

EXPORT OF PULPWOOD SHOULD BE STOPPED

Able and Illuminating Address Before Forestry Convention by Hon. Clifford Sifton, M. P.—Valuable Suggestions From a Man Who Knows What He is Talking About.

One of the principal speakers at the Canadian Forestry Convention held at Fredericton on Feb. 23rd and 24th was Hon. Clifford Sifton, president of the Conservation Commission, and a former Minister of the Interior in the Dominion Cabinet. Hon. Mr. Sifton is generally recognized as one of Canada's foremost public men, and did much while a member of Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Cabinet to make the attractions of the Canadian Northwest known to the world.

Hon. Mr. Sifton's address before the Forestry Association was eloquent and illuminating, and coming from a man of his high standing and wide experience, his suggestions are entitled to great weight.

The hon. gentleman, on rising, expressed his pleasure at being present at the convention, the interest in which was apparent by the large gathering assembled.

Regarding the work of the association, he said that a great deal had already been accomplished in promoting interest in forest preservation throughout the dominion. Some years ago, as minister of the interior, he had asked for a grant of \$15,000 to establish a forestry branch for the interior department. The opposition had opposed it because it was the government that asked for it, but there were many amongst government supporters who thought the expenditure a useless one, and it had been pointed out to him that there was not then in Canada a thoroughly qualified forester, a man whose business it was to preserve the forests.

Since then there has been a great change. In British Columbia they have a forestry commission. A number of reserves have been started by the department of the interior, who now give employment to a large staff of competent men whose duty it is to protect and preserve the forest lands of the dominion.

The department had also established a complete system of forest rangers for the purpose of protecting their lands from fire.

In Ontario there is a complete system of fire protection, forest rangers going over the ground continually.

Quebec had a similar system and had even gone so far as to send representatives to Europe to make personal inquiries regarding forest protection in various countries of that continent.

New Brunswick had given special attention to the forests and Nova Scotia was making progress along the same lines and would do more in the future.

There had been great progress made in every province during the past ten years. Then there was no genuine interest in the question, only a few giving it any attention whatever. Now it was frequently mentioned in the press and thousands of persons were interested in the operations of this association.

It had been said that the commission, of which he was chairman, covered practically the same ground as the forestry association. This, in a measure, was true, but the association had a very important work of its own which could not be undertaken by the commission. The relations between the two organizations would be that of co-operation. It must be remembered that the commission could only act in an advisory capacity and in order that its findings would be of value they must be backed by public opinion.

FIRE, THE GREATEST ENEMY

In the past the chief enemy of forest preservation had been fire. For years the destruction of the forests in this manner had been talked about, but nothing was done to prevent it, and what is now being done is largely for the protection of merchantable timber, but there are large areas of forest lands where the growth is yet young and where nothing has been done or is being done to prevent the spread of fires. It was in such territory that the principal damage was now being done to the forests by fire and if he were asked for an opinion he would say that conditions were never so bad as during the past season, when the destruction of young timber was greater than for years past.

At a meeting of the commission

held in Ottawa a resolution had been passed dealing with fires along the line of the I. C. R. This was the result of the statement made by Surveyor-General Grimmer which he (Mr. Sifton) had caused to be investigated by the department of railways and canals. Officials of the Intercolonial corroborated all that Mr. Grimmer had said in this respect. As a result it was proposed to ask legislation imposing a heavy penalty on railroad corporations which permitted fires to be started from their right of way and as far as possible to make these same laws applicable to the Intercolonial.

After reference to the attack on the chief forester of the United States and the campaign that had been instituted in that country against forest protection by some interested parties, Mr. Sifton said that in Canada there was absolute and convincing evidence that the contentions of those favoring forest protection was correct. It was idle to say that the climate was not affected by the clearing away of the forests. Whether or not the rainfall was increased or decreased was not altogether clear, but no one would deny that the spring flow of rivers was greatly affected by clearing of the lands they drained.

He gave an instance of the effect of cutting away the forests along the Grand River of Ontario, where the people were now endeavoring to overcome the effects resulting. From this it would seem that we have not to wait for results from overclearing the lands in Canada as they are already here.

Taking up the question of the necessity of forest preservation in Canada, Mr. Sifton pointed out that the United States now could not supply themselves with wood for a period of more than thirty years. This was not the result of a careless calculation but an accurate statement of facts. The present per capita rate of consumption of wood was not taken into consideration when making the calculation. Should it be necessary for the United States to look to Canada for a further supply of wood, all the merchantable lumber in our forests would be exhausted at the end of seven years. He felt convinced that within the life time of the present generation the government would be compelled to ask legislation limiting the quantity of lumber to be cut, because such a limitation would be a necessity.

STOP EXPORT OF PULPWOOD

So far as he was concerned, he would adopt a portion of that policy now. Ontario had taken a step in this direction by compelling all timber cut on government lands to be manufactured within the province. This province had done much to develop the industry in Canada, as the mills in Michigan where the lumber cut in Canada was formerly sawn, moved across the lake to Ontario, where they now are.

Quebec proposed to adopt a similar policy and, while he did not come here to advise, he hoped that New Brunswick would follow along the same line. He was opposed to the export of pulpwood and while he did not expect every one to agree with him on this subject he thought it was the best plan to follow.

He also favored tenure to the lessees of timber limits. The policy of the United States had been to dispose of the fee simple of their timber lands. This made them subject to taxation by the state which to obtain as large a revenue as possible fixed a high rate. In return the lumbermen cut the timber from the land as rapidly as possible and abandoned the lands. In British Columbia the lands were leased for ten or fifteen years. The dominion regulation was to lease land on renewable terms and to continue their leases so long as their lessees lived up to the regulation. In his opinion, permanency of tenure was necessary for the preservation of the forests.

Another point to which he directed attention of the association and on which he asked them to pass a resolution, was the establishment of forest reserves on the eastern slope of the Rocky Mountains. The prosperity of large stretches of territory, already well populated depends absolutely on the conservation of the for-

HALF MILLION PAID FOR RARE PAINTING

Otto H. Kahn of New York Outbid J. P. Morgan for Hals Group.

The highest price, so far as there is any record, ever set upon a painting, was paid last week by Otto H. Kahn, banker of New York, when he bought a Fanz Hals from Duveen Brothers, No. 302 Fifth avenue, for \$500,000. The painting is the celebrated picture of Hals himself and family.

It is rumored that this price was reached after spirited competition by prominent collectors and dealers. The nearest bidder to Otto Kahn was that great collector, J. Pierpont Morgan, who offered an amount between \$350,000 and \$400,000 for the picture.

This is not the first time that Mr. Kahn has paid a record price. Not long ago it was reported that he had given \$100,000 for Romney's "Three Children of Capt. Little," through Scott & Fowles.

Another great price was that obtained through the sale of the British suffered recently when the Duke of Norfolk put up for sale the Holbein painting of Christina Duchess of Milan. As the picture was in the National Gallery public sentiment was so aroused against its sale to a foreigner that in a supreme effort the necessary \$350,000 was raised and the picture saved to England.

In 1907 Benjamin Altman of New York, it is said, paid \$200,000 for two Rembrandts from the Kann collection in Paris.

SOUTH AFRICANS' RECORD GREAT AT CRICKET

Since the close of the Boer War South Africa has become more English than England—with respect at least to one thing and that is cricket which is as typically English as lacrosse is Canadian. In the five test matches recently concluded between the Marylebone team and the South African eleven victory went to the latter by three to two. South Africa and England began playing cricket together in 1888, and before the war the English teams had things pretty much their own way. Then came on the war "the game of kings" it has been called, and when it had been played to a finish, the cricketers returned to their bats and wickets. The matches were resumed in 1905, and since then thirteen have been played of which South Africa has won seven, England four, two being drawn.

The statesmen congratulate themselves by thinking that South Africa is being bound to the Empire by the working out of the federal constitution. It may be that considerable of the binding is being done by just such men as these Marylebone sportsmen. Britain and South Africa learned to respect each other on the battlefield and now on the cricketfield the respect is ripening into friendship.

A DANGEROUS THING.

Three young Highlanders, a century ago, set out from their native hills to seek a livelihood in the Lowlands. They had hardly learnt English. One tie by little, until her wedding-day. The French peasantry, however, are proverbially thrifty, and the parents as well as providing the "dot" for their daughters, usually arrange the marriages as well. The "lass wi' the tocher," even in Scotland, has an added charm to any others she may possess.

ests of the Rocky Mountains. Unless something is done to preserve the forests there the country will be flooded at one season of the year and become a barren waste at another. The government has proposed to bring in a bill in connection with this matter, but governments were proverbially slow and he wished the association to pass a resolution favoring the preservation of the forests of the Rocky Mountains.

Another question upon which he thought the association would be justified in taking action was that of damming the St. Lawrence at Long Sault Rapids. The proposition, which had come before the International Waterways Commission, was to construct a dam at this point which would develop enormous horsepower. So far as could be ascertained this was nothing short of an attempt on the part of a few capitalists to monopolize this great water power for the benefit of themselves and to the detriment of Canada and Canadian enterprises. He would offer his most uncompromising opposition to this scheme, which in his opinion should be developed by the Canadian government for the capacity he intended to keep up the fight against the control passing to private individuals and he would ask the assistance of the association in this important work.

KENTUCKY STALLION NOT YET PAID FOR

The following enquiries of a local interest were answered in the Legislature on Tuesday:

Hon. Dr. Landry in reply to Mr. Leger:

Q.—Are any of the notes which were given in payment or part payment for horses imported from Kentucky in 1908 still unpaid? If so, by whom were they given? A.—Given by Messrs. Charles Forbes and James McKnight; Harry G. Smith and W. L. Harding, west St. John.

Q.—If any remain unpaid, by whom were they given and what are their respective amounts. A.—Charles Forbes and James McKnight, \$121.88; Charles Forbes and James McKnight, \$121.88; Harry G. Smith and W. L. Harding, \$224.45.

Q.—Have any of such notes been paid since the close of the fiscal year 1909? If so, by whom were they paid? A.—Yes, Morris and Elizabeth Scovill, November 30th, \$51.90, balance December 30th, 1909, \$75.45.

Hon. Mr. Flemming in reply to Mr. Leger:

Q.—What position under the government is held by Mr. A. D. Thomas? A.—Mr. A. D. Thomas holds the position of clerk in the school book department of the provincial secretary's office.

Q.—When was Mr. Thomas appointed? Has he been continuously employed since the time of that appointment. A.—Mr. Thomas was appointed July 6th, 1909, appointment to date from July 1st, 1909, and he has been continuously employed in such office.

Q.—What is his salary? A.—His salary is \$700 per year.

HOW TO CONTROL THE MOISTURE IN BUTTER

The controlling of moisture in butter is due largely to the temperature of the wash water used at the time the butter is worked. Without going much into details it may be stated as a general principle that water will stick to soft butterfat and it is repelled somewhat by hard fat, so that if a churning of butter is washed with water a few degrees warmer than the buttermilk and then worked, this will have a tendency to retain a considerable per cent. of moisture in the butter. If, on the other hand the granular butter is washed with water several degrees colder than the granules and then worked, this treatment will have a tendency to reduce the moisture in the butter. A butter maker must, after knowing these general effects, regulate his practice by making determinations of the water in his butter for several churnings and thus find out what temperatures are best fitted to leave the right amount of water in the butter.

It is hardly safe to try to run the per cent. of water as high as 15.5 per cent., as it has been shown a number of times that several tubs of butter from the same churning may vary from 5 to 1 per cent. in the water content and on this account it is generally safe to regulate the churning so that about 15 per cent. of the water will be left in the butter.

VERY MUCH TO THE POINT

The parrot which belonged to the rich malefactor sat in its gilded cage contemplating a price-mark which had not yet been removed. Presently the magnate approached and the bird looked at him. He had been in the witness stand that day in an important case, and was feeling rather elated over his successful testimony.

"Hello, Polly!" he greeted the bird, sticking his finger through the bars.

"Hello!" responded the parrot, ignoring the finger.

"Does Polly want a cracker?"

The bird cocked its head to one side inquiringly. The magnate laughed at its manner. Possibly the bird had not quite understood the question.

"Does Polly want a cracker?" he repeated.

The bird still looked at him with slanted vision but made no reply.

"Oho!" he laughed. "You're not hungry. Have you had your dinner?"

"I don't remember" croaked the bird, and the magnate ordered the butler to remove it from the premises forthwith.—Lippincott's.

NEWSPAPER CRITICS.

"You can't run a newspaper that will absolutely please everybody," said the editor.

"No," replied the old subscriber, "a man's opinion of the fashion page is usually pretty much the same as his wife's opinion of the sporting section."

SLEIGHT OF HAND ARTIST TALKS OF HIS EXPERIENCES

How the Public are Entertained and Mystified—Some Interesting Reminiscences—How the Tables Were Turned on a Card Sharp—Female Imposter Exposed.

I became a conjurer chiefly because I was attracted by the art of deception from my earliest years. My parents had different views, and wished me to devote myself to business, with which intent they secured me a position in a store in San Francisco when I was about fifteen years of age. I devoted my time, however, in the store to playing weird tricks with umbrellas, hats, and various other goods that I had to show the customers, the cleverness of which did not at all appeal to my employers. At last the climax came one day when a lady came to try on a bonnet. She liked it well enough, but when she removed it from her head and found that it contained two kittens she gave vent to a scream, and left the establishment—and so did I an hour later. I have been practising the art of deception ever since, professionally.

MY FIRST APPEARANCE.

I made my first appearance in London some years later with a trick that obtained immense popularity. I allude to the "canary trick" in which my assistant holds a cage containing a live canary. I throw a cloth over the cage for an instant, and when I remove it the bird has disappeared. Sometimes I make the cage vanish also. I performed this trick at Mr. Alfred de Rothschild's house when the King, then Prince of Wales, was present; there was also a number of well-known people among the audience. I remember one gentleman who held the cage on that occasion asked me afterwards if it really was a trick. "I don't mind a trick," he said, "but this looks like magic, and I don't like that." I assured him, however, that it was a pure and simple piece of deception, and that it had taken me close on five years to learn how to do it.

VICTIMISING "THE CLOTH."

In private life I have performed some of my tricks under rather amusing circumstances. I remember at one time I was staying at a hotel in Manchester when a clergyman was also a visitor. One morning, in the smoking-room, the reverend gentleman was present, and was declaiming against the evils of gambling. "Well," I remarked, "I dare say all you say is true enough, but may I ask why you carry two packs of cards in your pockets?" He at once declared that he never did such a thing, and that I was talking nonsense, but I insisted that he had two packs of cards in his pockets, and asked him to take them out. I shall never forget the look of astonishment in the poor clergyman's face when he put his hand into his tailcoat pocket and produced two packs of cards, and the shout of laughter that greeted their production. When it subsided I confessed that I had played a little trick on the clergyman, which accounted for the presence of the cards, but I am afraid there were some present who were inclined to think that the reverend clergyman was not all that he pretended to be.

A BOGUS PRIEST.

Talking of clergymen reminds me of a bogus one whom I met once, and whom, by the aid of a card trick I was able to expose as a cheat and a swindler. This happened after I had finished a long tour in the East and was returning from China to pay a visit to my native town of San Francisco. On the steamer was a gentleman arrayed in the garments of a Roman Catholic priest, but somehow he did not seem to me to be quite the genuine article. He was asked one night to take a hand in a game of poker, and, after declaring that he rarely played cards, and that he understood nothing about them, consented to join the game. He held extraordinary good cards throughout, and won a good deal of money. The same thing happened the next night, and by then I had quite made up my mind that he was cheating, and determined to give him a lesson that he would remember.

AND HIS EXPOSURE.

I confided a little plan I had made up to some of the passengers, among whom I remember was Lord Ranfur-

ly, and with their connivance I carried it out most successfully. I took a hand that night, and dealt the priest the four kings, and to another player I dealt four queens, and to myself I dealt four aces. Then the fun began. The "priest" was, of course, absolutely sure that he held the strongest hand, for the chances of four aces being out against him was very small. To cut a long story short, he raised the betting to £400, and then put down his four kings, uttering a cry of triumph as he saw the four queens. When, however, I put down my four aces he nearly collapsed. He paid the money, which was handed to the captain of the ship, who subsequently returned it to the reverend gentleman, telling him how it had been won from him, and warning him not to try on any of his tricks again at the card table. The "priest" did not make his appearance any more in the card-room, and I trust the lesson he received was not without some good effect.

EXPOSING A FEMALE IMPOSTOR.

The most curious place, by the way, in which I ever gave a performance, was in a witness-box. This was in New York, when a lady named Debau was being prosecuted for having obtained large sums of money by trickery from a man named Marsh. It is contrary to etiquette for one conjuror to expose another, but in this particular instance I had no hesitation in doing so, for, in the first place, Miss Debau claimed to be a spiritualist and not a conjuror, and, in the next, she had been guilty of defrauding her victim, in the most heartless manner, of nearly all his money. My evidence consisted in showing that what Miss Debau claimed to have done by spiritualism was, in point of fact, done by trickery. She was sentenced to a long term of imprisonment. Before she was convicted she wrote me a letter vowing to devote the rest of her life to revenging herself in me in the most terrible manner, but I have, happily, never heard of her since.

It has, by the way, often amused me to observe how many people there are who think that by standing close to a conjuror they will be able to see how he does his tricks. Of course, it is impossible, if a conjuror knows his business, properly, for a person to discover how a trick is done, no matter how close he may stand to the conjuror. I did a number of card tricks for a gentleman once who stood a foot or two from me the whole time. Afterward, when I showed him how many of these were done, he was amazed. "One would certainly never guess the way they are done by watching you," he said. "Well," I replied, "if you could do that the trick wouldn't be worth doing."

TRICK THIEVES.

What the average person does not understand is that the conjuror's art is to deceive. If you can see how a trick is done by watching a conjuror he must either do it very badly, or it must be a very poor trick. Of course, a professional conjuror can often see how a trick is done by watching the performance closely, and, nowadays, it is extremely hard to guard against one's tricks being stolen. Numbers of tricks that have taken me years to learn, have been copied by others, and then they are, of course, no use to me any longer. However, I have a fair number in my repertoire which have defied all the efforts of the trick thieves so far and I am continually working out new ones to replace those that will probably sooner or later be discovered by the people who have not the ability to devise any original tricks for themselves. Stealing tricks, I may remark, is a regular business. I know of one man who makes, or was making some years ago, a thousand a year by stealing tricks and selling them to third-rate conjurers. For some tricks he would get as much as £20, which, probably, cost the inventor three or four hundred pounds to learn.

Philosophy is the common-sense of mankind digested.