

AND THE THINGS OF THE WILD

President Roosevelt suggests a reduction in the tariff on pulp and that Canada refrain from imposing an export duty. Congressman Littlefield, of Maine, makes a good guess when he predicts that Canada will not follow the President's suggestion.

Whatever his sins of omission and commission—including his commerce commission—President Roosevelt will win the deathless gratitude of the nation because of his enthusiastic support of that branch of his Government which has to do with the protection of the little forest left in the United States. Over there they are setting aside from five to ten millions annually in an effort to assist nature to cover the scars they have given her. But how much easier it is to save what we have than to win back what one has lost!

In New Hampshire there is a forest that was lumbered sixty years ago. The usual fire that followed killed everything save a few defective pines left by the lumberman. These remaining pines seeded the soil and at the end of sixty years the owners were able to harvest thirty thousand feet board measure to the acre. That is an average of five hundred feet per acre per annum, but if they had taken only the larger trees, burned the debris at a cost of twenty cents per thousand feet of lumber, this forest might just as well have been harvested every five years. In Michigan a forest destroyed in the same way, leaving only a few seed trees, grew a second growth of pine which was cut in thirty years.

Limits that are sold are sold. What has been done is done—but from this day forward there will be no excuse for any Government that sells timber without reserving the right to boss the job of cutting.

Hear this from an American publication, "Forestry and Irrigation," Washington, D.C.:—

"It is very much to be hoped that the Canadians will not allow us to cut their timber without regulation, however eager we may be to buy it. This would be for their benefit and likewise for ours. For the sake of a permanent supply, we should wish that Canada or any other country from which we may have to import lumber should put its forests under the same careful administration that now is given to the national forests in the United States."