



How to Protect and Preserve New Brunswick's Forest Wealth.

BY W. F. GANONG, PH. D.

It is a fact of much importance for New Brunswick that interest in forestry matters is rapidly increasing in the province. Among the several evidences of this is the action of the house of assembly in passing a bill at its last session authorizing the lieutenant-governor-in-council to set aside a portion of the crown lands as a forestry reserve. The reserve has not yet been proclaimed, but doubtless will be very soon. In the meantime it will be well to review briefly the present forestry situation, and to note what steps should next be taken.

The facts which face us are these. The greater part of New Brunswick is not only better fitted for forest than for any other kind of crop, but is exceptionally adapted, through climate, soil, river systems and other advantages, for timber raising. The forests of the province are far below their possible productivity, large areas of potential forest land being quite unproductive, and the remainder steadily deteriorating. Lumbering is of course the chief forest interest, but with this are bound up others of little less importance, namely, game and fish preservation and utilization, new settlements, public recreation grounds or wild parks, and especially the preservation of watershed forests for the prevention of floods, for securing constancy of water powers and water supplies, forest lands, fortunately, belong largely to the crown, and can be managed as the province sees fit; but there is no proper forest system, only makeshift and opportunism. Other countries, some whose forestry interests are relatively far less important than those of New Brunswick, and many her natural competitors, are vigorously attacking their forestry problems, but she has not yet moved. Here, in this forestry situation lies a gigantic and complicated problem, but a problem of pure business; and the chief question before the people of New Brunswick tomanaged in a business like manner or in a halting temporizing and short-sighted fashion. If the former, then the forests will yield a large and permanent income to the province; if the later, the income from them will continue to lessen, until the day comes, in the not distant future, when the deficit will have to

be made up from direct taxation. THE FIRST STEP.

We turn next to ask what is the first step which should be taken, and as to this there cannot be the least doubt-it is for the government to secure the use of exact and expert information and advice upon forestry matters, especially in relation to forestry conditions ard ds in New Brunswick. Now forestry is a very special business, requiring a very special training, and there could not possibly be any greater mistake than to suppose that anyone in whose way the subject happened to fall could work it up and give the government all needful guidance and advice. There is only one way in which the needed expert information can be secured, and that lies through engaging a thoroughly trained and competent forester, and giving him abundant opportunity to study the entire forestry situation in the province. Such a man should be effected through instruction on the ele- me now only because I cannot afford to have

be obtained from one of the forestry establishments in this country, and not brought from Europe, where the conditions are entirely different. He must be well paid, but it will be the falsest economy to put up with inferior service in so vastly important a

The second step in a forestry programme seems equally clear. It is the formulation of a broad policy for the management of the crown forests, having regard to the correlation of the various uses they serve, not only for lumbering, but for fish and game, settlements, use as recreation grounds, as sources of water power and supply, and so forth. This could best be done by a special committee or commission in collaboration with the provincial forester, and it should be composed of the ablest citizens of the province, with ample time and sufficient means to secure all needful information. The report of such a committee would give the legislature and the people of the province a sound Douglas Wiggin. basis for a thorough understanding and discussion of the entire subject, and would thus render possible the adoption of a definite and comprehensive forestry policy.

SAYING AND DOING.

It is, however, one thing to formulate good policy and another for a democratic government, with its inevitable political fluctuations, to carry it out. In order to secure that continuity and stability of policy so necessary to the management of forestry and for facilitating river navigation. The development, covering as it does long periods of time, it will no doubt be best to place the entire administration of the policy in the hands of a board of trustees, or a commission made independent of politics as the senate of the university is, and, like the senate, composed of eminent and public-spirited citizens. In such a commission the different forest interests should be represented and so adjusted that no one interest could control the policy of the commission. It might well be composed of two members of the legislature, two lumbermen and two scientific men, with the province forester. Some such plan will be day is this, whether her forests are to be necessary to avert the danger of the use of the great forestry interests as political capital, or even of their sacrifice at some critical period to save a political party.

There is one other feature essential to any forestry system, namely, forestry education, which is necessary both for the formation of an intelligent public opinion and also for the education of young men for the forestry service. As to the first, the education of the public is necessary in order that a government may act, and at present the subject is not at all understood. Most people who hear the word forestry associate it with some visionary schemes for keeping the countary beautiful for those who enjoy life out of doors, etc., whereas as a matter of fact the great primary object of forestry is to make the forests as profitable as possible in actual cash returns. In this aim forestry and the lumberman agree; where they differ is in this, that the lumberman is concerned only with the profit of the present and near future. while the forestry system aims to bring the forests into their most productive condition and to keep them there, so that they will continue to yield the maximum of profit indefinitely. The education of the public can passionately for some time, and she is leaving

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ments of the subject in the schools, all of any longer. She is easily loved and responds which methods would be utilized by an ener- readily to caresses. She is very fond of getic province forester. The education of flowers and candy, and expects regular supyoung men for the forestry service can be plies. She likes to go to the theater and eat effected only through the foundation of a anything on the bill of fare. Anyone who forestry school which, from its nature, should | wishes to be passionately loved and broke at form a department of a university. There is the same time will find her up to all the re need for but one such school for the three maritime provinces.

Of all the maritime province universities the one by far the best adapted for such a school is the University of New Brunswick; for not only is it already strong in science and equipped with an admirable new science building, but it is the nearest of all the universities to the greatest lumbering centres of the provinces. The school would naturally be organized by the province forester, and the other provinces should be asked to contribute to its maintenance, precisely as New Brunswick has agreed, and most wisely, to contribute to an agricultural college to be established in Nova Scotia. It is most important that all the support the three provinces can afford for a forestry school should be concentrated upon one; and a first step towards the organization of this school should be to secure an agreement with the other provinces and universities by which a duplication of forestry school, and hence another of those miserable educacional mistakes from which these provinces have suffered so much, will be avoided. A forestry school will both provide a training for all grades of the forestry service of the provinces, and also will open up a new and attractive profession to our young men.

But whatever the exact mode of procedure in the development of the torestry policy of the province, there is no question that some carefully considered action should be taken just as soon as possible. The situation is one needing ability, firmness and disinterested devotion to the interests of New Brunswick. Will her legislators prove equal to their duty and their opportunities?

#### The Ten Best Books for Children.

Why should grown-up folks have a monopoly of lists of "best books?" "St. Nicholas," the well-known children's magazine, has been inviting the opinion of its readers upon the best books for children under ten years of age, and in December awarded the prize to the child who sent in this list:

"Alice in Wonderland"-Lewis Carroll. "A Child's Garden of Verses"-Robert Louis Stevenson.

"The Birds' Christmas Carol" - Kate

"Greek Heroes"-Charles Kingsley. "Hans Brinker"-Mary Mapes Dodge.

"King of the Golden River"-John Rus-"Little Lord Fauntleroy"-Frances Hodg-

son Burnett.

"The Prince and the Pauper" - Mark

"Water-Babies"-Charles Kingsley. "The Wonder Book"-Nathaniel Haw-

In its January issue "St. Nicholas" publishes another list, showing, in the order of preference, the ten most popular books, as they appear in the multitude of replies sent in for the competition:

"Little Lord Fauntleroy"-Frances Hodg-

"Alice in Wonderland" - Lewis Carroll.

"The Wonder Book" - Nathaniel Haw-"The Birds' Christmas Carol" - Kate

Douglas Wiggin. "Wild Animals I Have Known"-Ernest,

Thompson-Seton.

"Water-Babies"-Charles Kingsley. "The Jungle Books'- Rulyard Kipling.

"Black Beauty" -Anna Sewell.

"Nights with Uncle Remus"-Joel Chandler Harris.

"A Child's Garden of Verses"-Robert Louis Stevenson.

The "Lamp" (formerly the "Book Buyer") finds the first list a good one, but the second "far more interesting." "The difference," it says, "is just this: the first list is the one 'St. Nicholas' thinks is the best of all those submitted, while the second list represents the opinions of the children them-

### Some Letters of Recommendation.

The bearer of this has been my husband now for several years, and is only leaving me because we both feel the need of a change. He is willing and obliging, a first-rate man about the house, runs errands and carries bundles cheerfully, never kicks about expenses, and is used to one night out a week. I can cordially recommend him to anyone looking for a good, durable article.

Mrs. A. Tonguer. The young lady who bears this I have loved

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The bearer of this has been in our employ for more than a year, as conductor, and has given complete satisfaction. During that time he was never known to stop a car at the right corner, or to speak a civil word to a passenger. We are sorry to lose him.

Street Railway Company. The bearer of this has been my typewriter for two years past, and only leaves me at my wife's urgent request. She has a kind, gentle and loving disposition, and is a most desirable companion. She enjoys the theater very much, and is fond of long drives. I shall

Sledger Skate.

If business does not come, hunt it: find it:

Thomas Edison says genius is 2 per cent. nspiration and 98 per cent. perspiration.

One of the great accomplishments in this life is to be able to "back up" the moment you find yourself going wrong.

God gives the bird food, but does not pu in the nest.

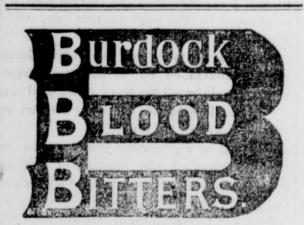
Do not worry. Do what you can; let the est go, and smile all the while.

Avoid debt. Pay cash as far as possible. Do not speculate or gamble. Steady patient industry is both the surest and safest

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Character is a poor man's capital; therefore, keep your promises.

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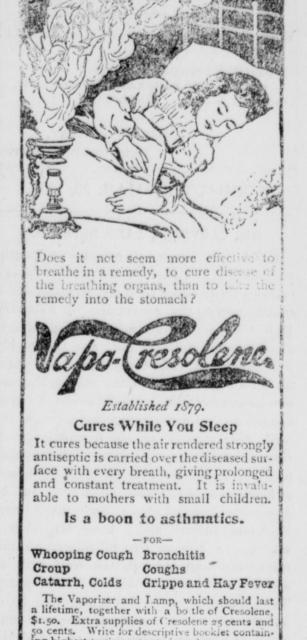
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Sleeper McAdam Jct. to Halifax.

8.50 A MIXED—Week days—for Aroostook
M Jct. and intermediate points.

11.35 A EXPRESS—Week days—for Presque
M Isle, Edmundston, and all pionts
North.

1.35 MIXED-Week days-for Perth Jct. M and intermediate points.
P MIXED-Monday, Wednesday, and
M Friday-for Fredericton, etc., via 1.45

Gibson Branch.

4.45 P MIXED-Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday—for Fredericton, etc., via

Gibson Branch.

5.38 P EXPRESS — Week days—for Houlton,

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The patterns this season are

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