summer tourists (and those who want summer homes are increasing from year to year) and it is proposed to frame conditions by which these islands can be made available for this purpose. There is a feature, too, in connection with the Government railway that ought not to be overlooked here. The country is growing and the railway has opened up and made accessible this beautiful lake, with many islands. This is a point in favor of the construction of the railway from North Bay through to Lake Temiskaming.

#### The Farm Labor Problem.

There is another matter which I think I ought to say a word or two about, because we have had a great deal of inquiry on this point from various parts of the Province and members of this House are interested in this question. That is the question of farm laborers and what the department is doing in that connection. The work of immigration is primarily the duty of the Dominion Government. They expend very