

Since its beginning in 1900, the Canadian Forestry Association has played an important part in securing popular co-operation in reducing the fire hazard. By means of its magazine, which has a large circulation, by railway lecture cars and motor-trucks provided with motion-picture equipment, and by co-operation with radio broadcasting stations and the press, the Association reaches a large proportion of the population of the Dominion. Special efforts are made through the schools by specially appointed junior forest wardens and other means, to educate the younger generation as to the value of forests, the devastation caused by fire and the means of preventing such destruction.

Forest Insects Control Board.—The mounting loss and damage through forest insects in Canada is now a matter of great concern to Governments and the forest industry in this country. In particular, the present uncontrolled epidemic of spruce budworm threatens the loss of raw materials on a scale approaching a national disaster.

To meet this situation an Order in Council was passed by the Dominion Government on Sept. 14, 1945, setting up a Forest Insects Control Board. (See Chapter XXII, Sect. 2, Subsection 2.) This Board operates under the supervision of the Minister of Reconstruction and Supply, which Department defrays its administration costs. Composition of the Board consists of eight members, one of whom is chairman, and includes representatives from the Departments of Reconstruction and Supply, Mines and Resources, and Agriculture, also one member from the pulp and paper industry, one member from each of the Provinces of British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec, and one member to represent the three Maritime Provinces, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

The functions of the Forest Insects Control Board do not involve the taking over or replacement of any existing service, entomological or otherwise. Each service, Dominion or Provincial, must budget for and carry on its duties in its normal way. The purpose of the Board is to secure additional funds, where necessary, to supplement the functions of existing services and co-ordinate their several efforts into one cohesive program with a view to expediting the solution of the forest insect problem in Canada.

Subsection 3.—Scientific Forestry

The great forestry problem is the management of Crown forests, first under provisional and later under more intensive working plans, so as to ensure a sustained yield. Forest research activities in this direction are now assuming great importance. The Dominion Forest Service operates four forest experiment stations and a National Park Reserve* with a total area of 227 sq. miles. Here investigations of the underlying principles governing the growth of forests are made and practical methods of management are tested.

About 600 technically trained foresters are employed by the Dominion, by provincial forest services or by paper and lumber companies. A number of foresters are actively engaged in commercial logging operations and, in addition to administrative work, these men carry on forest surveys either for the estimation of timberstands and making of maps, or to determine natural growth and reproduction conditions and factors.

Through the use of air photographs taken by the Royal Canadian Air Force and base maps prepared by the mapping organizations of the Departments of Mines and Resources and National Defence, the Dominion Forest Service has taken a leading part in the development of methods for the interpretation of air photographs

* See Table 4, p. 261.