

forest resources may be of as much interest to the railways as the increase of the number of settlers in our agricultural districts. Of 31,211,753 tons of freight-carried by all the railways in the fiscal year 1898-99, 6,503,609 tons were made up of lumber and fire wood, the share of the Canadian Pacific Railway being 1,572,372 out of a total of 5,971,205, of the Grand Trunk Railway, 1,489,391, out of a total of 8,880,000; of the Ottawa, Arnprior and Parry Sound Railway, 279,352, out of a total of 734,173.

Through the kindness of Dr. C. A. Schenck, Principal of the School of Forestry at Biltmore, (who, we may state, is a member of the Canadian Forestry Association) we have received a copy of a very interesting work which he has lately issued, entitled "Some Business Problems in American Forestry." In the preface to his brochure, Dr. Schenck states that these problems were compiled with the view of showing to American wood owners the financial character of professional forestry. The examples considered include pine, spruce and fir forests from Minnesota to Florida, and in other problems, calculations are made in regard to loss by forest fires, the effect of taxation is absolutely essential to the working out of a satisfactory forestry system. The problems which are suggested by Dr. Schenck, are only specimens of what must be given consideration in actual practice when we are forced by circumstances to recognize that the management of our forests must be carried out on some more scientific basis than that on which our present methods are founded. That a system of forestry is not necessarily irrational or unprofitable is the conclusion from a study of these problems. Only a limited edition of four hundred copies of this work has been issued. The price is \$1.00.

The good work done by Mr. W. B. Smithett, of Saltcoats, Assiniboia, to arouse an interest in forest protection in the North-West is worthy of special notice. As editor of the Assiniboian he was instrumental in having the question brought to public attention by frequent and interesting editorials. Mr. Smithett was also the chief promoter of the North-West Forest Protection League, of which he is secretary. The league pledges itself to use every means to urge all to care for the timber in the North-West Territories. The only formality required to become a member of the league is for the applicant to send a post card, stating that he endorses the objects of the league, and that he will urge upon the Government and all officials, members of Parliament, Justices of the Peace, and overseers, to use all means to impress the necessity for tree protection. There is now a membership of about one hundred in the league. We expect to give our readers an opportunity of hearing more from Mr. Smithett's own pen on the subject.

## HUNTING AND STEEPLECHASING

By Dr. C. J. Alloway.

The hunting season which is drawing to a close has, on the whole, been a favorable one. Both the Montreal and Canadian Hunt Clubs have had remarkably good sport, and enthusiasm has characterized the season throughout. Few mishaps have occurred during its course, and the riding members have seemed to enjoy the sport as much or even more than in previous years. The autumn has been particularly favorable to the enjoyment of out of door life, the month of October having had more the genial beauty of April than the season of falling leaves and sombre skies. The membership has largely increased in both clubs. If this is an indication of increased popularity, the initial season of the incoming century will be a banner one.

That the art of horsemanship is becoming extremely fashionable there can be no doubt, a practical evidence of which is given in the augmented number of Hunt Clubs on this side of the Atlantic, the favor to which the game of polo has risen, and the large number of both sexes who indulge in park and road riding.

The ordinary equestrian can enjoy horse-back riding in any form that pleases his fancy. The invalid, to whom it has been recommended for the benefit of his liver or the man of sedentary habits who requires an antidote for his mode of life, can enjoy a walk or canter along a quiet country road, and congratulate himself that he is not cutting a very bad figure as long as he remembers the laconic instructions:—

"Keep your head and your heart well up.  
Your hands and your heels well down.  
Your feet keep close to your horse's side.  
And your elbows close to your own."

But it is only a graduate in the art of horsemanship who can, without flinching, take part in what is acknowledged to be the acme of the art—steeplechasing. He must be thoroughly versed in both its theory and practice, to negotiate, as the sporting parlance expresses it, a country with stone walls, ditches and water jumps at frequent intervals, at a killing pace.

During the early part of October the annual steeplechase meetings of both clubs were held. The Canadian Club had a one day's meeting, comprising six events, which was held on Wednesday, October 3rd, over a course marked out in the open country, immediately in rear of their Club House at St. Lambert. This meeting was the first in the history of the

club, and was an unqualified success. The day was perfect and all the events were well filled, each containing from six to eighteen entries.

In the "Hunt Cup" there were fourteen starters, all in the conventional "Pink" (red hunting coat) which, in the words of an old-time sporting member, "was a sight that would not be forgotten in a life time." It was certainly one which had not been seen in hunting circles in this district for a decade or two. The scene on that particular day, in many respects, called to mind the years in the sixties and seventies when Montreal was garrisoned by British troops. The military element, with hunting instincts inherited from generations of sportsmen, familiar from boyhood with the "meet" in English shires and Irish counties, infused fresh spirit into Canadian hunting fields and aroused an enthusiasm which is recalled with pleasure by those whose memories go back to that time. This first Hunt Cup competition of the Canadian Club was won by Mr. Trudel.

This club contemplates holding a two day's meeting about the same time in 1901, and it is their intention to have everything in connection therewith of a high order, and equal to anything of the kind that is held in the Province. The members of the club are entitled to the greatest credit for the sportsmanlike manner in which they have come to the front and patronized this their first meeting, and the interest and zeal displayed augur well for its future history in this particular line.

The older club, the Montreal Hunt, has held annual steeplechases here for the past half century or more. The meeting this year was certainly an improvement on those of '88 and '89, the attendance on the last day being large and appreciative. The winning of the Hunt Cup by Mr. Colin Campbell was a very popular one, making his fourth successful competition for this coveted trophy. Mr. Campbell also placed to his credit the Allan Cup the previous Thursday. For many years irrepressible charges and innovations have taken place, until at the present time the autumn meetings of this now flourishing organization would scarcely be recognizable as the same species of entertainment which was so popular a quarter of a century ago. The many influences responsible for these changes cannot here be discussed, but a marked benefit must accrue from the impetus given by the evident intention of the newer organization to conduct steeplechasing more on the lines of the English clubs and those carrying on this sport to such perfection in the neighboring Republic. A little honest rivalry and commendable emulation will unquestionably be productive of good, in a sport for which Montreal has in past years been the acknowledged centre.