

Ottawa, 28th May, 1921.

The Right Honourable Sir George E. Foster, P.C., G.C.M.G.,
Minister of Trade and Commerce,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Sir George:-

I received your letter of May 25th with enclosure from Mr. J. B. Hunter regarding the transfer of the Forest Products Laboratory from Montreal to Ottawa.

You ask whether any, or all, of the work done at present in connection with laboratories, is necessary to the Departmental work. There is practically no routine Departmental work carried on in the Forest Products Laboratory. It is planned as a Research Laboratory for the development of forest products. The research work was carried on under three headings -

- (1) Paper and Pulp
- (2) Timber testing in all its branches
- (3) Timber preservation

A number of minor researches were carried on under Dr. Bates.

If we had a Research Institute, the work of the Forest Products Laboratory could be carried on in the Institute, utilizing the present excellent equipment now possessed by that Laboratory. If it were removed from the Department and placed under the Research Institute, it would have the moral and financial support of the whole Paper and Pulp Industry.

I regret to note that it is proposed to remove the Laboratory to Ottawa, as I am afraid the effect of transferring it to Ottawa will not be conducive to the spirit of investigation which has characterized that Laboratory in the past.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Chairman.

RFR/EMcC