

Forestry Situation in Quebec

THE Forest Service of Quebec was reorganized in 1909 by the Hon. Jules Allard, Minister of Lands and Forests. It received more extensive and more definite powers, and a vote of \$35,000 was placed at our disposal. At that time, the personnel was composed of two forest engineers, three civil engineers, fifteen student assistants, and some eighty rangers, explorers, etc. In 1915, we have a staff of twenty forest engineers, two civil engineers, fifteen expert scalers or special agents, and eighty forest rangers, explorers or guides, and the vote has reached \$100,000. As you will notice, the number of non-technical men has remained stationary, whereas quite a number of experts have been added to the force. This was the weakness of the former service; as, to approach the lumbermen, to discuss with them the methods of exploitation of their limits, and to give decisions where difficulties arise, qualified men are necessary, who must be clothed with more authority than is usually given to an ordinary ranger.

Work of Forest School In order to recruit such men, it was necessary to provide for a forest school, which was established in 1910, at Quebec. The students there take a three years' course and work in the ranks of the Provincial forest service during their holidays, so that, when they graduate, they are familiar with our conditions and with the task they are called upon to perform. The results of this system have been very good. Out of twenty-six forest engineers who have graduated from the Laval forest school, we employ eighteen, the others having secured employment with some of the lumbering concerns in Quebec, or are working on their own account. I may mention that one of our men is now in charge of the Arboricultural Branch of the Department of Agriculture of Quebec, whilst another is one of the engineers in the Quebec Department of Roads.

Now that we have succeeded in recruiting a technical personnel of some value, we expect to devote our attention to the training of forest rangers, who would be of value, not only to the Government but also to the lumbermen; and, before long, we expect to establish