

The fact that the fertile lands occur in pockets, frequently in long, narrow valleys, has brought about a condition of things which exists scarcely elsewhere in Canada. Many of the farms have a narrow frontage on the river in the valley, and extend back over the edge of the valley into the hills beyond. Often these farms are four or five miles long. The fertile part is in the valley; the land in the hills is absolute forest land. Very few farmers are content with the income they derive from their fertile acres in the valley. They have been accustomed to supplement this by the

sales of timber from the hills. This was a particularly satisfactory arrangement to them because the work in the woods came in the winter, when there was little work to do on their farms. In some respects it is a good way of handling timber. The difficulty is that the cutting has been carried on without regard to the principles of reproduction, and now that the farmers are getting toward the end of their timber they realize that they must either change their methods or suffer a serious decrease in income. This is all the more exasperating as they realize that they could secure



View of avenue of Manitoba Maples at Dominion Experimental Farm at Indian Head, Saskatchewan. When these trees were planted scarcely anybody believed that trees could be got to grow between Manitoba and the Rocky Mountains. Now over twenty million trees sent out from the Dominion Forestry Branch Nursery at Indian Head are growing about prairie homesteads.

prices for their timber in the future such as they never dreamed of in the past. Nor is this merely an incident in the general situation. When it is realized that more than half the timber land of Nova Scotia is held in these small blocks, running from two hundred to one thousand acres, it will be seen that when this problem is settled more than half the difficulties are met. In other provinces the pro-

vincial government can improve matters by new regulations and by better administration, but in Nova Scotia, where so much of the timber land is owned in fee simple, a great deal of the work must be done by educating the owners. There can be no doubt, too, that a great many of these men are anxious to know what to do, so that a forester who could go among them and give the information would