

Government could again acquire title to a large number of old grants and cleared holdings of private parties at a nominal sum per acre. A practical forester by going carefully over the situation could no doubt give valuable information and probably formulate a scheme that would work out successfully and be beneficial to the lumbermen and to the Province of Nova Scotia.

Mr. C. M. Beecher, representing the Lumbermen's Association of British Columbia, stated that on the coast the question of reforestation or tree planting was not of economic interest for the moment as the timber area is large and covered with a good stand. When lands have been logged or burnt over and nature has been allowed to work there has been a natural resowing, and the same trees are growing up in the forest again, namely: Douglas fir, spruce, cedar and hemlock. If it is a mere question of trees, our forests are inexhaustible, but if it is a question of merchantable timber, I regret to say that as far as our information goes now, the timber resources of British Columbia are limited. The lumber manufacturers are forced to take from their limits a small percentage of the trees and are able to ship only selected lumber. The burning question with the lumber mills of British Columbia to-day is the question of market and extending the outlet for the product of the manufacturers. Mr. Beecher spoke of the advantage that would be derived from a preferential trade arrangement within the British Empire, and asked that in government contracts specifications should call for Canadian timber.

Speaking of fire protection, he praised the work done by the Dominion Government in the Railway belt, and read a letter from Mr. O. C. Buchanan, President of the Associated Boards of Trade of Eastern British Columbia, strongly favoring action on the part of the Provincial Government to prevent forest fires.

Mr. H. M. Price, President of the Province of Quebec Pulpwood Association, in a paper on "The Pulpwood Industry" stated that a smaller diameter of wood had been cut than it was in the true interests of the pulp and paper mills to accept, or the owner of private lands to cut. Some twelve years ago the diameter shipped was six inches and up, while now four inches and up is accepted. Mr. Price believed that the cutting of trees for pulpwood under seven inches in diameter at the stump, and the shipment of wood under five inches in diameter should be discontinued.

Mr. J. F. Ellis, of Toronto, and Mr. Ferdinand van Bruyssel discussed the subject at the conclusion.