

An active reforestation program has been encouraged since 1926. Each year, seedlings from the forest nurseries are transplanted to burned-over areas of Crown lands. Conservative cutting is promoted through the requirements of the Small Tree Conservation Act. Standing timber on Crown lands is offered for sale through public tender, and logging is supervised by the District Foresters of the Department of Lands and Forests.

Responsibility for the forest fire control program rests with the same Department. Fire prevention messages are presented through the media of the press, radio and television. Early warning of fires is facilitated by a detection system consisting of 27 towers, five of them privately owned, and an aerial patrol. Integration of the detection system and the suppression force is aided by radio and telephone communications. Three experienced fire suppression crews located at strategic places as well as local fire ranger personnel are available to fight fires. Equipment is supplied from caches and depots established throughout the province.

Access roads into Crown land timber areas are being constructed under Dominion-Provincial Agreements. These are valuable for protection purposes as well as for management programs.

The forest industry consists of about 600 sawmills, one pulp and paper mill, and two pulp mills. Establishment of a third pulp mill is now being surveyed and studied. Together with the pulpwood export trade, pit prop production, and the box and barrel industry, these mills account for the major part of the annual wood use, equivalent to about 1,375,000 cords.

Forest research is conducted by Federal Government agencies and the Nova Scotia Research Foundation. Investigations concern stand improvements, cutting and manufacturing methods, production efficiency and costs in sawmilling, regeneration, insect and disease activities, and tree physiology.

New Brunswick.—More than 80 p.c. of the area of New Brunswick is classed as productive forest of which the Crown, in right of the province, owns about 40 p.c. About 2 p.c. is owned by the Federal Government and the remainder is privately owned. A provincial inventory, part of the national forest inventory, is under way, the results of which will indicate the nature and extent of the forests of the province. The productive forest area is estimated at 23,808 sq. miles and the total volume of wood in merchantable sizes at 16,900,000,000 cu. feet; of the latter, coniferous species make up 71 p.c. and deciduous species 29 p.c. The New Brunswick Forest Development Commission in its report submitted in June 1957 indicated that production of forest industries could be doubled in value within two decades and recommended sweeping changes in provincial government policy.

Protection from forest fires, the first requirement for forest conservation, is mainly the responsibility of the Forest Service which also carries out duties in connection with game protection, colonization and the administration of provincial Crown lands. A large-scale aerial spraying program to protect balsam fir and spruce from the spruce budworm has been carried on since 1952 by a Crown company sponsored by the federal and provincial governments and representatives of the forest products industries.

Timber licences issued by the province authorize operators to cut and remove forest products in accordance with forest management plans and cutting permits. Stumpage dues are paid to the province when products are cut by the licensees.

New Brunswick does not maintain a provincial forest research organization. There is, however, extensive co-operation between the province and the federal Forestry Branch in conducting forest research. The University of New Brunswick also has undertaken a small number of forest research projects in co-operation with the National Research Council, the Provincial Government, and other interested institutions.

Quebec.—The commercial forests of the Province of Quebec cover an area of 220,275 sq. miles extending from its southern borders to latitude 52° north, between the frontier of Labrador in the east, and the Eastmain River Basin in the west. Of this total, 88,023