

A Comparison of Provincial Laws

The Nova Scotia Law.

No person shall make, kindle or start a fire for the purpose of clearing land, or other like purposes, nor set up nor operate a portable steam engine within sixty rods of any woods, between the fifteenth day of April and the first day of December next following in any year, without first having obtained leave in writing from the chief ranger or sub-ranger. It shall be the duty of such chief ranger or sub-ranger on being requested to grant leave to start such fire, or to set up or operate such portable steam engine, to examine the place at which it is intended to start the fire, or to set up or operate the steam engine, and the adjoining lands, and the timber, trees and other property thereon, and to refuse such request and decline to grant leave, or to grant it only on conditions to be performed by said persons, if in his opinion it would not be safe by reason of the danger of fire spreading thereon or otherwise.

British Columbia.

During the close season (between May 1 and October 1) no person, firm or corporation shall set out, or cause to be set out, fires in or near slashings or forest debris, standing or fallen timber, or bush land for the purpose of burning slashings, brush, grass, or other inflammable material, or for any industrial purpose, without first obtaining a permit therefor: Provided that no person shall be convicted who shall have set in good faith and with reasonable care a back-fire for the purpose of stopping the progress of a fire then actually burning.

Quebec.

No person shall, in the forest or less than a mile from a forest, set

fire to, or burn, any pile of wood, branches or brushwood, or any tree, shrub or other plant, or any black loam or light soil, or any tree trunk or tree that has been felled, at any time, except for clearing purposes between the 16th of November and the 31st of March of the following year, but between the 1st of April and the 15th of November, it is necessary to first obtain the written permission of the Minister, or of any other officer of the Department thereto authorized by the Minister, or of the fire ranger.

Ontario.

Every person who, between the 1st day of April and the 1st day of November, sets out or starts a fire within a fire district for the purpose of clearing land, shall exercise and observe every reasonable care and precaution in the setting out of starting of such fire and in managing of and caring for it after it has been set out or started, in order to prevent the fire from spreading.

Entirely Reasonable.

St. Thomas "Times," Aug. 7, 1916: The reforms pressed upon the Ontario Government by the Canadian Forestry Association, look entirely reasonable, and it is hoped will now receive earnest consideration and result in early and effective action.

What Ontario Needs.

Brockville "Recorder," Aug. 5, 1916: The Ontario forest protection service stands urgently in need of three main reforms which year after year have been urged upon the Government by the Canadian Forestry Association, Commission of Conservation and other bodies.