

Another aspect of forest management receiving active attention is the collection of more accurate inventory records of forest resources. The provinces, under the stimulus of the Canada Forestry Act, are embarking on programs designed to inventory adequately their forest areas.

The use of air photographs for forestry purposes is a comparatively new field in which progress has been made in both research and practice (*see* p. 461). By the use of such photographs the Forestry Branch of the Federal Department of Resources and Development has been continuing its work on the aerial forest mapping of federally administered lands and other territories of direct concern to Canada. Forest inventory maps are, for example, being prepared from air photographs of the Eastern Rockies Forest Conservation Area. Data are being collected on the ground to support the interpretation of the photographs and the development of instrumental aids is being continued.

Timber Control.—The formal control of timber by the Timber Controller, as established during the war years, ceased on Mar. 31, 1950. Since that date the only controls have been those exercised through licences for the export of logs and pulpwood, required under the authority of the Export and Import Permits Act.

Subsection 2.—Forest-Fire Protection

The Federal Government is responsible for fire-protection measures in the forests under its administration—chiefly those of the Yukon and Northwest Territories, the National Parks, Indian lands, and Forest Experiment Stations. Each of the provincial governments, except that of Prince Edward Island, maintains a fire-protection organization co-operating with owners and licensees for the protection of timbered areas, the cost being distributed or covered by special taxes on timberlands.

In each province, with the exception just mentioned, provincial legislation regulates the use of fire for clearing and other legitimate purposes, and provides for close seasons during dangerous periods. The Province of Quebec has organized a number of co-operative protective associations among lessees of timber limits. These associations have their own staffs, which co-operate with those of the Board of Transport Commissioners and the provincial government. The latter contributes money grants and also pays for the protection of vacant Crown lands lying within the area of the associations' activities. In the Province of Newfoundland, responsibility for the protection of most licensed timberlands is vested in the lessees and the Newfoundland Forest Protection Association, maintained jointly by government and industry, carries out certain important fire-control functions.

The provincial services of forest-fire protection along railway lines are assisted by the Railway Act, administered by the Board of Transport Commissioners. The Board has wide powers relating to fire protection along railway lines under its jurisdiction. Certain officers of the various forest authorities are appointed ex-officio officers of the Board of Transport Commissioners and co-operate with the fire-ranger staffs which the railway companies are required to employ under the Railway Act.

In many districts in Canada, radio-equipped aircraft are used to good effect for the detection and suppression of forest fires. Where lakes are numerous, seaplanes or flying boats can be used for detection and for the transportation of fire-fighters