

wood which we are just starting to produce now," said Colonel Drew. "The total investment in the wood products industry of Canada is \$951,000,000, and our forest resources are worth billions of dollars."

He referred to the great possibilities of the manufacture of products based on the forest resources and said that proper administration of the resources will open up a vision of the future for the youth of the country. The forests are no longer remote areas, but are districts which today could provide employment for all the Dominion's unemployed.

"If we were to utilize our forest products, as Sweden was doing before the war, we could create employment for 4,000,000 men in the forest resources industry alone. Instead of paying people not to grow things, as we are under this insane policy which has been instituted in connection with wheat, we should be doing things to make possible the opportunity for the youth of Canada to get employment."

Colonel Drew closed his argument with a declaration that there would not be need to worry about giving employment to veterans of this war and to men let out of munitions plants, after the war is over, if the commission form of administration is adopted.

#### Editorial Approved.

"I cannot conceive any businessmen permitting the fiasco of Lake Sulphite," declared Mr. Cox. He charged also that in the Long Lac district pulp for export is being sold at a rate \$1 under the prevailing rate.

He then read a letter from A. T. Hurter, former engineer in charge of the Lake Sulphite construction at Red Rock and, at the request of the Premier, tabled it. Mr. Hurter referred to a Globe and Mail editorial of Feb. 14, headed, "Forest Policy Again Indicated."

"I am glad to note," wrote the engineer, "that the public has finally been informed concerning the destructive policy which is being followed by the Department of Lands and Forests in the exploitation of our natural resources."

While the department adhered to the present pulp export policy, "with no apparent regard for the future generation," it is difficult to induce capital to invest in the completion of the Red Rock mill, the letter added. "On the other hand, were the department to adopt a sound the recommendations of qualified foresters, and as expressed in the editorial, all those companies presently having agreements with the Government covering the cost of mills would, in my opinion, proceed to fulfill their obligations."

T. P. Murray (Lib., Renfrew South), a lumberman for the past fifty-five years, said he opposed the motion. "I have no particular fault to find with the Department of Lands and Forests. It might be better, and it might be a whole lot worse. The most important thing in administration from the practical lumberman's point of view is to draw a line between the forests and the settlers' lands and get rid of the fire burns." Mr. Murray declared also that there is "great waste of forest wealth, and I can prove it, too."

Lands and Forests Minister Heenan objected to the Commission proposal on the ground that it would take administration away from the "elective representatives." The Commission would not be responsible to either the Government or the House, he said, and consequently there could not be a check on spending.

He said his only knowledge of the Conservative minority report on the timber inquiry came from reading the report in Wednesday's Globe and Mail. "God help us if we have got to rely on the minority report," he said.

"Of references to the Minister, there is hardly a statement in the whole report that is based on evidence and not the opinion of the Leader of the Opposition.

"I have never done anything yet that I am ashamed of, and never did the committee disclose anything that I might be ashamed of," he added. "I do want the opportunity

of answering some time the statements to show that there was not a tittle of evidence to back up the statements."