

Nova Scotia.—The land area of Nova Scotia is 20,402 sq. miles. Of this area, 16,274 sq. miles are classed as forested and 93 p.c. of the latter is regarded as productive. Although 91 p.c. of the forest land in Canada is held by the Crown in the right of the federal and provincial governments, only 22 p.c. is so held in Nova Scotia.

The provincial Crown lands are administered by the Department of Lands and Forests through a staff of foresters and rangers. Similarly, trained personnel are employed with some of the forest industries in the administration of privately owned forest lands. The Department administers the Lands and Forests Act as it pertains to all lands and is responsible for forest fire suppression. Forest fire detection is facilitated through 32 observation towers and an aerial patrol service, all integrated with land vehicles and headquarters by radio and telephone communication systems. Fire suppression crews and rangers with equipment are stationed throughout the province.

The forest industry is of prime importance to the economy of Nova Scotia. There are in operation about 500 sawmills of various types and sizes, one newsprint mill, two ground-wood pulp mills and a chemical pulp mill; construction of a second chemical pulp mill and a hardboard plant is under way. These mills, along with the export pulpwood trade and pitprop production, produced about 250,000 M ft. b.m. of sawn materials and about 650,000 cords of round products in 1965. Twenty-eight sawmills were equipped for the production of pulp chips from sawmill residue and the equivalent of about 85,000 cords of chips was produced from slabs and edgings.

The reforestation program, which has been active for many years, is being expanded with respect to non-forested land and experimental work on land preparation on fire barrens is being conducted. In 1965 approximately 1,000,000 trees were removed from the six forest nurseries for planting in the field, mostly on non-forested land.

Forest management programs include the construction of access roads into Crown land timber areas and stand improvement under federal-provincial agreements. Timber, pulpwood and Christmas trees are sold through public tender and cutting on Crown land is done under recommendation of district foresters of the Department of Lands and Forests. Management cruises, regeneration studies and experimental cuttings are conducted on Crown lands and an active program of operating these lands under sustained-yield management plans is well under way. Silvicultural techniques are being expanded to operational levels on Crown lands.

Forest research is carried on by Federal Government agencies and the Nova Scotia Research Foundation. Investigations involve stand improvement, cutting methods, and insect and disease activities. Extension projects include fire prevention, a film program for schools, distribution of information on forest and wildlife conservation, promotion of the Christmas tree industry, woodlot improvement, preparation of material for the mass media, and technical assistance to sawmill operators.

New Brunswick.—Of the total land area of New Brunswick (27,835 sq. miles), approximately 86 p.c. 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 total volume of wood in merchantable sizes is estimated at 16,900,000 M cu. ft.; 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, provincial parks, 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 by representatives of the forest products industries. Forest Management Licences issued by the province