

## OUR TWENTIETH BIRTHDAY WITH TEN THOUSAND MEMBERS

The Canadian Forestry Association will be twenty years old on January 15th, 1920. On March 7th, 1901, the membership was 244, and receipts \$192.45.

At December 1st, 1919, the membership totals over 10,000, and receipts for the current year are about \$18,000. The Association has made a membership growth in 1919 of about 2,700.

The preliminary steps towards the formation of the Canadian Forestry Association were taken by Mr. E. Stewart, then Chief Inspector of Forestry and Timber for the Dominion (now of Toronto), who sent out a circular letter on January 8th, 1900, to a number of men interested in the subject of forestry, asking them to meet at his office on the 15th of that month. At that meeting were presents Sir Henri Joly de Lotbiniere; Saunders; Mr. William Little; Mr. Thos. Southworth, Director of Forestry for Ontario; Mr. E. Stewart; Prof. John Macoun, Assistant Director of the Geological Survey; Mr. Little was elected Chairman, and Mr. Stewart, Secretary.

## ONTARIO MUST FACE THESE FACTS NOW!

*By Robson Black, Secretary, Canadian Forestry Association.*

As a matter of good business management, New Brunswick, Quebec, and British Columbia have placed the public-owned forest lands under a united and technically-qualified management. The Dominion Government also charges its Forestry Branch with the administration of all timber sale business on the Dominion forest reserves, in the west.

In Ontario, aside from fire prevention, the forest possessions are still handled on substantially the plan of 1890. Revenues are collected and a nominal supervision maintained over timber operations on licensed Crown timber lands, as conducted by private companies. But in the true sense of government management of public-owned property, from the viewpoint of so regulating cutting methods as to leave cut-over areas in the best possible condition to produce another crop, Ontario has yet to make a beginning.

### FOR THE TAXPAYER'S NOTICE.

A very high percentage of the non-agricultural forest lands of Ontario are public-owned. The limit-holder is a lessee of cutting rights. His lease or license is renewed annually. He owns little or none of the land on which the timber grows. By retaining the land title, the province has always reserved the authority to impose such regulations as might be considered essential to the public interest. It is significant that the public management of forests in On-

tario—aside from fire protection and changes in dues—has not altered materially since the early days of exploitation.

Bearing in mind the state's admitted responsibility and legal authority in conserving the public forest wealth, some further facts demand consideration:

The greater part of the provincial land area is non-agricultural. Its productive ability is limited, therefore, to timber growing, mineral development and game production. Roughly, this classification applies to the vast region north of a line drawn from Ottawa to the southern shore of Georgian Bay, with substantial deletions here and there, as in the great claybelt area along the T. & N.O. and parts of the Canadian National Railways, parts of the Rainy River region and elsewhere. Northward and westward, to and beyond the height of land, Ontario possesses a natural timber-growing estate of incredibly large economic value.

### HOW MUCH FOREST?

The productive forest area of the province is estimated at between 80 and 90 million acres, containing about 150 billion feet of merchantable coniferous timber, made up mainly of spruce, white pine, jack pine, balsam and tamarack, in addition to large quantities of poplar, birch, maple and other hardwoods.

The most authentic estimates give the amount of spruce and balsam available for pulp and