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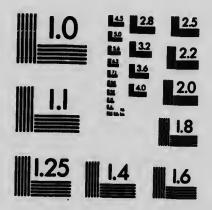
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The Forests and The People.



VERY Canadian has a share in the ownership of Canada's forests. Self-interest, no less than duty, imposes upon him a share in the duty

of wisely using these forests.

A forest is not merely a place where wood is grown, but it is also the source and regulator of the immense water-powers which are our national pride, and which, when taken in conjunction with our great stores of raw material and our splendid transportation system, must make the Dominion, from now on, a great manufacturing country. Yet the average Canadian does not realize that his country's "inexhaustible forest resources" are in great danger of being exhausted in the very near future.

A far-sighted, comprehensive, aggressive and business-like public policy in relation to our forests is one of the great needs of the time. Our leading statesmen and political economists recognize this fact and an ever-increasing number of thoughtful people is urging the Federal and Provincial Governments to introduce a sweeping forestry policy. Such a policy can be evolved and carried out only through the creation of a widespread public intelligence on this vital subject.

The Canadian Forestry Association is striving to make our people understand the serious consequences of forest destruction and to arouse an interest in the problem to an extent that will result in vigorous and speedy action looking to the preservation and wise use of our forest wealth.



His Excellency Earl Grey, G.C.M.G., Governor-General of Canada, Patron of the Canadian Forestry Association, says:

"Although my experience in Canada has been comparatively short, it has yet been sufficient to impress me with the urgent desirability of focussing the best brains of the Dominion on the immediate consideration of what shall be done with our forests so as to protect the soil upon which the maintenance of our agricultural prosperity depends."—Address at Forestry Convention, 1906.

Canada's Commanding Position.

European students of forestry, who have beer forced by the condition of affairs on that continent to carefully study the question of wood supplies, have sounded a note of alarm as to the future. M. Mélard, one of the leading foresters in France, says:—

"At the present moment the forestry situation in the civilised world can be summed up in these words: The consumption of wood is greater than the normal production of the accessible forests. There is in this production a deficit which is for the moment supplied by the destruction of the forests."

"If Sweden, Finland, and Canada should supply the importations of all the countries requiring manufacturing wood, their normal production would not suffice, and their forest capital would soon be dissipated."

Dr. Schlich, a leading English authority says:—

"The great standby for coniferous timber will be Canada, provided her Government does not lose time in introducing a rational management of her forests."

Sir Dietrich Brandis, the father of the present system of forestry in British India, says:—

"I cannot sufficiently urge upon you Canadians the necessity of concentrating all your energies upon one point, and that is the constitution of as large an area of State Forests as possible, to enable Canada to supply permanently the greater portion of the coniferous timber now imported into Great Britain."

"Prices will rise steadily, and it is for you in Canada now to seize this opportunity, and to lay the foundation for a magnificent future development of your wealth."

Our Invaluable Water-Powers.

Flowing from the great forest-clad hills and mountains of the Dominion are numerous perennial streams which in their descent form water-powers of immense possibilities and value and furnish supplies of moisture to the plains beneath, plains which, in many cases, require a substantial addition to the scanty rainfall which they receive, if they are to be cultivated successfully.

The possibilities of electrical development and other uses of the energy furnished by these streams open immeasurable limits to Canada's industrial future. In some situations the very existence of such water courses depends upon the preservation of the forests at sources, and in all cases the forests regulate their flow. In Southern France the slopes of the Pyrenees, the Cevennes, and the Alps were deforested at the beginning of the last century and left bare to the action of the elements. The results were the transformation of even-flowing streams into rushing torrents, the erosion of the slopes into gullies and ridges, and the occurrence of destructive land-slides to such an extent that some 8,000,000 acres of once fertile land were rendered unfit for agriculture by the deposit of silt upon the plains beneath. To repair this condition of affairs and restore the forests upon the bare eroded mountain slopes, France has already spent \$20,000,000, and it is estimated that more than \$30,000,000 must be expended before the area which the Republic possesses (only some 800,000 acres) will be restored.

The point of the story is that Canada does not hold any special dispensation from Providence, and that a similar transgression of the laws of Nature will inevitably bring about the same results. Is there not reason, therefore, that the question of forest preservation should be given the most careful consideration by all seriously interested in the future of the country?



The Right Honourable Sir Wilfrid Laurier, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.C., Prime Minister of Canada, Honorary President of the Canadian Forestry Association, says:

"It is not fair to the country—it is not fair to us who are living, and still less it is fair to the generations to come after us—that we should allow the destruction of the forest to go on year by year by the cutting down of the trees, and make no effort whatever to replace what is thus taken away."—Forestry Convention, 1906.



Mr. R. L. Borden, K.C., M.P., leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, says:

"Of all our wonderful natural resources none are more important than the forests. Their conservation is undoubtedly more vital to our future than is generally realised."

Keeping out the Fire.

Fire is the most serious menace to the forest, and protection from it must be the basis of any system of forest management. consideration it might seem preposterous that the vast extent of the Canadian forests could be effectively protected from fire, but when one reflects that the fires that result from natural causes are comparatively few in number compared with those that originate through the action of man, the matter does not seem to be an utter impossibility. And that it is not so experience has already shown. The Dominion and Provincial Governments have established special fireranging services which have been effective in proportion to the thoroughness with which they have been worked out. A great deal yet remains to be done in extending these systems and in perfecting their operations; still the principle of a fire-ranging staff is justified beyond the possibility of hostile criticism. It is a form of fire insurance, which is both cheap and effective, and has now established itself as an unassailable feature of Canadian forest policy.

In the Province of Ontario, which spends the largest amount upon this service, the expenditure for 1903 was \$31,237, and the revenue received from woods and forests was \$2,307,356. Although this revenue was swollen beyond the usual proportion by bonuses for timber limits, the buyers undoubtedly found that it paid them to offer larger bonuses on account of the comparative immunity from fire, due to the establishment of a fire preventive service.

Lessons from Abroad.

A Warning and an Example.

The penalties resulting from a reckless destruction of the forest have already been felt in many parts of Canada in the irregular flow of streams and the erosion of considerable areas of agricultural land. On the other hand Canada has been benefited by the efforts made by the Dominion and Provincial Governments to promote the wise use of our forest wealth. But we must look abroad for the most notable examples of a good or bad

forest policy.

The great rivers of Russia, the Don, the Volga, and the Dnieper once ran through great forests. The development of commerce and the introduction of railways and machinery caused a demand for fuel, thus giving value to the "worthless forests," as they had been called. In a comparatively few years it was said in that country, "The machines have devoured the woods." The consequence was that the Volga grew steadily shallower, the Don with its tributaries was choked, and the Dnieper entirely lost some of the great streams which added to its flow. The river Worskla, one of the greatest of these latter, dried up completely from source to mouth, the springs which fed it having absolutely disap-The Government and people are now trying by every means available-slow and expensive at the best—to win back the streams and their now sterile beds.

Germany has for centuries been working out a forest administration, which from crude beginnings has evolved into a highly specialized system, in which the annual returns from the forest have steadily increased both in quantity and value, although for the most part such forests are situated on poor, sandy soil or in rough, hilly or mountainous districts. With a population of 240 persons to the square mile, Germany considers it profitable to not only keep her poor lands, at present forested, in that conditon, but to increase the area of such forest lands, even by purchase. The net annual income from her 35,000,000 acres of forest land is \$63,000,000. What will Canada's revenue be a

hundred years from now?



The Effect of Fire in Northern Manitoba.

The Honourable Sydney Fisher, Minister of Agriculture:—

"It is high time that the man on the street, the average man who is interested in the business of the land, should take up this question, so as to understand it sufficiently, at all events, to induce him to give his support to the governments which are working in the direction of the conservation of our forests, and of the students and political economists who are pointing the way for those in authority to act."



A Ten-year-old Burn in British Columbia.

Dr. B. E. Fernow, the founder of the United States Forest Service, and now Dean of the Faculty of Forestry in the University of Toronto, in his address before the Canadian Club of Montreal said:

"If you have any conception that Canada is capable of enduring as u natton for a thousand years, do not be in a hurry to dispose of your resources. Do not think that permanent prosperity



In the Depths of a Mountain Forest.

comes from disposing of all your farm lands lavishly, opening up all your mines at once, or marketing all your timber as rapidly as possible. Develop wisely rather than rapidly."

"There is no question that Canada, if she adopts a wise forest policy, can soon become the controller of the wood markets of the world, and of the paper trade in special."

What the Dominion Government is doing.

Forestry work on Dominion lands is at present being prosecuted along three lines:—(1) The protection of existing forests against fire.

(2) The surveying of the Dominion Forest and Game Reserves, and the estimation of the timber thereon (both as to present quantity and as to probable growth in the future). (3) The free distribution of seedling forest trees to the farmers of the prairie regions for planting.



Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior:

"There is in Canada a vast area of timbered land, and that timber has a value altogether beyond its commercial value. It is being lost year after year to a stupendous extent, and it is necessary to take active measures for the putrolling of those forests to secure their preservation against fire."

The importance of protecting the forests from fire has for a number of years past been recognized by the Governments of Ontario and Quebec, and both they and the Dominion Forestry Branch, since its inception, have given much attention to this work. In addition to the permanent forest rangers, special men have been employed from time to time. In 1907 rangers were for the first time employed on the Peace and Athabaska Rivers, and this year (1908) the work has been extended to the Churchill.

The work of estimating the amount of timber at present on the Reserves was begun in the summer of 1905. During that summer such estimates, or "timber surveys," were made on the Turtle Mountain and Moose Mountain Reserves, and during the summers of 1906 and 1907 parties were at work in the Riding Mountain Reserve in Northwestern Manitoba. The total area of the Dominion Reserves is nearly 5,400 square miles.



Mr. R. H. Campbell, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry.

During the last five years an average of 2,000,000 seedling forest trees have been distributed and planted by people dwelling upon prairie farms in Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. Every one who has seen these plantations freely acknowledges the great benefits which they confer upon the people living upon the plains.

Sir Louis Jetté, Lieutenant-Governor of the Province of Quebec, in addressing the ninth annual meeting of the Association at Montreal, said:

"I cannot give you too much praise for having founded this Association. In these times associations have become the most powerful agents of man's power. Nothing can resist the solidarity of a Society which replaces the inefficiency of individual efforts with the powerful influence of a number of people banded together to serve the same ideal and reach the same end."

The Forestry Association and its Work.

In laying down the programme of its principles, the Canadian Forestry Association kept in view the following considerations:—

To arouse public interest to the deteriorating effects of the wholesale destruction of our forests; to consider and recommend the exploration, as far as possible, of the public domain, and its division into agricultural, timber and mineral lands, with a view of devoting the public lands



W. B. Snowball,
President Canadian Forestry Association.

to the purposes for which they are best fitted; to encourage reforestation and the planting of trees on the prairies, in cities, towns and villages and throughout the country; to collect and disseminate, for the benefit of the public, reports and information bearing on the forestry problem in general.

The Forestry Association, although it is consolidating the influence of those favoring better forest management, is not the pioneer in this movement. Such a movement has been sup-

ported and advocated for many years by earnest and far-seeing citizens of the Dominion, most of whom are now identified with the Association. By writings, by addresses, by petitions to the Government, they sought to bring the matter to the attention of the public, but the time was not ripe, and the public indifference did not readily yield. "The forests of Canada are inexhaustible," was the stock argument; "Forestry is a fad," was the general opinion. And if any interest was aroused it was quickly lulled to sleep by the absence of that pressure of necessity which is the greatest incentive to action.

The project for the formation of an Association to reform such a state of affairs was initiated in February, 1900, by Mr. E. Stewart, Dominion Superintendent of Forestry, who called a meeting of a number of gentlemen interested in the subject.

The year 1906 was made notable by a great Dominion Forestry Convention in Ottawa, called by the Prime Minister, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who personally presided over its deliberations. There were in attendance His Excellency Earl Grey, and a very large number of the most influential citizens of Canada.

The proceedings of all the annual meetings have been reported in full and published. Besides, the Association publishes a quarterly magazine, the Canadian Forestry Journal, to which the leading writers on the subjects with which it deals, contribute.

Monseigneur Laflamme, Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Laval University:-

"Of all the questions of public interest which concern the economic feature of Canada, I know of none of more importance than that of the forests. It is on this point that all the solicitude of Canadians ought to converge, since upon the solution given to this problem will depend in a large measure the general prosperity of the country.

"We are rich in forests; from this point of view we are perhaps the richest people in the world, but our forestal resources are not inexhaustible. To say so would be to give evidence of bad faith and of ignorance."



Secretary A. H. D. Ross.

ARE YOU A MEMBER?

If you are already a member of the Association you are requested to use your influence in getting others interested in what you know to be a good cause. If you are not a member, your members.' ip is earnestly solicited. The annual fee is only one dollar, which entitles you to a year's subscription for the Canadian Forestry Journal (the official organ of the Association), and a full report of the proceedings of the annual meeting. The life membership is ten dollars.

Applications for membership should be addressed to the Secretary,

A. H. D. ROSS, Faculty of Forestry, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ont.

For Every Good Citizen.

The forestry movement should appeal to all Canadians. Canada has been blessed by Providence with a wealth of forest. It has interwoven itself in her poetry and her history. It clothes with beauty her sterile lands, making them productive and giving healthy occupation to a happy In the advance of the civilization of the nineteenth century two-thirds of this forest has been swept away by fire, uselessly and needlessly. Rocky and sandy wastes have been bared and left desolate. Is this all the intelligence of man Has the twentieth century no other purpose to accomplish? Will the close of another cycle find the destruction much more surely and completely established? Or will the expiration of another hundred years find the forests clothing the rocky hills and valleys with their beautiful verdure, well-ordered, productive, abounding in wealth for the state, furnishing the needs of Canada and the regions beyond, supporting a hardy and intelligent populace, forming a shelter for the wild animals and a place of pleasant resort for the people? The accomplishment of such a purpose is well worthy of the support of all patriotic citizens, of all who love their native land and have a genuine interest for its future. Such is the purpose which the Canadian Forestry Association has set before it as the ideal for Canada, to which it purposes to work and for which it appeals for support.

A great State was a desert, and the land
Lay bare and lifeless under sun and storm,
Treeless and shelterless. Spring came and went.
And came, but brought no joy, but, in its stead,
The desolation of the ravening floods,
That leaped like wolves or wild cats from the
hills,

And spread destruction over fruitful farms, Devouring as they went the works of man, And sweeping seaward Nature's kindly soils, To choke the water-courses worse than waste.

The forest trees, that in the olden time—
The people's glory, and the poet's pride—
Tempered the air and guarded well the earth,
And, under spreading boughs, for ages kept
Great reservoirs to hold the snow and rain,
From which the moisture through the teeming
year,

Flowed equably but freely—all were gone.

Their precious boles exchanged for petty cash,
The cash had melted and had left no sign;
The logger and the lumberman were dead;
The axe had rusted out for lack of use;
But all the endless evil they had done
Was manifested in the desert waste.

Dead springs no longer sparkled in the sun;
Lost and forgotten brooks no longer laughed,
Deserted mills mourned all their moveless wheels;
The snow no longer covered, as with wool,
Mountain and plain, but buried starving flocks
In Arctic drifts; in rivers and canals
The vessels rotted idly in the mud,
Until the spring flood buried all their bones;
Great cities that had thriven marv'lously
Before their source of thrift was swept away,
Faded and perished, as a plant will die
With water banished from its roots and leaves;
And men sat starving in their treeless waste,
Beside their treeless farms and empty marts,
And wondered at the ways of Providence!

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