

From Mr. Barnjum's article:

The entire timber supply in Canada would not last the United States over six and a half years.

The United States has lost by forest fires in the past five years over 56 million acres of timber. With the further depletion due to cutting, wind damage and insect attacks, the total destruction in the United States equals over 26 million acres per annum.

Between La Tuque and Cochrane on the National Transcontinental Railway, 20 million cords have been destroyed by fire as against one million which have been cut and hauled out on the same railroad.

for pulp wood and paper are the only salvation of the situation, as high prices are the only thing that will reduce waste and prolong the life of our wood supply and the life of the pulp and paper mills.

High Prices Help Conservation.

Just so long as low prices for wood and paper continue, this enormous waste will go on. High prices are the most practical conservation measure we can have. The higher the value, the greater the conservation; so in my efforts to arouse the public to our critical condition with regard to our wood supply I am simply working not only in the best interest of the pulp and paper mills but for the good of the whole continent as well.

The price for pulp wood for the future will have to be much higher than in the past in order to compensate the land owner for the cost of slash burning, increased fire protection, reforestation, continual increase in length of haul, and increasing scarcity in the supply.

The one consolation the timberland owner has with regard to the loss he has suffered through the ravages of the bud worm is the fact that what he has left will be worth four times as much per cord or thousand on account of the great reduction in the remaining supply. This is, of course, only from the mercenary standpoint, and the sad question remains as to what our children are to do for wood, as we are even now using up their heritage. Every time we cut one of these small, half grown trees, of which our operations are largely made up to-day, we are simply robbing our own children. In fact, it is worse than robbery as it is a menace to their lives.

I have heard the remark made that we are still cutting, in spite of the prediction made thirty years ago that timber would be exhausted in the East by the present time.

My answer to this is that the prediction made at that time has proved absolutely correct, as what was called timber in



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those days is gone forever. I sold my first stumpage at that time and the operator would only cut a mark of logs that would run four to the thousand or two hundred and fifty board feet per tree, while we are cutting mere poles to-day running down as small as forty trees to the thousand board feet, and which at that time would have been considered worthless. So you must not derive any comfort from the fact that we are still cutting trees, but rather the reverse, when we look at the size of the poles in our river drives and the amount of three and four inch pulp wood seen at our railway sidings.

There seems to be so much ignorance with regard to our timber resources that I shall here merely state a few well known

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