

fishery products to markets. We cannot ship our codfish out of Newfoundland all by bulk....

**Mr. Vardy** I wish it to be clearly understood that anything I say in reference to the Forestry Report is meant purely as constructive criticism with the idea of further extending or building it up and not with the idea of understanding the real value of what has been done either by the Committee or department concerned. Frankly, with the limited staff and lack of knowledge or interest displayed by the various Commissioners I consider the forestry branch has done a good job. Very few in this country have had a more personal contact with the forestry division than I have and I have always found them ready to hear any reasonable complaints or suggestions for the promotion of the industry or the conservation of our forests. It is not humanly possible for any group of ten men collectively to bring in a report for 45 to agree on every detail, it is the fundamental principles that count, and I am happy that most of the criticism is of a genuine constructive nature.

It is alarming to find how little we have left of our natural resources which have not been sacrificed to someone outside or in the country. I am not satisfied that there are not remedies for this unfortunate situation. We have come to the place when we are compelled to study it in every detail, and what we want now is a group of men big enough to face the unpleasant fact and undo the wrong that has been done and enact new laws governing these properties more in harmony with the new age, demands and requirements of both people and state.

It is not correct to say that 200 saw mills are not paying any royalty because they saw less than 10,000 feet annually. The facts are not one of the over 800 saw mills pay any royalty on the first 10,000 feet; but they all pay a license fee of \$5 per year for which they are allowed to saw up to 10,000 feet. So in reality, the mill which only saws 5,000 feet pays a higher percentage of royalty if you call it such, than the mill which saws up to 100,000 feet. That is the true picture and in this respect the Committee is wrong.

I am of the opinion that Mr. Dawe, with his very wide experience within the field of production and manufacturing, might have contributed considerably more information in the intrinsic value of forest wealth to this country. In many instances he has been a pioneer in the wood-

working industry, and the experience gained at great cost to the various firms of Dawes will in future, and has in the past benefited the whole country.

I notice that some mention has been made of the grading of lumber, but no real suggestion made to improve the method of grading or counting; and while I would not attempt to suggest any motion or resolution I do maintain that any worthwhile observations made as the result of a very wide experience in the industry should be placed on the record for the benefit of the department concerned....

Attempts have been made at grading with some success; but the greater practical value has been experienced with lumber used in the building trade. With our forests so depleted and denuded in supplies of the larger logs, it is impossible to keep up the old standard. This is agreed by all. Lumber is being sawn now down to 2 or 2.5 inches wide, while the greatest average width of cooperage is 3.5 to 4 inches. It is generally agreed that cooperage should be sawn from 3 to 4 inches, tending to make uniform stock and a uniform package.

Touching briefly on the value of round timber as a source of earning power to the people of this country, I will mention a few of the principal items which could properly be listed under this heading: birch junks and billets, birch hoops for the making of fish drums, casks and barrels, fence rails, flake shores, beams and longers, wharf piles and cribbing, firewood and kindling, boat timbers and spars, as well as planking, ceiling and decking, very little if any of which is listed under sawn lumber as there isn't any royalty paid on boat material. Even cutting Christmas trees was for a number of years no mean industry in this country and even this year I had an enquiry from the States for this item but shipping arrangements could not be made in time to close the deal. To put the whole of these items I have mentioned at a very conservative estimate, apart from the amount cut by our men for their own use, the figures given you last night of \$3 million would be a very conservative one. Yet if we are going to value home-grown vegetables for one's own use as an industry, we must also value the two, three or four thousand feet of wood put to the average outport man's door for his 12 months' fuel. This in every respect enhances his earning