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CANADIAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Convention at Ottawa.—Interesting Discussion on Methods of Protecting the Forests from Fire—Deliberations on Forestry Education and Other Pertinent Subjects.

THE Canadian Forestry Association opened its fourth annual meeting in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, Ottawa, on Thursday, March 5th. Considering that Parliament was not in session, the attendance was large. Mr. William Little, of Westmount, president of the Association, occupied the chair, and among others present were the following:

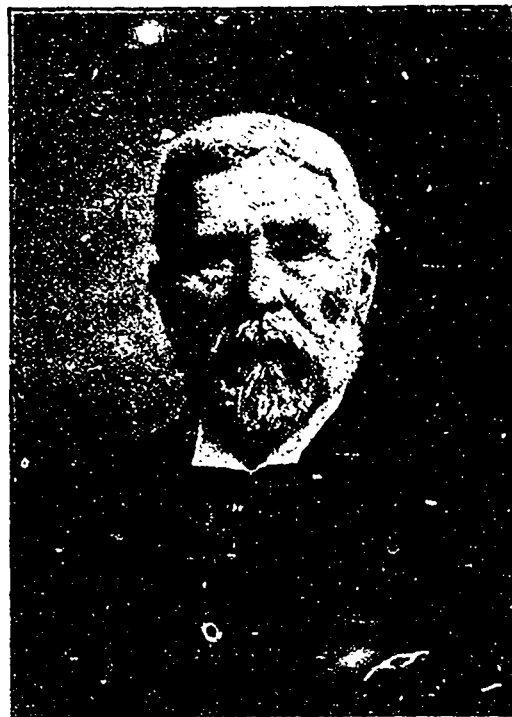
Hiram Robinson, Ottawa, Vice-President; E. Stewart, Ottawa, Secretary; R. H. Campbell, Ottawa, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer; Aubrey White, Deputy Commissioner of Crown Lands, Toronto; Thos. Southworth, Ontario Director of Forestry, Toronto; Professor E. C. Jeffrey, Harvard University; Professor Macoun, Geological Survey, Ottawa; Hon. J. K. Ward, Montreal; Geo. McCuaig, Superintendent of Forest Rangers, Bryson, Que.; N. E. Cormier, Superintendent of Forest Rangers, Aylmer, Que.; Dr. Saunders, Director of Experimental Farms, Ottawa; George Johnson, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa; J. B. McWilliams, Superintendent of Ontario Forests, Peterboro; His Worship F. C. Gendron, Mayor of Hull, Que.; Dr. Phinney, of Fish and Game Association; A. Knetchel, Forester New York State Forest, Fish and Game Commission, Albany; T. S. Young, CANADA LUMBERMAN, Toronto; Professor J. H. Faull, Toronto; Professor Goodwin, G. Y. Chown and A. P. Knight, Queen's University, Kingston; R. T. Pinkerton, Westmount; E. G. Joly de Lotbiniere, Quebec; Henry Robertson, Collingwood; C. Rankin, Mattawa; W. C. Caldwell, M.P.P., Lanark; Colonel J. A. McRae, Guelph; Sir Sandford Fleming, George Simpson, Robert Gorman, Norman M. Ross, J. R. Booth, G. B. Reid, T. King, R. B. Dowling, Sir James Grant, J. B. Frazer, B. C. Clute, A. Blue, A. M. Campbell, F. W. Cowie, Dr. A. Harold Unwin, C. Jackson Booth, E. J. Darby, A. F. McIntyre, Otto J. Klotz, Professor Shutt, and William Ide, Ottawa.

After the reading of the minutes a telegram was read from Hon. H. G. Joly de Lotbiniere, of Victoria, B.C., conveying his best wishes for the success of the meeting. Letters regretting their inability to attend were read from Rev. Father Burke, of Prince Edward Island, and Colonel Warne, of Vancouver.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The theme of the President's address was the rapid depletion of the white pine forests of

the United States and Canada. Through Mr. Charles T. Sargent, Professor of Arboriculture at Howard University, the American people obtained the first authentic information of the conditions of forests of the United States. This was in connection with the census of 1880. The president believed it would have been worth millions of dollars to the Dominion if the Canadian Government had followed the example of the United States and ascertained if we had so



MR. HIRAM ROBINSON,
President Canadian Forestry Association.

great a supply of valuable timber that we could afford to sacrifice it in the reckless manner we have. According to the United States census report of 1900, the stock of white pine then remaining did not exceed fifty billion feet, and the cut since that time has been twenty billion feet, leaving the supply only thirty billion feet, which is less than the amount of all kinds of lumber sawn in the single census year of 1900, namely, thirty-five billion feet. The present remaining supply of eastern white pine timber in the United States, therefore, would not furnish one year's stock for the existing saw-mills. The Northern States are drawing largely on the South and West for lumber, since the Southern and Pacific States, which in 1880 produced timber to the value of \$50,000,000

exceeded this amount in 1900 by \$200,000,000. The yellow pine of the South, in 1880 not generally known or much used in the North, produced in 1900 10,603,000,000 feet b. m., as compared with white pine 7,483,000,000 feet; hemlock, 3,420,000,000; spruce, 1,448,000,000 feet, which last was exceeded by the red fir, 1,736,000,000 feet—the Southern pine and Western fir almost exactly equalling the cut of white pine, hemlock and spruce, the former being 12,339,000,000 feet and the latter 12,351,000,000 feet. It is but reasonable, therefore, to assume that the pitch pine of the South to-day exceeds the whole output of pine, hemlock and spruce of the North.

It was a belief in the accuracy of the statements made in Professor Sargent's report that induced the Forestry Association of Quebec to memorialize the Dominion Government to grant a Parliamentary inquiry into the conditions of the forests of the country, especially the white pine. "I will not," said the President in conclusion, "attempt to say what amount of good white pine in my opinion exists in our Canadian forests, but of this I feel confident, that if the present indifference continues and the inquiry they asked for be delayed for many years more, the condition of our Canadian white pine forests may be stated in very similar terms to the school boy's essay on snakes in Ireland. He said: 'There are no snakes in Ireland.' We may be able to say, 'There are no white pine forests in Canada.'"

The manner in which the address was received indicated the strong sentiment of the meeting in favor of taking very effective measures to preserve the forests.

REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

Mr. Stewart submitted the report of the Board of Directors. It showed the membership to be 400, an increase of 33 over the previous year and divided as follows: Ontario, 128; Quebec, 54; Nova Scotia, 10; New Brunswick, 10; Manitoba, 78; Alberta, 61; Assiniboia, 15; Saskatchewan, 4; British Columbia, 17; Prince Edward Island, 1; Yukon, 1; United States, 17; England, 3; Germany, 1. The revenue for the year was \$580.17, and the expenditure \$474.02. The following abstracts are taken from the report:

If the Association is to have that expansion which will ensure its success and is to reach those whom it wishes to influence, it is clear that its work must be developed on larger and broader lines than those which up to the present time have been possible of adoption. It is desirable that meetings should be held in different parts of the Dominion and that the officers of the Association should in this and other ways have the opportunity of coming into more direct contact with those who might be induced to give their assistance so that the Association may be established on a firm and broad basis both in numbers and influence. This question is worthy the fullest consideration by the members of this Association.

Owing to the wet summer throughout the whole of Canada east of the Rocky Mountains forest fires have fortunately not been numerous or destructive. Those which did occur during the earlier and drier part of the season show that the danger is still ever present and