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PRODUCERS RATHER THAN MIDDLEMEN!

W. H. Cushing of Calgary, Alberta, Speaks of the Need of Settlers on the Land

Mr. W. H. Cushing, in referring to Alberta as the land of opportunity,

"There is no country like it for the young man providing he is sensible and does not insist on getting rich quick. Think of it! 100,000,000 acres of the finest agricultural land in the world, and only 2,000,000 acres of it under cultivation! Too many are going to the cities and too few back to the land. We want producers more than middlemen in the West. Industry and patience are all that is necessary to win for the ambitious at least a comfortable competence in Alberta." Mr. Cushing does not see any danger ahead because of exhaustive wheat growing. Optimist that he is, he says that it is questionable whether the sponge-like soil of the prairies could be robbed of its virtue no matter how many crops were taken from it. Certainly it would not deteriorate if given proper care and a rest occasionally. Even admitting that the wheat growers were taxing their land in the effort to grow wealthy quickly, the danger faded away when it was remembered that but little over 2 per cent. of the agricultural land had yet been ploughed. "Alberta," concludes Mr. Cushing, "stands on immense beds of coal, deposits of gas, oil, etc. In the north, there are large tracts of practically pure salt and other valuable minerals abound. All this is in addition to her agriculture. \.'ho can predict what lies in front of such a storehouse of natural wealth? As I said before, I am firmly convinced that, for the young man, Alberta is the land of opportunity."

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A sectional suit case is a novelty, permitting the use of only as many parts as may be needed to hold the articles that are to be carried.

Ecuador Land

Experts have figured that Ecuador, by the application of scientific methods, could increase its present agricultural yield by 150 per cent.

New Sprinkling Cart

A steam-driven street sprinkling cart, the tank of which carries 1,000 gallons of water, has been brought out in England.

In Great Britain the percentage of insanity is increasing faster than the growth of population.

PROTECT

An Economic as Well as Moral Sin to Destroy Them

"The question of the protection of our forests from fire is first of all a question of morals; to burn useful material without any reason for burning is immoral," said Dr. Fernow, Dean of Forestry at the University, of Toronto, in dealing with the problem of the suppression or the prevention of forest fires. He said the importance of it would be admitted when it was realized that there are at present over 569,000 acres of potentially marketable timber without any fire protection whatever. Also the Government had lost in potential dues \$541,500, and this did not include the value of such timber to the community in preparing it for the market. "The one Province which now stands ahead of all others is British Columbia. They have taken the matter in hand seriously and efficiently," said Dr. Fernow. "Ontario, although the Government spends a large amount of money on forest reserves, protects very little." The reservations in Ontario are merely sections of the country that have been withdrawn from use as farm land. The thought of protecting them from fire has not yet occurred to the Govern ment. The same might be said in regard to the profitable utilization of these forest reserves." Dr. Fernow pointed to the example of the United States, where they are making attempts to deal with the problem of the timber supply of the future.

"It is not wood of any description that we are interested in," said he. "but wood of a kind that has a commercial value. Timber is what we are interested in."

Dr. Fernow went on to say that there

were six hundred millions of acres of timber now standing in the United States, five times as much as in Canada, yet the United States wanted to get Canada's timber, the reason being that they desire to conserve for the future.

"The method of detecting fires in these forest regions is by means of watch towers and a system of telephones and trails, so that a fire may be checked at its commencement. As most fires are started by sparks from railway engines, the use of oil instead of coal has been recommended by the Commissioners."

Dr. Fernow said this was a movement for providing for the future and would not benefit the present. Its progress was therefore slow, but he, thought it ought to receive the support of all who had the best interests of Canada at heart. It was an economic as well as a moral sin to destroy.

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