

where a forestry problem spreads beyond provincial boundaries or where it is of such a type and of such a magnitude that it requires a truly national effort, joint federal and provincial action may be desirable.

It was in accordance with this principle, and recognizing the danger of losing our forests unless proper management for sustained yield were more widely undertaken, that the Parliament of Canada in 1949 passed the Canada Forestry Act. This Act provides the statutory foundation for a national forestry policy; its keynote is co-operation and its purpose is to promote policies which will ensure a continued yield from our forests. In its conception the Act owes much to U.S. legislation in this field, and we surely have benefited from your experience.

Under the Act, the Federal Government can now enter into agreements with the provincial governments, or with corporations, or with individuals to develop and conserve Canada's forest resources. Specifically mentioned are such matters as protection from fire, insects and disease; the taking of forest inventories; silvicultural research; watershed protection; reforestation; forest publicity and education; construction of roads and improvement of streams in forest areas; improvement of growing conditions and management of forests for continuous production. In the few brief clauses of this Act provision is made for federal assistance to the provinces embracing virtually every field of forest activity - and under a single agency, the Forestry Branch of the federal Department of Resources and Development.

Under the authority of the Canada Forestry Act, the Federal Government has already concluded agreement with eight of the ten provinces and large sums of money have been spent to assist these provinces in completing and maintaining their forest inventories and in the reforestation of provincially owned lands. In announcing these agreements my predecessor as Minister of Resources and Development pointed out that a forest inventory is essential before a policy to achieve sustained yield can be successfully planned, and that reforestation is badly needed in certain cut-out areas which will not regenerate themselves naturally and where forest cover is necessary not only for the development of forest projects but also in the interest of soil conservation, flood control, cover for wildlife, and other uses.

Another field in which the Federal Government has long contributed to better forest management is in research. Our first laboratory for research in forest products utilization was established in 1913, just three years after the opening of your world famous laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin. In 1918 a full-fledged silviculture research division was established. Forestry research is now carried on in Ottawa and through five district offices and five forest experimental stations situated in different regions throughout the country. It covers silviculture and forest management, forest inventories and fire-protection research. It is designed to provide solutions to many technical problems encountered in improving forest management. Forest products research is undertaken in two forest products laboratories, one in Ottawa and one in Vancouver. It covers such fields as wood utilization, wood preservation, timber mechanics, and wood chemistry. There is in addition a research sawmill in Ottawa.