

or three of the lowest branches to be taken off every three or four years. The top or green portion of the tree should always be maintained not less than one-half to one-third of the total height of the tree. If too little top is left the growth of the tree is seriously retarded. No more green branches are removed after the trunk has been cleared to the height of 19 feet above the ground, since the object is to produce only one sound clear 18 foot log per tree above the one foot allowed for stump height. The branches above the 19 foot mark are left to flourish and extend as they will, until such time as the trunk may have reached the diameter required by the owner and the tree is finally cut down.

#### *The Cost Per Tree.*

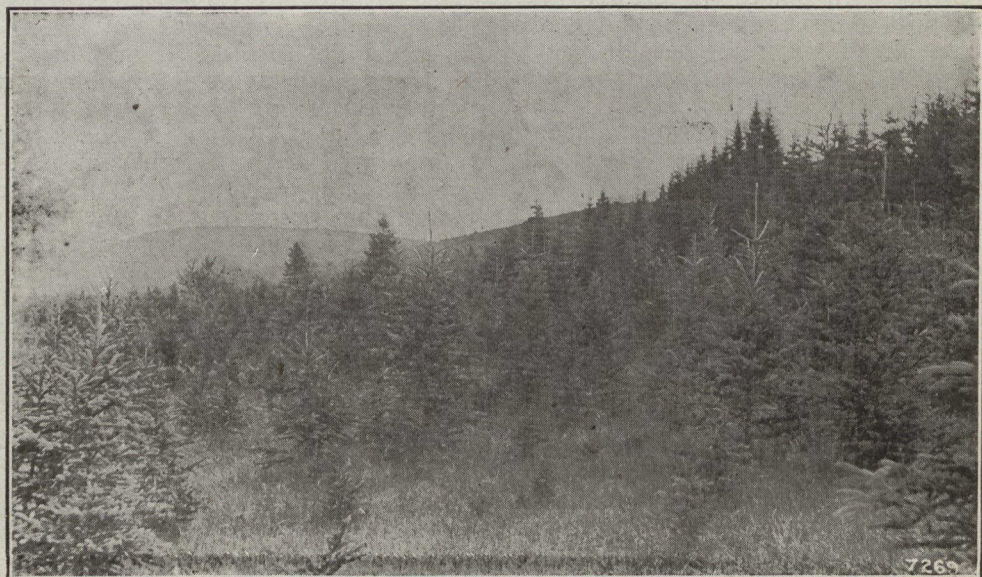
This is a simple method of obtaining good material from trees which would otherwise produce little better than fence posts or firewood. It is not a costly method when one considers that the work can be done during the winter when there is com-

paratively little work being done on the farm. The total value of the labor when the pruning has been completed would probably not amount to more than 10 to 15 cents per tree.

Removing the branches above the nineteen foot mark is not recommended largely because it necessitates a ladder of such length and weight being used, that it cannot be readily handled by one man. Another reason for not removing the green branches above the first log length is the fact that the greater the green top a tree has the more rapid is its trunk diameter growth. To reduce the size of the top further would mean the lengthening of the time required to produce merchantable sized material.

#### **Lumber For Belgium.**

Professor Albert van Hecke, of the University of Louvain, Louvain, Belgium, is in America to study the most suitable lumber for the re-building of Belgium after the war.



SPRUCE AND BALSAM COMING IN ON AN OLD CLEARING.

Unless This Stand Becomes Thicker, Much of the Timber Will be of Inferior Quality.