

THE CHIEF FORESTER OF NEW BRUNSWICK TALKS OVER THE RADIO ON FIRE PROTECTION

It is a pleasure to have this opportunity to address the Radio audience of CNRA on this most important subject—"Fire Prevention."

You will agree it is very necessary for us to observe "Fire Prevention Week" at this time of year, when we are asked to pay special attention to the prevention of structural fires of all kinds. Information and instruction is to be given through the various mediums of publicity with regard to the causes, damage and precautions which must be taken to stop our enormous annual fire losses, most of which are due to neglect or carelessness on the part of someone.

Equally important at this season of the year are the losses due to Forest Fires. This is the season when leaves are falling, when autumn rains may not come as expected. Grass, leaves and other debris on the forest floor may become exceedingly dry and hazardous, and with increased woods travel by hunters and sportsmen, it is possible to have fires equally as disastrous as those which may occur in the spring time.

We in New Brunswick have of late years had very few fires in the autumn but other Provinces have suffered greatly. Official records show that Canada's most disastrous forest fires occurred at this season. The Miramichi fire of 1825 we are told occurred on Friday, the seventh of October. Its effects are still visible along the Miramichi Valley, although it is true the blackened waste has been replaced by new growth. We hope never again to experience such a fire at any period of the year, for we are less able to recover from such a calamity than we were one hundred and three years ago, when larger timber was left in the woods as waste than is being cut today.

The 1928 fire season has set a new low record in New Brunswick in the matter of forest fire damage, although we have had a few more fires than in the preceding year. The record of 1927 was such an improvement over previous seasons that it was felt we could not hope to better it. It was something to strive for in the future, something to be equalled perhaps but not surpassed. Weather conditions, however, have been in our favor, and this fact, coupled with what we believe to be a well organized and efficient forest protective service together with increased interest on the part of the public generally has brought about this new record, which we are pleased to announce.

Some Statistics.

A few statistics may be of interest to you. New Brunswick forest fire losses this year have been exceedingly low. Seventy-nine general fires have occurred, carelessness on the part of various persons frequenting the forests for business or pleasure being charged with the greatest percentage of fires and losses. A total of 2,135 acres of private land and 2,492 acres of Crown Lands were burned over.

The private and crown timber damage was practically equal, being the vicinity of 1,300 dollars each, while damage to private property outside of the timber destroyed is estimated to be \$2,625.00.

The month of May, between the 8th and 24th especially, was the period of greatest hazard. Fifty-one fires occurred during the month, followed by ten in July, eight in June, four in August, and a small number for the other months.

In addition, twenty-seven railway right of way fires occurred, covering thirty-five acres of private land, with an estimated timber damage of \$47.00 and private property damage of \$300.00. The acreage burned over is less, while the total damage is slightly in excess of that of last year. Most of these were grass fires on the right of way with no damage attached, covering only a few square feet before being extinguished by the railway patrolmen. The railways of the Province have given their best attention to fire prevention since the bad fire year of 1923. They now consider it a matter of protecting future freight and passenger business. "Forest fires create idle lands, idle hands and idle industries". Green forests are preferred by tourist and others seeking rest and recreation. They are the panacea for many ills, and thousands frequent our forests and streams yearly in search of health, and to get away from business worries for awhile. A conspicuous sign displayed on a transcontinental highway reads as follows:—"This is God's Country. Don't set it on fire and make it look like hell". None of us I am sure wish to be responsible for creating such a state within the borders of our land. When travelling over forested highways use the camp sites established by the Forest Service for your benefit. These fire places are conveniently located near good spring water and are well marked. Any country neglecting to protect its forests with all forces at its disposal, is headed towards national ruin. The forests go a long way in maintaining the equilibrium of nature, and each of us must see to it that we are not responsible for creating conditions which in the end may have such far reaching results. "Stop fires, grow trees, keep forest land working" is a part of a Forest Fire Sign lately posted throughout the Crown timber limits under license to the New Brunswick International Paper Company, and is excellent advice for every citizen.

New Industry.

We are at present looking forward to the establishment of more pulp and paper mills in this Province, and to maintain a supply of wood for such mills, every effort must be made to conserve our forest resources. Forest fire losses must be eliminated; wasteful cutting methods must be abolished; salvage operations in insect damaged, fire killed and blowdown timber must be carried on to conserve areas of good growing stock for future requirements.

Owned By People.

The Canadian Forestry Association, which is doing such a great work for forest conservation, reminds us that 92 per cent of the forest area of this Dominion is owned by the Canadian people through Federal and Provincial Governments. The penalties of forest destruction as well as the profits of forest protection are harvested by the Canadian wage earners and mercantile classes. The fraction of private

profit in a "Forest Dollar" is trifling when compared with community distribution. The Canadian public destroys the forests its owns. The axe of industry is far subordinate to the flame-throwing of the reckless citizen. Since Confederation 706,000 square miles of timber have been burned, as compared with 100,000 square miles of timber cut for use. Think it over. Seven times more timber destroyed than used. Can any country stand this drain for long, and hope to maintain her great wood-using industries? Our long lumber mills are being replaced by those of pulp and paper and when the transition is complete, we hope to have much closer utilization of our forest resources. We all must grapple with the problem of Forest Protection, and assist the Forest Rangers and other officials directly responsible for the protection of the forest areas under their control. Let us make every week in the year a "Fire Prevention Week" rather than confine our efforts to a few days in the spring and fall. We must have your support and co-operation in order to stamp out fire losses, over 90 per cent of which are due to carelessness. By observing simple rules, you can do much to assist the Forest Rangers who stand over your forest.

Some Simple Rules.

1. Be sure your match is out before you throw it away. Matches have heads but don't think. Do it for them. "Break your match before you drop it."
2. Don't throw burning tobacco from a car into the inflammable material by the roadside. Stamp out the fire in the dust of the road if you must get rid of it. Do not smoke while walking in the woods.
3. Build a small camp fire in the open, not against a tree or log, nor within fifteen feet of brush or other debris. Scrape away the litter down to mineral soil all around it.
4. Never leave a camp fire, even for a short time without quenching it with water and covering it with earth.
5. Don't build bonfires in the forest.
6. If you discover a fire, put it out. If you cannot, notify the nearest warden or ranger. Get someone on the fire immediately. Every second counts while the fire is small. If help is obtained quickly, it may mean much in controlling the fire and averting heavy forest losses.
7. Spread the Gospel of Forest Protection by your Personal Example.

Again let me urge you to take all possible care with the use of fire, whether it be in your home, your office, your store or other building, and above all "Be careful of fire in the forest as you would in a powder factory". Structures may be rebuilt in a few days or weeks, but Nature requires a century to replace her burned forests. In the meantime, the loss to the nation through forced idleness of hands, lands and industries may not be calculated.

New Brunswick's Forest Industries alone are valued at \$45,000,000, while the annual Forest Payroll amounts to over \$5,000,000. Remember this:—The Prosperity of the Province depends on the perpetuation of the Forest.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWO

To some it may not cause much pain
But as for me—I go insane
Whenever I meet that old refrain;
"Continued on Page Two."

The thing that gets my feeble goat
Is not the way the rewrite wrote;
It's that persistent little note:
"Continued on Page Two."

The bandits fire nine shots—Page One
And here the story's half begun
Before you find what else they've done—
"Continued on Page Two."

The goodwill flier in a spin
He lost control up over Lynn
With flaming plane he plunges in
"Continued on Page Two."

Cal Coolidge has for lunch a dish
His line brought in with scarce a swish;
The measure of this record fish—
"Continued on Page Two."

Whatever fate may hold for me
I hope that I shall never see
A chronicle concerning me
"Continued on Page Two."
—ROBERT SIBLY in Editor and Publisher.

THE WEEKLY CROP REPORT OF THE BANK OF MONTREAL

Threshing has continued under ideal weather conditions and is partially completed in Manitoba and nearly so in Saskatchewan. About 10 per cent to 15 per cent of the wheat and 25 per cent of the other grains have still to be threshed in Alberta. Deliveries have been unusually heavy. In Quebec Province harvesting is about completed and threshing generally is well advanced although in some districts unsettled weather has delayed operations. In northern Ontario continuous rains have partially ruined the late cereal and root crops, but in the rest of the Province favourable weather for farm operations has prevailed and farmers are well advanced with their work. In the Maritime Provinces the garnering of good crops is proceeding satisfactorily. In British Columbia harvesting of all crops except late apples and roots is patically completed. Details follow:—

Prarie Provinces

Alberta Western Area—Threshing should be finished in a week; grades run from two to six. Digging of sugar beets has begun, the beets are in good condition and the yield is expected to be about 50,000 tons.

Alberta Northeastern Area—From 50 per cent to 75 per cent threshing is completed; the remainder should be finished in ten days. Most of the wheat has been affected by early frost and the grades are ranging from three to six.

Alberta Southeastern Area—Threshing is nearing completion; wheat is grading from one to four.

Saskatchewan Northern area—Under ideal conditions, threshing has been partially completed. Saskatchewan Southern Area—Continued favourable weather has advanced threshing to near completion. Better than average yields have been realized throughout the Province but grading reflects the seriousness of the early frosts and the bulk of the wheat will be number three and lower. Manitoba—With exceptionally fine weather during the last two weeks, threshing has been partially completed except in a few isolated

cases. Some frost damage in the northern districts has affected yield and grade. Wheat is grading mostly two and three Northern, the latter predominating.

Province of Quebec

Threshing operations indicate an irregular yield of grain somewhat below average in grade; oats have suffered damage from frost and rains. Potatoes have been affected to some extent by rot; the crop, except on high lands, is below average. Other roots are satisfactory. The cutting of corn is about completed, with a fair average yield. Pastures continue in good condition. The yield of tobacco is average and is drying under normal conditions.

Province of Ontario

Threshing operations continue and all grains are yielding satisfactorily except oats, which are below expectations. The corn crop is a good average and is now being cut and placed in silos. Root crops are good, especially turnips and mangets, but sugar beets are below average. Potatoes are a heavy, but there is considerable rot in

those grown on low land. Peaches, pears and grapes are plentiful and in the Georgian Bay district there has been a decided improvement in the apple crop in the past month. The loss from frosts to the tobacco crop is not more than 3 per cent to 5 per cent. Pastures are good. There will be plenty of rough feed for winter use.

Maritime Provinces

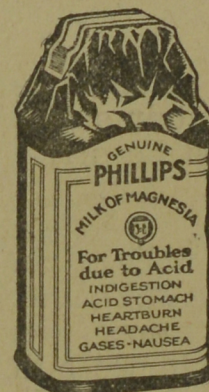
An average crop of oats and an above-average crop of hay are already harvested. Potato digging is well under way, yields generally running from seventy-five to one hundred barrels per acre, making a good average crop of good quality. Apples are ripening and colouring well and a high percentage is packing out number one and number two. Pasturage continues to be good.

Province of British Columbia

Potatoes promise a good average crop of splendid quality. Tomatoes will yield only 80 per cent of average, having suffered from frost damage. The apple crop is still estimated at 120 per cent but having culling is necessary on account of scab and worms; packing of winter varieties will commence at the end of the week. Recent rains have benefited pasturage.

TOWN TREASURER

Renfrew, Ont., Oct. 13—Walter A. Black, has been appointed clerk treasurer of the town of Renfrew. He succeeds the late Major R. P. Watt.



When Food Sours

Sweeten the stomach—instantly

About two hours after eating many people suffer from sour stomachs. They call it indigestion. It means that the stomach nerves have been over-stimulated. There is excess acid. The way to correct it is with

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