

were too young and too tender to endure the hard conditions in which they were placed. Also, Mr. Piché, the Chief Forester, thinks that enough care was not taken by some of the planters, who exposed to the air the fine rootlets which should have been kept under good cover or in a bucket of water.

Last year a total area of twenty-one acres was planted. This year with twelve students working at the rate of about eight to ten thousand seedlings a day twenty-five to thirty acres were planted. Mr. Laliberté, under whom the work was done, estimates that the cost was approximately \$15 per acre, but as this was incurred in a short time and the overhead expenses were great, it is far in excess of what can be ordinarily accomplished. The cost, if the planting were undertaken on a large scale, should be only about five or six dollars an acre. It is well within the range of possibility that a large sand area of some thirty-six square miles near the present plantation may be planted up in the course of the next few years by the Government. It is a distinct menace to the surrounding country, and the experiments already carried out, including those of farmers between the bad lands and the town of Lachute, show that it is quite possible to prevent altogether the drifting of the sand.

The Quebec Government is anxious to carry on this work for many reasons, chief of which, in addition to that of subduing the drifts, is that it provides an object lesson and a considerable amount of encouragement to farmers who plant up their own lands. In the Government nursery at Berthier, Que., there are millions of seedlings available for such enterprises, and Chief Forester Piché is anxious to place them in good hands. At the present time the arrangement between the farmers and the Government is that the Government buys the land at \$1 an acre, plants it with trees and undertake to return it to

the owner if he cares to buy at the end of eight or ten years for the cost of production. In no case is the purchase price in this second instance to be over \$10 per acre.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON UNIFORM LOG RULE.

Your Committee on *Uniform Log-rule* begs leave to report as follows:

All members of the Committee are agreed that a uniform unit rule of measurement of logs is desirable for the whole Dominion, but the practicality of the introduction of such uniform measure at the present time is considered doubtful, or at least beset with difficulties.

The first difficulty in introducing a uniform log-rule lies in the fact that, unlike lumber, logs have a local market, and the market adjusts itself to the peculiarities of the log-rule in use in the locality without very serious detriment to all parties concerned, as long as the price is made in proportion to the greater or less liberality of the log-rule; there is, therefore, a natural tendency of conservatism to keep up the usage.

A second reason rendering uniformity difficult to attain is the fact that each province has adopted a rule and its licenses are based on it, hence the same conservatism animates the governments, although there is no doubt that, for instance, Ontario loses, wherever small logs form an essential part of the cut, by the adoption of a log-rule which is illiberal to the seller of small logs, and Quebec, having a few years ago changed its usage, gains by a rule based upon better practice.

There are now at least five different log-rules in practice, which vary by from 10 to 50 per cent. and more in giving contents of logs, according to the assortment of the latter. It can therefore happen that a lumberman, logging in Quebec, Ontario and New Brunswick at the same time, pays for the same sized log, say a twelve inch log twelve feet long, if the stumpage dues were \$2, ten, twelve or fifteen