

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION, 1916 AND 1917

and Cobalt regions. The provincial forester is empowered to order the clearing up of areas in which he thinks fires liable to start. Regulations are made in the Act as to the operation of engines (both locomotive and stationary) in the "close season."

In Manitoba the Fires Prevention Act (chapter 35) was passed. By this Act a "wooded district" is set aside, and power is given the Lieutenant Governor in Council to proclaim other such districts. In such districts a "close season" (April 1 to November 15) is provided; during this season no fires may be lighted without a permit from the nearest fire guardian. Every adult male within fifteen miles of a fire may be called upon to help fight it, under penalty for refusal. Burning brush or felled trees at a time where there is danger of the fire spreading is forbidden, under penalty of fine or imprisonment. A minimum fine of twenty dollars is fixed. Organized municipalities are required to appoint fire guardians, and additional fire guardians may be appointed by the Minister or Dominion forest or fire rangers authorized to act, especially in unorganized territory.

In Saskatchewan the Prairie and Forest Fires Act of 1917 (chapter 21) enacts that brush caused by clearing land for any purpose must be piled and burned at the time of cutting, unless there is danger of the fire spreading; in such cases the burning must be postponed until the end of the "close season." Anyone setting fire to trees or timber under circumstances that make a spread of the fire likely is liable to fine or imprisonment. In certain specified areas a "close season" for fires (April 1 to November 15) is instituted, during which no one may burn standing trees, brush or slashing without a permit from a fire guardian.

Appointment by the Lieutenant Governor in Council of fire guardians in the district where burning permits are required is provided for. In organized municipalities, fire guardians are to be appointed by the Councils. All fires are to be reported to the Provincial Fire Commissioner (provided for by previous legislation) and he is to investigate fires of doubtful origin and prosecute apparent offenders. A minimum penalty of twenty-five dollars is prescribed.

In New Brunswick, chapter VII, an Act to facilitate the collection of stumpage makes more stringent regulations regarding the submission of returns on the part of operators of timber limits and exporters of pulpwood.

Labour Legislation.—Chapter 33 of the New Brunswick statutes of 1917 orders the early closing of shops engaged in any business in a city or town on petition from three-quarters of the persons engaged in that business, and chapter 35 confirms and enlarges the powers of a commission appointed to inquire into the workmen's compensation legislation of other provinces and countries. The Manitoba Workmen's Compensation Act (chapter 125 of 1916) requires the employer to compensate a workman for injury by accident arising out of and in the course of the employment, and workmen may not agree to forego the benefits of the Act. A compensation fund is to be established from contributions by employers who carry their own liability and from insurance companies, and a commissioner is to be appointed, with jurisdiction over the matters in the Act, who is to pay the compensation and recover the amount from