

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 to the inauguration of a program designed to educate the owner in the proper care and management of his woodlot.

Fire protection does not usually 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 and woodlot management problems.

Nova Scotia.—The land area of Nova Scotia is 20,402 sq. miles. Of that area, 16,389 sq. miles are classed as forested, 92 p.c. of which is regarded as productive. For Canada as a whole, 91 p.c. of the forested land is held by the Crown in the right of the federal or provincial governments but in Nova Scotia only about 22 p.c. is so held.

The provincial Crown lands are administered by the Department of Lands and Forests through a staff of foresters and rangers. Similarly, trained personnel are associated with the forest industry in the administration of privately owned forest lands. The Department administers the Small Tree Conservation Act on all lands and is responsible for forest fire suppression on all lands, regardless of tenure. Forest fire detection is facilitated by 30 observation towers and an aerial patrol service, all integrated with land vehicles and headquarters by radio and telephone communication systems. Well-equipped fire suppression crews and rangers are stationed throughout the province.

The forest industry is of prime importance to the economy of Nova Scotia. There are some 500 sawmills of all sizes, one newsprint mill and two pulp mills in operation. A new chemical pulp mill was completed to the test-running stage. These mills, along with the pulpwood export trade, pit prop production, boxwood and barrel production, as well as other facets, use 289,000,000 ft.b.m. of lumber and 342,000 cords of round products. The lumber industry underwent changes in 1961 when several large, modern and more efficient stationary mills were established. Such installations produced the equivalent of 7,900 cords in chips from sawmill waste.

An active reforestation program has been conducted for many years. Although not as ambitious an undertaking as in some parts of Canada, the program is being expanded in areas where there are less fortunate circumstances relative to natural regeneration. There are six forest nurseries in operation throughout the province. Forest management programs include the construction of access roads into Crown land timber areas and stand improvement under the federal-provincial agreement. Timber, pulpwood and Christmas trees are sold through public tender and cutting is done under the recommendation of the district foresters of the Department of Lands and Forests. Inventory surveys, regeneration studies and experimental cuttings are conducted on Crown lands.

Forest research is carried on by Federal Government agencies and the Nova Scotia Research Foundation (see p. 342). Investigations involve stand improvements, cutting methods, and insect and disease activities. Extension projects include an active fire prevention campaign, a motion picture program for schools, distribution of information on forest and wildlife conservation, promotion of the Christmas tree industry, and preparation of articles for general distribution, for newspapers and for magazines.

New Brunswick.—More than 85 p.c. of the area of New Brunswick is classed as productive forest, of which the Crown, in right of the province, owns about one-half. About 2 p.c. is owned by the Federal Government and the remainder is privately owned. The report of a provincial forest inventory, part of the national forest inventory, was published in 1958. 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 the remainder.

Protection from forest fires, the first requirement for forest conservation, is mainly the responsibility of the Department of Lands and Mines which also carries out duties in connection with game management and protection, colonization, parks, campgrounds