

Fire prevention is difficult because of a lack of roads into the remote forests. Twenty well-equipped forest fire depots are scattered along the coast, most of them equipped with radio telephone. Twelve lookout towers, ten of which are equipped with radiotelephone, cover a large portion of the forested area. One aircraft, stationed at Gander throughout the fire season, patrols isolated forests and transports fire fighting equipment and crews when necessary. The total forest fire staff, including permanent Inspectors and others, is approximately 90. The two paper companies maintain their own fire protection organization.

The Newfoundland Royal Commission on Forestry, appointed in 1954, recommended development of the pulp and paper industry; completion of a forest inventory; establishment of forest protection administration; and organization of a forest service.

Forest research for Newfoundland is performed by the Forestry Branch of the Federal Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources but very little reforestation is done, as yet.

Prince Edward Island.—The Forestry Division of Prince Edward Island, formed under the Department of Industry and Natural Resources in 1951, became part of the Department of Agriculture in 1955.

Almost all of Prince Edward Island's woodland is privately owned, so that the Forestry Division is mainly concerned with planting, woodlot management and fire protection. A small nursery has been established jointly with the Federal Government to deal with the Island's needs and many people take advantage of seedlings, supplied by this Division at reasonable cost, to restock barren areas. The Federal Government pays half the cost of reforesting waste lands.

In proportion to its size, Prince Edward Island exports a great deal of pulpwood. This export, combined with the fuelwood and lumber cut each year, led the Forestry Division to inaugurate a woodlot management program which is designed to educate the owner in the proper care and management of his woodlot.

Fire protection does not constitute too great a problem. Wooded areas are scattered in patches throughout the Province and since a network of roads makes all woodlots accessible, equipment can be brought to the scene of a fire quickly and easily.

Research is limited mainly to reforestation problems and these are studied in the provincial nursery.

Nova Scotia.—Forest administration in Nova Scotia is conducted by the Department of Lands and Forests which, in conjunction with the forest industry and the public, tries to protect and rejuvenate provincial forests. The Department employs 20 trained foresters, one wildlife biologist and an entomologist in addition to a large staff of rangers, surveyors and fieldmen.

Of the Province's 20,743 sq. miles, about 11,555 are classed as forested. The Crown holds title to about one-quarter of this total; one-third is in holdings of 1,000 acres or more owned by about 200 companies and individual land owners; one-thirtieth is in the form of National Parks and Indian reserves; and the remainder is composed of small woodlots which for the most part are owned by farmers.

Considerable effort is expended on conservation projects, forest protection and research. Reforestation has been practised and encouraged since 1926. Large quantities of seedlings are planted each year on Crown lands and distributed to companies and individuals for private reforestation. In addition, a restriction is placed on cutting coniferous trees of a diameter of less than ten inches through the stump. The careful maintenance of many farm woodlots has resulted in a continuing source of income to rural families and has helped to retain forest cover. To establish an inventory of forest resources, the Province has conducted an aerial and ground assessment to determine tree species and land productivity.