

Fighting Forest Infestations

Reports from Various Parties Engaged in Work Indicate Considerable Progress

DR. J. M. Swaine, of the Division of Forest Insects of the Entomological Branch, reports a very interesting situation in connection with the outbreak of spruce bark beetles which he has been investigating recently in the Gaspé Peninsula. On a considerable section of the infested area, a great fire killed the timber in July of last year. On this burn all the large spruce which were scorched only at the base, are now attacked by the destructive spruce bark-beetle and survey has shown that the dying trees have drawn the infestation almost entirely from the healthy timber for a long distance around the burned area. These trees will serve as trap trees and during the coming winter a lumber company which owns a large part of the limits will concentrate on cutting the infested spruce on the burn. Those logs will be removed in the drive early next spring and any other infestation will be treated in the proper way according to directions. It is hoped that this work will decidedly check the depredations of the beetles on a large part of the infested area.

Doctor F. C. Craighead reports that his survey party at Pessiguit

Brook, between Bathurst and Newcastle, N.B., has completed its work. It is now planned for them to spend about ten days studying spruce bud-

worm injury near Warenton, twenty miles from Newcastle. This survey has obtained a very large amount of valuable information regarding budworm injury to red spruce. Further details will be given when complete reports are available, but it may be noted that although spruce was not seriously injured in Quebec, on large areas, in northern New Brunswick,



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surveys have shown that as high as 50% of the spruce has been actually killed by the outbreak, as well as more than 75% of balsam.

Mr. Ralph Hopping, in charge of forest insect work in British Columbia reports splendid results from detailed experiments in connection with pine and Douglas fir bark beetle outbreaks in central British Columbia. These experiments are directed toward improving methods of control in completing information regarding the conditions of attack on healthy trees. The control work carried out during the last two years appears to have been successful to a most gratifying degree. Mr. Hopping reports almost no infestation on the areas previously treated. The control work this year is largely on new ground and will probably be quite as successful.

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