

## ***Paying the Fire Fiend His Price***

*(Excerpt from New Brunswick Forest Service report.)*

The loss due to the destruction of timber alone, to say nothing of the rendering of the soil unfit for good natural reproduction, is so enormous that it surpasses the ordinary imagination. It is the common belief among the people, and is probably true, that had not Cains River been so severely burned, that the vast pine and spruce forests would have been

almost inexhaustible, and that this area would still hold the important place in the forest industry of the Province that it held in the early days of exploitation of the timber lands of New Brunswick. The need of proper fire protection and of scientific management of our existing Crown Land forests can not be too strongly urged at the present time.

## **60 Public Meetings in Quebec in Six Weeks**

Some first-class propagandist work has been carried out this month in Quebec Province by Messrs. Victor Baillarge and Gustave Tessier of the Department of Lands and Forests. The Canadian Forestry Association was privileged to co-operate with the Department in the arranging of a series of public meetings in the territory of the Laurentian Forest Protective Association and the St. Maurice Forest Protective Association, covering Central Quebec on the north side of the St. Lawrence. The managers of these associations gave thorough and valuable co-operation in the scheme and went to much trouble in making local arrangements through members of their staffs.

The preparations, however, bore

abundant fruit. Although the idea of public forest protection meetings is something of a novelty in parts of Quebec, Messrs. Tessier and Baillarge met with a goodly reception and were able to deliver illustrated addresses to audiences seldom running below 150 persons and reaching 400 and 450. The assistance of the parish priests was admirable and other leading citizens were glad to give the meetings any help they could.

The consequences of these public lectures, (about 60 since the third week of May) can hardly be measured in mathematical equivalents. It is well-known that ignorance, prejudice, indifference are the great trio of forest destroyers in all parts of Canada, and there is no way of combatting them except by the educational method.

### **GOATS FOR BRUSH CLEARING**

The use of domestic stock to keep down brush along fire guards and railroad rights-of-way may be a rather novel idea to the forest ranger, but I will back twenty goats to do more work and do it better in brush destruction than one man. When once the large timber and all over eight feet high is down, then leave it to the goats to do the rest. They will surely keep down brush sprouts and

young timber. Herds of angora, numbering five hundred or so, herded slowly along the old tote roads will keep them from ever growing back into brush. One will be surprised at the way a few goats will travel along a road nipping twigs and leaves. They are almost continuous in their work, travel and eat all day and at night they are easily corralled.

When fires would come to those pastured roads there would be small