Forest Fire Protection.

Conference of Government and Lumber and Pulpwood Owners.

the subject of the preservation of our timber areas from destruction by fire was held last night in the Executive was held last night in the Executive Chambers at the Court House. Sir Edward occupied the chair. Amongst those present were: Hon. Sir E. P. Morris, who presided; Hons. D. Morison. R. Watson. J. C. Crosbie, S. D. Blandford, M. P. Gibbs, M. P. Cashin, C. H. Emerson; Messrs. H. C. Crowe, Cashing Streets, Otto Empreson, Section, Grant, Strong, Otto Emerson, Scott, W. Horwood, Gulnac, Harris, Howe (Chief Ranger), Pelley, Hon. W. C. Job and Hon. J. B. Ayre. In his opening remarks the Premier regretted the absence of Mr. W. D. Reid, Presi-dent of the Reid Nfld. Co., but assured all that Mr. Reid would heartily co-operate in any efforts that might be advanced in the attainment of the object for which the meeting was called. The meeting was convened in response to circulars sent out some time ago, and all who had received em recognized the necessity for im-ediate action to obviate forest fires mediate action to obviate to rest in future. Future losses must be at all hazards prevented. He was appalled at the potential wealth lost to the country by forest fires. Sir Edward quoted from the following letter received from Mr. Mayson M. Beeton, President of the Anglo-Newfoundley Development Co. which he foundland Development Co., which he read at the close of the meeting.

MR. BEETON'S LETTER. Dear Sir Edward,-I greatly regret that, owing to my departure for England next week, I shall be unable to attend in person the conference which you have called between representa-tives of the Government, the Reid Newfoundland Railway and the owners of timber limits, to discuss the all-important question of forest fires in this island, and the possibility of devising some practical means for their prevention.

Mr. William Scott, C.E., will attend

the conference as the representative of the Anglo-Nfid. Development Co., in my place, and there is no one, as you are aware, who is better quali-fied—from his long experience in the island as an engineer and surveyor, and his knowledge of all parts of the interior of the country—to assist the conference in arriving at some practical solution of this most pressing problem. The urgent necessity for devising some practical and efficient method of preventing the origin and spread of forest fires in this island is now generally recognized by all responsible and thinking persons in the

community.

But it is, perhaps, doubtful whether public opinion, generally speaking, throughout the island, and outside St. John's, has yet been sufficiently awakened to a knowledge of the facts of the case, and of the incalculable damage which has already been done through the destruction of vast forest areas by forest fires in this island during the last 15 or 20 years, and especially of the losses which which this destruction of the "Forest Capital" of Newfoundland, if it is allowed to continue, must cause to the wage-

hasis can be laid on this aspect of of its forest resources means in cash to the wage-earners of Newfoundland has been shown as a practical object on in the expenditure on the mills which have been and are being erected at Grand Falls and Bishop's Falls. There is no reason why this island should not be dotted with similar enterprises on a smaller scale, just as Scandinavia is to-day, provided effective and immediate steps are taken to prevent the devastation of its forest areas by fire. What the construction work alone which would be entailed in connection with such enterprises would mean to the wage-earning classes of Newfoundland has been amply illustrated in the monthly wage bills at Grand Falls during the last four years. What the operating and running costs of such enterprises yould mean to the wage-earners of this Colony, and as a consequence, what a vital and permanent interest they have in the conservation of the resources of the interior—on must depend absolutely the which must depend absolutely the possibility of establishing and maintaining such enterprises—may be equally well illustrated by a very simple calculation as to what the manufacture of every ton of paper produced in this Colony will bring in as wages to the community.

Every ton of paper represents at least \$12, paid to the wage-earners engaged, directly or indirectly, in its manufacture and handling from the time the tree is cut down in the forest to the time that the finished pro-Every ton of paper represents, roughly, a cord and one-half of wood.

In accordance with a notice given y Sir E. P. Morris in the Legislature duce say, roughly, 9 cords to the acre. In other words, every acre of good ne subject of the preservation of our mber areas from destruction by fire as held last night in the Executive hambers at the Court House. Sir dward occupied the chair. Amongst wages. Translated into square miles, this means that every square mile of good average forest land, which is preserved from devastation by forest fires, represents over \$45,000 preserved as a source of wages to the com-

munity. What the loss has been in the past in view of the hundreds upon hundreds of square miles which have been destroyed, it is impossible to estimate. I know that the late Mr Miller put it down as being many millions of dollars.

But it is with the future, rather than with the past, that the actual work of the conference will have to deal. If tens of thousands of acres which have been ravaged by fire can be preserved from similar ravages in the future, then Nature will do her work and, with the natural re-growth of the forests, will re-stock the valleys and hillsides once more with her Forest Capital," on which future generations may draw.

That forest fires can be to a very that when they do occur they can be fought, and the damage very largely ninimized, has been amply proved b the success of the measures which have been taken by the Provincia Government in Canada, where the conditions are very much the same as here. I presume that it will be advisable to proceed on the same lines which have proved so successful in their case, by enacting similar legis lation and administrative measures

and, above all, by providing for their rigorous enforcement. I feel sure that with the heart; operation of all parties primaril interested-the Government, the rail way lessees, and the timber owners-a practical solution of this problem can be satisfactorily worked out, and that for a comparatively small annua expenditure it will be possible to in sure for Newfoundland and her peo ple in the future the preservation o

the forest wealth with which Nature has endowed her. Wishing you all success in your de liberations, I am, Yours sincerely,

· A. N. D. CO., LTD., MAYSON M. BEETON. P. S .- You are, of course, at libert o make use of this letter as you thin

Sir Edward here commented at ength on the letter, especially on the value of each mile of pulp land to the people of the country. Figuring that 7,000 square miles of the Colony total area was pulp land, the potentia labor value of such property would be \$315,000,000. The late Lewis Mille computed that \$100,000,000 worth pulp wood had been lost to this coun try through forest fires. The recuper ative capacity of the land was los and it has been demonstrated scientifically that the destruction of fores growth reduced the waters of streams, whole rivers with their fislife were dried up and climatic con ditions were also altered as a result Areas burned twice or thrice lost th power of reproduction, and if capital was to be induced to come her our forests should be protected. had been suggested that persons ing into the woods be registered, tha fire wardens be appointed, patrol care be employed, and a system of daily reports be adopted. Sir Edward stat ed that the Reid Nfld. Co., Anglo Nfld. Development Co., Albert Ree Co., Mr. Gulnac and others would co operate in the movement. After the Premier's speech the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Otto Emerson, F Howe (Chief Ranger), Mr. Harris, W F. Horwood, Mr. Scott, Mr. Gulnac Hons. W. C. Job, D. Morison and C. H Emerson. These gentlemen gave in teresting experiences as regards fire in the interior and valuable sugges

Mr. Otto Emerson stated that patrol cars would cost about £230 stg. and thought that four would be sufficient. The cost of operation would be, for five months, about \$1,050,

Mr. Howe had seen ten fires burning over a mile of territory and dis not consider that patrol cars would be sufficient to attain the object aimed

Mr. Harris stated that at Gran Falls they had patrolled about 3 miles of railway track, each man be ing seven miles apart and reporting daily. The whole track was patrolle last year and with one exception al the fires (about 100) discovered were quickly quenched. Patrol cars would not be sufficient, and the different companies should employ men on

Mr. Horwood said that cinders and coal getting on the tracks were a prolific source of forest fires. He knew the Reid Company were as in-terested as any others in putting an end to such conflagrations and had instructed their engineers and fire-men to be careful, but orders were men to be careful, but orders were not always obeyed and this was the cause of many fires. He had seen firemen throw shovel fulls of hot coal out in the woods, and had told them they should be ashamed of themselves. This conduct should be penalised. Hot ashes should not be thrown on the tracks or in the woods, and small strategy were a great the

Mr. Howe, Orief Ranger, stated he had not been allowed to examine the engines since last June 12 months. He had found the nettings of the spark arresters in good order, but the angle irons did not fit properly on the engines and thus hot coals were forced through. The engines should be inspected every 15 days when cold by the Government Inspector, who should the Government Inspector, who should cigarettes and matches thrown from

the smoking cars were also a source of fires and windows of such coaches should be fitted with wire netting to prevent this, while warnings against such conduct should be placed in the

coaches.

Mr. Scatt had a good deal of experience in matters of this kind, and for the past two years found that foot patrols gave much satisfaction and would cost about \$40 per mile for the season. The Pathway Company might season. The Railway Company might be induced to take greater interest if two men were employed at each section to watch forest fires, and these could patrol seven miles. He had known of 67 fires in a distance of 15 miles last season, but thanks to the foot patrols none of these got beyond control. He thought motor patrol cars would go too fast for the men on them to notice small fires which might become later big conflagra-tions. Carelessly discarded matches, cigars and cigarettes were a great danger. There was very grave dan-ger at Deer Lake, and fires starting there would destroy more timber than in any other section of the island.

The Humber Valley, the finest in Newfoundland, should receive special protection, and the patrol should extend from St. George's to Terra Nova at least. From Little River to Terra Nova would be at least 300 miles, the patroling could be done for \$39 per mile, and the cost for the season would be about \$1,170.

Mr. Gulnac sincerely believed the effectiveness of the patrol. men had put out 40 fires in 7 miles of territory last year. The men should be in charge of those on the spot when patroling. Some engines did more damage than others, and last year one engine was accountable for more fires than all the rest together. Hot ashes should be dumped out at the stations or near settlements. He thought our people were becoming educated to the danger of forest fires, as many had in recent years fought them, saw how they had menaced life and property and realized that they tended to destroy their means of livelihood, so that this would engener a spirit of carefullness.

Hon. W. C. Job thought that the carelessness of firemen and engineers in a great measure caused fires, and that patrols would not be sufficient inless this were checked. Mr. Gulnac thought patrols would

nake them more careful because they would have to report fires and the causes which led to them. Mr. Howe thought old railway ties thrown on the track were a great source of danger, and that early in May inflammable grasses near the track should be burned off.

Mr. Harris thought a daily patrol was necessary. Sparks from engines going over grades blew from 30 to 60 leet from the track.

Hon. D. Morison said the Govern-

ment were pleased to see so many interested gentlemen attend to discuss this important matter. About \$15,000 would enable proper steps to betaken to cope withour forest fires. About Hon. C. Emerson was assured by interested Americans that they would

heartily co-operate in the effort being out forward to abolish fires. Mr. Scott had the idea of sending men to watch with glasses from high hills to discern fires in their incipient state and thus have them quickly

The Premier upheld this and said that in the State of Massachusetts waggons were compelled to carry waggons were competed to carry water in the summer and fall months to quench fires, while in New Bruns-wick, Quebec and in Maine books were used in the schools, lectures given and literature distributed dealing with the losses accruing through

Mr. Scott stated that unless stringon stick would be left country 20 years hence.

The Premier said that

regulations should be formulated and attention given Labrador. The Government would do its utmost. A committee meeting was held to-day in the Agriculture and Mines Office to formulate means to deal with the whole question of the preservation of our forests.

A New Candidate.

Mr. P. Laracy, Dry Goods merchant, West End, publishes in this issue of he Telegram the announcement that ie intends to come out as a candidate in the elections for City Councillors, n June next. Mr. Laracy is too need any introductory remarks from Through industry, sobriety prudence he has built up n independent business, and such man at the City Council Board would be guarantee to the tax-payers that there would be an honest and economic administration of civic affairs and that the interests of the public would be well looked after. We believe that Mr. Laracy's candidature will

Twitching of the Nerves

A. W. CHASE'S NERVE FOOD of nervous exhaustion and applying restorative treatment that you can ever

Such cases as this prove the wonderful efficiency of Dr. A. W. Chase's Nerve Food. It cures in Nature's way by enriching the blood and for this reaby enriching the blood and its benefits are lasting. 50 cts. a box, all dealers, or Edmanson, Bates & Co., Toronto.

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EASTER ATTRACTIONS!

The past week has been a busy one with us marking off large shipments of English and American Goods. Each package opened bears evidence of the care and attention given by our buyers to those markets in their selections for our VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS.

LAWNS!

Our American Buyer has been fortunate in securing an exceptional lot of these always useful Goods, totalling 10,12, 14, 16, 1

A magnificent display here, in fact the most elaborate range ever shown by us, and consisting of Mousiline-de-Luxe, Florodoro Batiste, Holleybelle Batiste, Ombre Cords, Poplin Traversines, Organdies, Japanettes, &c.

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We are showing very attractive lines in this particular, and will be found to be thoroughly up-to-date.

Prices: 20, 25, 35 and 40 cents each.

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We have made every preparation here for a BUSY Season.

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We are ready for the EASTER TRADE IN THIS DEPARTMENT. OUR STOCK IS NOW REPLETE WITH ALL THE NEWEST SHAPES AND STYLES in

Children's and Ladies' Trimmed

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This accessory to a Lady is always wanted.

A good display in all the NEWEST STYLES and COLORS.

Ladies' Belts.

87 dozen of a JOB LINE in ELASTIC, LEATHER and WHITE WASH BELTS.

Price: 17, 25, 35, 40 and 60 cents.

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The NEWEST IN HAIR ORNAMENTS. HAIR PADS and FRAMES, CROWNS HAIR BRETTES, SIDE COMBS AND PUFFS.

LACES!

Our Ranges of Laces, Insertions and All-Overs are now complete with attractive Goods. This is always a strong Department with us.

MARSHALLBROS

Lecture by I. C Morris.

The lecture given by Mr. I. C. Mor-is on "Newfoundland: A Glance at its Past and a Glimpse into its Fu-ture," at the British Hall last night

n graceful manner and elegant diction and clear enunciation proceeded to discuss the subect. He referred to discuss the subect. He referred to the meagre knowledge and erroneous ideas that people abroad have of Newfoundland. They have a mental idea of a small Island somewhere near Greenland enshrouded in fogs and gridled with heart trouble, nervousness and cramps in the limbs, also twitching of the nerves and nervous the subscut. He referred to the meagre knowledge and erroneous ideas that people abroad have of Newfoundland. They have a mental idea of a small Island somewhere near Greenland enshrouded in fogs and teebergs, devoid of industries, educational facilities, etc. They have read of such things in books and states:—"For twenty-one years I was badly afflicted with heart trouble, nervousness and cramps in the limbs, also twitching of the nerves and nervous headaches. I became weak, debilitated and emanciated. My condition was distressing and I was made worse through worry and loss of sleep.

"I tried a hundred remedies in vain. After having used half a dozen boxes of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food my old trough ble had entirely vanished, and I was enjoying better health than I had since loss of our country's resources had been told. Mr. Morris reviewed the ble had entirely vanished, and I was enjoying better health than I had since girlhood."

Such cases as this prove the many such as the past history of the colony giving functions. It is a light and elastic yet very tough and strong comb, beng made on a new principle which combines in an admirable degree lightness and strength. We have three different sizes. If the past history of the colony giving functions are the past history of the colony giving functions. past history of the colony, giving due praise to the pioneers who by their pluck and industry accomplished great work that we their heirs. pluck and industry accomplished great work that we, their heirs, now enjoy. The codfishery, the seaffish-ery and railway building and its con-

in the past. He predicted great development in education, railway building, coal, peat, sheep and poul-Its Past and a Glimpse into its Fulture," at the British Hall last night was as enjoyable as it was instructive the rate that it did since 1890, or Some of the best singers and reciters ire.

Mr. W. H. Goodland introduced the during any two decades in our hishare offered to help. Before the entory. The lecturer ended by expreslecturer in a few well chosen words. Sing his confidence that better days render some new pieces on the Piano, Mr. Morris then came forward and than ever before were coming to the which has just been imported from Colony

At the conclusion Mr. A. H. Martin, the ex-President, proposed in a pleasing speech a vote of thanks to Mr. Morris for his excellent lecture; be-Morris for his excellent lecture; being seconded by Mr. J. Carbery. The

not quite over yet. They are most soothing and pleasant in cases of ness, etc. This lozenge has had a great sale and become very popular.

sequent development were dilated upon in a sympathetic and able manner. In taking a "glimpse into the future" Mr. Morris foretold great industrial and educational progress. Party lines will not be so acutely drawn as Don't forget the standard price of

CONCERT FOR BLIND MAN .- The entertainment that was to take place try raising and agriculture. In the chase new barrels for the blind man's future we shall have closer relations street Piano, and for which kind perin trade with Canada and the United | mission of His Grace Archbishop Some of the best singers and reciters London. Tickets at Atlantic Book-Store, reserve seats 30 general ad-Falls yesterday.

S. U. F. MEETING .- The regular monthly meeting of the S. U. F. will be held to-night at the usual time and place. A full attendance is de-McMurdo's Store News sired, as business of importance will

mission 20 and 10 cents.

GEORGE STREET SOCIABLE .-Church, will hold their annual Sociable Thursday, April 7th, in the basement of the Church. An excellent programme has been prepared, and some of our leading artistes will take part including: Misses Johnson, Ivany Messrs. Tuff, Courteney, Mawer, King and several others. Admission 25c. Ice Cream and Candy for sale. Doors open at 7.15. . Concert to begin at 8 o' clock sharp, tue, wed, thur.

The Dorothy Baird left Bahia for

Tragic Death of Quebec Woman.

Quebec, March 27 .- With her mind unbalanced after a severe illness, Madame B. Giroux, the mother of four children, saturated her clothing with kerosene oil and then set them on fire in her home at Montmorency The woman was burned almost to

a crisp before being discovered by her husband. Mrs. Giroux had been ill for some time and her mind had become unbalanced. Before her husband left for work this morning she acted strangely and told him that both he and she were to be hanged to-day. The husband decided that he The Young Ladies of George Street | would go to the factory and inform his employer and then return home. He left the house and had not been gone long when a fellow workman, passing the house later, noticed a brightness there. He continued on his way to his work, and meeting Giroux told him of what he had seen in his cellar, stating he believed there was a fire there.

Giroux hurried home and found his wife in the cellar in the manner described. The young children were in their beds upstairs and asleep and neconscious of the tragedy...