

### Subsection 2.—Provincial Forestry Programs

All forest land in provincial territory, with the exception of the minor portions in National Parks, federal forest experiment stations, military areas and Indian reserves, is administered by the respective provincial governments. The forestry program of each province is outlined below.

**Newfoundland.**—Geographically, the Province of Newfoundland has two separate regions—the Island and Labrador on the mainland. The productive forest land is estimated at approximately 30,000 sq. miles about equally divided between the Island and Labrador. Most of Labrador's forests are leased but are as yet virtually untouched.

A large part of the forest land in the interior of the Island is leased, licensed or owned by paper companies, but a three-mile-wide belt along most of the coastline is retained as unoccupied Crown land for the purpose of providing firewood, construction material, fencing material, etc., for the local populations. Within this coastal forest belt, every household has legal right to cut 2,000 cubic feet of wood a year for domestic use. This form of cutting is generally without intense control or restriction but a policy is being introduced whereby cutting in certain 'management areas' is controlled by Forest Service Officers. Approximately one half of the Crown forests are at present under management. Commercial timber-cutting on unoccupied Crown lands has been by permit since 1952; permits for amounts up to 120 cords per person are issued by the field staff but permits for larger quantities must be approved by the government.

The Island is divided into three forest regions, each of which is subdivided into five districts. Each region is under the control of a regional forester and each district is headed by a district ranger with a staff of rangers and assistant rangers. Twenty-five well-equipped forest fire depots and 20 lookout towers, connected by radio-telephone to district and regional offices, are operated by the Newfoundland and Labrador Forest Service; others are operated by the two paper companies which maintain their own forest fire protection organizations.

Forestry operations in Labrador are under the supervision of a regional ranger located at Happy Valley (Goose Airport). Forest fire protection bases are located near Goose Airport and at Labrador City, Churchill Falls, Cartwright and Makkovik.

The Forest Service operates 10 fixed-wing aircraft for forest fire detection and suppression and three helicopters for transporting men and equipment. The permanent Forest Service staff of approximately 90 persons is doubled during the fire season with the addition of seasonal employees.

**Prince Edward Island.**—Roughly one third of Prince Edward Island's 2,184 sq. miles of land is tree-covered. The wooded areas consist of scattered patches throughout the province, the greatest concentration being in the eastern section. All of the woodland is privately owned with the exception of some 3 sq. miles of federal Crown land and about 6 sq. miles purchased recently through ARDA and turned over to the Crown in the right of the provincial government. The Forestry Division, Department of Agriculture, administers all forestry matters in the province but is mainly concerned with reforestation, protection and woodlot improvement. Although forestry is of secondary importance to the province, nevertheless the woodlots aid greatly in maintaining moisture for agriculture and form breaks against the average 15-mile-an-hour winds that blow across the Island.

The reforestation program has been increasing year by year, with as many as 500,000 trees being planted in one year on provincially owned and privately owned marginal and submarginal land. The forest management programs include the provision of access roads into Crown land areas and woodlot improvement; improvement cuts act as demonstration areas to the public, 4-H Forestry Clubs, and Boy Scout and Girl Guide groups. Fire protection is not too serious a problem. Wooded areas are relatively small and scattered and are all accessible by road so that equipment can be rushed to the scene of a fire quickly and easily.