

Friday, Mar. 28th

in permitting the bulk of the manufacturing to be done in the United States by American workmen. If Canada was going to continue to sell pulpwood to the American manufacturer, she should get in return free entry of all Canadian wood products into the United States.

Would Stop Exploitation.

As a step toward economy, the Minister said that there was urgent necessity for the working out of some scheme to have complete cutting operations conducted in forest areas, where previously the newsprint companies had gone through and simply cut out the spruce.

Before another year, he believed, a system of slash-burning will have been devised which would constitute a solution of a long-standing problem in Ontario lumbering operations. He intimated that when the system was worked out slash-burning operations would be made compulsory on timber companies.

There were 89,000 square miles of forest left in Ontario, he said, which was not any too considerable when one considered that 2,120,000 acres had been burned over last year, of which 30 per cent. had been high-class timber lands. He went on to state the department's determination to use every possible effort to curtail forest-fire losses in Ontario. The utilization of its own air force for that purpose, he said, had effected considerable economy.

Expects to Save Money.

Mr. Lyons said that the Province expected to save on the aircraft service over the present system at least a quarter of a million dollars a year. By this air service the Government proposed to have patrolled 30 million acres of land never patrolled before. In the past

there had been enormous losses in that vast area from which fires which started and burned themselves out without any person ever knowing anything about them. He hoped to save that acreage from fire in the future.

The air machines were converted so that they would be able each to take care of five men. A pilot and observer generally would be sent on patrol in each machine. When a fire was detected the machine could return to its base, take on additional men, necessary equipment and a sufficient quantity of hose. These firefighters then could be landed some place on the water in a convenient place from which to fight the fire. The plane would return to the base for further equipment, and, if the emergency demanded, more planes could be put into service.

Can See Fires Afar.

The Minister of Lands and Forests said it had been found from experience that observers in a plane would detect a fire quickly and readily in its incipient stages. A plane, after such detection, could return to its base 150 miles away and come back to the scene of the fire with men and have the fire extinguished in about 12 hours, on an average. In no case had this time exceeded 48 hours, he said.

In the eastern section of the Province the situation was being taken care of by towers, already erected. Continuing, the Minister said the Government intended to utilize the planes in making a general survey of Northern Ontario, at times and in seasons when patrolling was not needed. A map already had been made from aeroplane survey of a district near James Bay, and the results compared with land surveys. It was found that surveying from planes was one of the easiest ways of obtaining information and accuracy, and was nothing like the cost of the other system.

Opposed to Scattered Forests.

Discussing the reforestation station at St. Williams, Norfolk County, Mr. Lyons, after reviewing the history of its establishment and telling of his observations concerning it, declared that he had come to the conclusion that it was folly to con-

tinue the expenditures there on a scale such as had been carried out in the past. During this year, he said, not more than \$3,000 would be spent in order to take care of the existing station. Mr. Lyons added the interesting information that, as a check to the drifting sand—one of the reasons why the plantation was made originally in Norfolk County—the reforestation was of little value. The sand was still on the move, and very little benefit has resulted in this respect, he explained. He did not think it was good business to scatter these reforestation stations about as had been done, but rather to enlarge the present established systems.

Mr. Lyons had not finished his explanations at 6 o'clock, when the House rose.

TRIBUNAL OF EIGHT FOR APPEAL COURT SUGGESTED IN BILL

Ontario Seeks Thereby to Name Division Chiefs of Supreme Court

MAY RAISE CONTROVERSY

A bill which may precipitate a conflict as to jurisdiction between the Ontario and the Dominion Governments was introduced yesterday in the Legislature by the Attorney-General in his measure to amend the Judicature Act. In this act the Province claims the right to name the chiefs of the various divisions of the Supreme Court of Ontario.

To Reduce Court of Appeal.

Mr. Nickle explained that the bill contemplated the reorganization of the Court of Appeal in Ontario. At the present time, he said, this court is composed of two divisions, each of which consists of five Judges. Five of the Judges constitute the permanent Court of Appeal, and five are elected to the Second Division annually from among the other Judges.

It was felt, the Attorney-General explained to the House, that too many members of the judiciary were confined to that court, and the purpose of the bill was to reduce the Court of Appeal as a division of the Supreme Court of Ontario to a tribunal of eight members, so that it will permit this court to sit in two divisions if it so desires. One of these divisions is to be composed of three and the other of five Judges.

In very important cases or cases of constitutional importance the Attorney-General may request the whole court to sit on decisions of such cases.

May Nominate Chiefs.

What the Attorney-General explained as a radical change in the act was a declaration by way of Statute on the part of the Province that it had the right to nominate a Chiefs of the various division Judges appointed by the Dominion.

"The Province takes the position," said Mr. Nickle, "that under the British North America Act the Dominion Parliament has the right to make appointments, but the appointments being made, the Government is of the opinion that the Province is vested with the authority to nominate Judges in respect to any office in either division of the Supreme Court of Ontario."

Three is to be a quorum for the new court, it was explained. The Attorney-General said that an appeal from a County Court might

be of as much or more importance than an appeal from a High Court and the importance of the case in law, rather than the amount of money involved, would determine the number of Judges to hear arguments. The Premier explained that in controverted election cases the quorum was to be five members.

The bill received first reading.

To Insure Motor Cars.

Consideration was again given in committee of the House to the Insurance Bill, which finally was reported as ready for third reading. Respecting farm mutual companies it was decided that they are to be permitted to insure automobiles—which are to include tractors—and take in payment premium notes, but for such insurance they are to issue separate policies. Certain variations of policies are permitted in general fire insurance, with fire insurance companies to obtain lower rates for specially protected buildings, but notification of such variations are to be given separately from the policy to the policyholder. The court is to hold these variations legal unless unduly onerous.

Aurelien Belanger (Liberal, Russell) asked if fraternal societies were to be allowed to issue endowment policies, but the Attorney-General was not inclined to favor the suggestion.

The House in committee approved the act respect forest fire protection; the act amending the Northern and Northwestern Development Act, and the act to authorize the Province to raise by loan the sum of forty millions of dollars. In answer to a question the Premier said that about three or four million dollars' worth of succession-duty free bonds were outstanding.