



Published by the Forest History Association of British Columbia

No. Ten

Victoria, British Columbia

March, 1985

FORESTS AND THE 49th PARALLEL
HISTORICAL AND COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES ON THE CANADIAN-AMERICAN FRONTIER

The 40th Annual Meeting of the Forest History Society of Durham, North Carolina will take place in Vancouver in October of 1986. To mark the occasion of this, its first meeting beyond the USA, the Society is organizing a symposium treating aspects of Canadian-American interaction in the use, administration, and conservation of forests.

Potential session themes include: trade and its regulation; forest policy; the diffusion and impact of technology; the diffusion and impact of ideas; and studies of groups or individuals influential in both countries. Further suggestions are welcome.

Prospective contributors should send brief proposals for papers, and a copy of their curriculum vitae by April 1, 1985 to:

Dr. Graeme Wynn
Department of Geography
University of British Columbia
1984 West Mall
Vancouver, B.C. V6T 1W5

The symposium will precede the Annual Meeting and Awards Banquet of the Forest History Society on Saturday, October 11, 1986.

ooOoo

ADDENDUM: FORESTRY-RELATED THESES AND ESSAYS TO 1984

The following are additions to the lists of forestry-related theses and essays with historical interests which were published in the last two issues of this newsletter. Any readers knowing of others which were omitted (such as theses from universities further afield) are requested to send them in to the editor.

Griffin, Robert Brian. 1979. The Shawnigan Lake Lumber Company, 1889 - 1943. M.A. Thesis, Department of History, Univ. of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. vi + 164 pp.

Holt, Bernard G. 1947. Forest rehabilitation, its need and application in British Columbia. Unpub. B.A. Essay in Economics, UBC, Vancouver, B.C. 261 pp.

ooOoo

RESOURCE MANAGERS STUMPED BY TREES

A Culturally Modified Tree (CMT) is a heritage resource when it displays evidence of Aboriginal Forest Utilization (AFU). The tree might bear a visible scar where a slab of bark has been stripped off, or where the wood has been chopped. Logging activities are represented by stumps and the remaining portions of felled logs. On the coast, most of these "cultural trees" are western redcedars.

CMT's (or AFU's if you prefer) are not a new discovery by British Columbia archaeologists, nor, as some resource managers suspect, an invention designed to complicate their job. And yet they are new to most archaeologists in the province, and they are creating complications in Victoria.

Over the past few years archaeologists surveying in the outlying forested areas of the province have been finding and recording numerous examples of aboriginal forest utilization. The Heritage Conservation Branch (HCB) has been hard pressed to deal with the volume of information, and researchers are requesting that recording guidelines be established so that data, within and between regions, will be comparable.

In December 1983, the Heritage Conservation Branch held a meeting in Vancouver to discuss the "CMT Problem." The nine invited participants included most of the archaeologists who had been recording modified trees. Following that discussion, the HCB decided to eliminate all modified tree sites from their site inventory. Existing data, as well as newly recorded information, will be kept in a paper file, but will not be entered into the computer data base.

At the same time the Branch contracted a \$14,000 research-oriented study of some 100 AFU tree features on the Queen Charlotte Islands. Preliminary results of the field work indicate that the features represent stages of dugout canoe manufacture during the early historic period.

Another CMT study is currently up for bids. MacMillan Bloedel, which is making plans for logging Meares Island, near Tofino, will be contracting a probabalistic sampling study of the distribution of aboriginal forest utilization features on the island. There are presently 73 recorded CMT sites on Meares, representing over 1,000 separate modifications. The majority of the samples are cedars with scars from the removal of strips or slabs of bark.

A HISTORY OF FOREST ENTOMOLOGY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA - 1920 - 1984
Part 2 by Hector Allan Richmond, MSc., RPF

Administrative Organization in British Columbia

As already mentioned, the original organization of forest entomology in this province had its headquarters in Vernon, with Ralph Hopping in charge. In 1930 a sub-laboratory was established at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver and directed by George Hopping. With the death of Ralph Hopping, George was returned to Vernon. In 1940 a permanent forest insect centre was established in Victoria, operated independently of the Vernon office, and was responsible for forest and shade tree pests on the coast. It was spearheaded by Dr. M.L. Prebble, assisted by Dr. Ken Graham.

By this time I had been moved from Vernon to Winnipeg to organize a new laboratory for the forest regions of central Canada.

In 1945 a major shuffle was made in British Columbia. The Victoria laboratory was made responsible for all forest insect problems in the province, Prebble was moved from Victoria to take over the newly opened research centre at Sault Ste. Marie, George Hopping was transferred to Alberta, and I moved from Winnipeg to Victoria to replace Prebble.

Early accommodations for the Division of Forest Biology were in the old Post Office building overlooking the Inner Harbour in Victoria. In 1955, a site for a new laboratory was purchased by the Federal Government on Burnside Road and the cornerstone of the present laboratory was laid there on August 13, 1963.

In 1970 the Vernon laboratory was closed permanently and all personnel and projects were moved to the Pacific Forest Research Centre in Victoria. The wisdom of this move has been questioned frequently, particularly with the increasing importance of the interior forests and the never-ending problem of bark beetles.

During these years forest entomology in British Columbia was under various Officers-in-Charge: Ralph Hopping, George Hopping, M.L. Prebble, H.A. Richmond, R.R. Lejeune, P. Thomas, M. Drinkwater, and D.R. Macdonald.

In 1957, MacMillan Bloedel became the first Canadian forestry company to employ a full time forest entomologist. The position was filled by myself and prior to taking that position I was stationed at the federal forest research laboratory in Quebec. Of primary interest to MacMillan Bloedel was the ambrosia beetle problem and I was assigned to it for a 2-year period. At that time the Council of Forest Industries of British Columbia (COFI) considered the ambrosia beetle problem to be of industry-wide concern so I was subsequently employed on a retainer by the council, serving all of the companies in the coastal forest industry.

This position then expanded beyond the ambrosia beetle problem to bridge, to some extent, the gap existing between the research undertakings of government agencies and the application of such results in the field. It also served to engender greater participation by industry and government in joint undertakings where interests of a common nature were involved. These included field surveys and insect population trend assessments; control techniques, both experimental and applied; insect attack damage appraisals; as well as the participation of industry with other related interest groups such as

fisheries, wildlife, and plant quarantine. Many of these functions are now more or less automatic between government agencies and the forest industry through COFI.

The Pest Control Committee of COFI instructed me to undertake the production of a handbook of forest pesticides used in B.C. A first edition came out in 1972, a revised version in October of 1975. The second edition included as coauthors Dr. Steve Ilnytzki of the Canadian Forestry Service and Mr. B.F. Vance of the B.C. Forest Service. The basic purpose of such a book was "...to give the user information on the application of the more commonly used pesticides, and to outline their rightful place in forest management...to reduce pesticide use to the lowest possible level consistent with the problem involved."

In 1982, a joint agreement was signed by the Environment Minister, the Honourable John Roberts and the British Columbia Minister of Forests, the Honourable Tom Waterland. This was a "Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the Coordination of Forest Research." The Canadian Forestry Service agreed to concentrate on forest protection research including the major problems of fire, insects, and disease; while the Ministry of Forests agreed to concentrate on silvicultural research and development and to maintain a program to transfer forest protection technology to forest managers. This introduction of the Ministry of Forests into a field previously administered solely by the Federal Government marked a significant change.

Dr. Robert F. DeBoo was appointed Manager of Forest Pest Management in the Protection Branch, British Columbia Ministry of Forests in 1980. Also at that time Peter M. Hall was appointed entomologist and Dr. John A. Muir was appointed pathologist. John Henigman is in charge of pest control agents at Victoria and there are Pest Management Coordinators in each of the six forest regions.

Academic History of Forest Entomology in British Columbia

Coincident with the development of forest entomology in the province of British Columbia was the ever-increasing participation of the science at the academic level. Forest entomology was first introduced into the curriculum at U.B.C. in 1947 - 1948 as a result of representations made to Mr. H.R. MacMillan following the devastating outbreak of the western hemlock looper on the British Columbia coast during the early 1940's that such a course should be available.

George Hopping was placed on loan to the university from the Federal Forest Entomology Division and appointed as a lecturer in 1947. Hopping was followed the next year by Dr. Ken Graham, who became the first Professor of Forest Entomology at the University. Dr. Graham's service continued in the Department of Zoology to 1967, when he and his establishment were moved into the Faculty of Forestry in the MacMillan Building.

With the retirement of Dr. Graham in 1977, the position of Professor of Forest Entomology was filled by Dr. John McLean. In association with Dr. John Borden of Simon Fraser University, Dr. McLean had just completed some intensive research on the development and use of pheromones for the protection of logs from attack by ambrosia beetles.

At Simon Fraser University forest entomology was introduced in 1966 with the appointment of Dr. John Borden to the faculty. In addition to his work on ambrosia beetle research, he was the major contributor to the design of the Master of Pest Management program, first offered at the university in 1974.

In addition to its introduction at the university level, forest entomology was included in forestry courses at Malaspina, Selkirk, and New Caledonia Colleges (in Nanaimo, Castlegar, and Prince George respectively) and at the British Columbia Institute of Technology in Burnaby.

Norman Alexander, who heads the teaching of forest entomology at BCIT, was originally with the forest insect survey organization in the Victoria laboratory. He took to BCIT a fund of knowledge and practical experience gained on the many field projects with which he had been involved, of inestimable value in the school of entomology.

Blake Dickens, who heads the teaching of forest entomology at the College of New Caledonia, had his introduction to forestry while employed as cook on board the J.M. Swaine. He was just a high school lad at the time and without previous cooking experience. Reporting for his first day aboard the boat, he had a fistful of instructions prepared by his mother and a determination to do the job as well or better than would be expected of him. This he did and with more than good measure.

Forest Insect Work Conference

A very significant innovation emanating from British Columbia was the initiation of the Forest Insect Work Conference. This international Canada-United States organization was founded on October 13, 1949. The first organizational committee consisted of Bob Furniss (Portland), Jim Evenden (Idaho), and myself (Victoria). The purpose of this conference is to enable communication between forest entomologists in both Canada and the United States on problems common to the forests of western North America.

This organization has met annually since its founding and the conferences are attended by 50 or 60 entomologists from the western states and provinces. It is in no way a physiological society for the presentation of scientific papers. It is a work conference pure and simple where workers in various related projects become familiar with other work on both a scientific and practical level. In addition, it serves a very valuable social function for entomologists from the two countries. Interesting, too, is the increasing number of female foresters who have entered the field.

With regard to the objectives indicated above, over the years the conference has established certain basic and important standing committees such as: Programs and Arrangements Committee; Unpublished Reports Committee; Common Names Committee; Foreign Translation Committee; History Committee; and Ethical Practices Committee. This latter committee defies the reasons for and logic of its establishment other than to recognize deeds and accomplishments outside the terms of references of the other committees. Included here are things such as moving a piano up to the seventh floor of a hotel after midnight via the passenger elevator until interrupted by the security staff and other similarly valuable contributions to a successful conference.

History of Projects

Since detailed historical accounts of studies of our more important forest insects are available at the Pacific Forest Research Centre in Victoria, comments here are confined to matters of historical significance not included in a typical technical report.

One of the most noteworthy developments that revolutionized forest entomology as a service to the forest industry was the initiation of the Forest Insect Survey as a permanent, independent, and continent-wide division of the forest insect unit.

Forest Insect Survey

In 1934 a new Chief of the Division of Forest Insects of the Federal Department of Agriculture, Mr. J.J. deGryse, was appointed in Ottawa. As has already been mentioned, he initiated a Canada-wide forest insect survey. It had many objectives, including the determination and recognition of the various life cycle stages of our major forest insects; their biology and potential as destroyers of forests and forest products; their distribution; the relationships between the insect species; factors of natural control; the place of insects in general forest ecology; the appraisal of damage resulting from insect outbreaks; and so on.

It was an imaginative and challenging venture, one that would involve not only Federal Government personnel, but also the participation of the various provincial forest services and the major companies in the forest industry. Early stages of the program were seriously handicapped and greatly delayed in development through the war years. With the termination of hostilities and the return of war veterans the forest insect survey grew rapidly. Biologically and economically, it became one of the most important parts of the Canadian Forestry Service. The forest insect survey was subsequently enlarged to include diseases as an important component in the overall field of pest management. The concept has been adapted by co-workers in the United States, and with certain modifications the survey is now viewed as a program of continental importance.

Defoliating Insects

Considering all forest insects on this continent, defoliators have been responsible for the greatest losses. In British Columbia, however, the rapid decline of populations after two or three years of intensive feeding places them second in importance to the persistent, continuing destruction of bark beetles. In every instance of applied control in this province infestations of defoliators have disappeared simultaneously in both the sprayed and unsprayed areas.

Nevertheless, these insects pose a continuing threat to our forests, not only through direct loss of killed timber, but also through the loss of increment and retarded growth over a period of ten or twelve years following intensive feeding on foliage and there may also be top-killing of young growth and loss of vigour of older timber, permitting the attack of secondary insects as bark beetles and wood borers. While not all outbreaks of defoliators have prompted applied control, some have, either as experimental applications or as outright control measures. In any case, the spraying of insecticides over the forest in British Columbia has been minimal, amounting to only 302,244 acres (122 318 hectares) from 1930 to 1983.

HISTORICAL NOTE

In accordance with a suggestion made by ex-Chief Forester and Forest History Association of B.C. member Bill Young, the following document has been transferred to the historical section of the B.C. Forest Service's Library in Victoria:

Columbia Cellulose Company Limited: Working Plan for the Port Edward
Forest Management Licence No. 1 - for the period 1951 - 1954.
Prince Rupert, B.C. December 1950.

In sending the document to the Library, the Director of Timber Management Branch, Julius J. Juhasz stated that "...this document, prepared by Harold Lynum, B.C.R.F., is [as Bill Young stated] 'of historical interest and significance.'"

oo0oo

The following is part two of three of a reprinting of "Stewards of the People's Wealth: The Founding of British Columbia's Forest Branch." This article was written by Forest History Association of B.C. member Thomas Roach of Ottawa and is reproduced here with the author's permission and that of the Forest History Society, Inc., publishers of the Journal of Forest History in which the article first appeared.

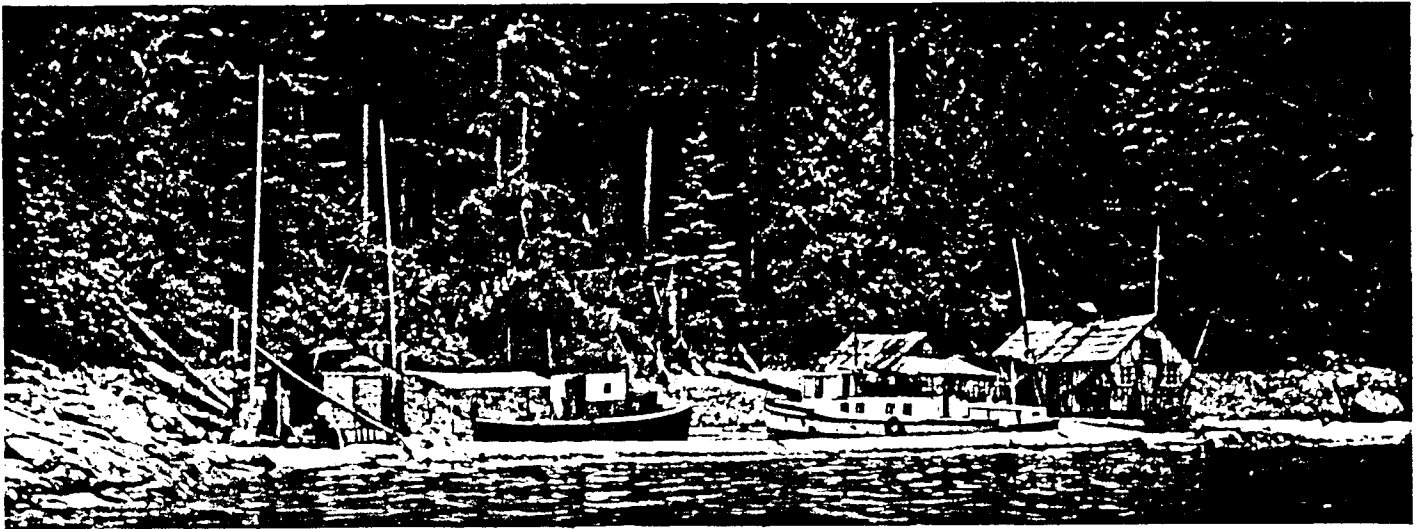
Author's note: Due to problems which the Forest History Society had with the U.S. Mail Service, it was not possible to include all of the corrections which had been made on the galley proofs of this article prior to its publication in the Journal of Forest History. Please note the following corrections to the first part of this article as reproduced in "B.C. Forest History Newsletter" No. Nine: H.R. MacMillan worked on forest surveys of the east slope of the Rocky Mountains (not the Ontario forests as stated on page 9) before joining the B.C. Forest Branch as its first Chief Forester; and the photo on page 10 of is of Sir Richard McBride, not William Ross as the caption implies.

oo0oo

This newsletter is the official organ of the Forest History Association of British Columbia and is distributed thrice yearly at no charge to members of the Association, libraries, and to certain institutions. Items on forest history topics, descriptions of current projects, requests for information, book reviews, letters, comments, and suggestions are welcome. Please address all correspondence including changes of address to the Editor: John Parminster, c/o Protection Branch, Ministry of Forests, 1450 Government Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3E7.

Membership in the Association is \$5.00 yearly. Should you wish to join or obtain further information please write to the Treasurer: Mr. Edo Nyland, 8793 Forest Park Drive, Sidney, B.C. V8L 4E8

oo0oo



The forest industry was divided into four camps, each represented by its own organization. The B. C. Loggers' Association, for example, gave voice to the owners of independent logging companies along the coast. Above is a typical handlogging camp on Teakerne Arm.

B. C. Forest Service, FHS Collection

Controversy over the licenses arose shortly after 1905, when new regulations extended their validity from five to twenty-one years.⁹ This extension, coupled with rapidly increasing values for Douglas-fir and easy access to the leases, made timber licenses attractive vehicles for speculation. From the several hundred licenses issued prior to 1905, the total rocketed to 17,700 in 1907.¹⁰ It was the burgeoning ownership of ST licenses that created the new group of speculators—license owners who neither logged nor owned sawmills but held the permits purely for their increase in value. Many of these speculators came from the United States or

eastern Canada, although a large number were long-time residents of the province. This was the group that formed the Chamber of Commerce.

By allowing speculation on the licenses, the McBride government created both an ethical and a political problem for itself. Each license required the yearly payment of \$140 if located on the coast and \$115 if in the interior. As McBride anticipated, money poured into the government's coffers from the licenses once the regulations were liberalized.¹¹ The new funds allowed the premier to expand his government's railway, road, and bridge construction programs.¹² However, the boom in fir prices, which had been caused by a number of factors but particularly the rebuilding of San Francisco following the April 1906 earthquake and fire, did not last.¹³

Once the boom started to collapse in 1907, members of the Loggers' Association found they could not afford the high stumpage prices demanded by the speculators. With almost all the prime logging territory along the coast licensed, the loggers found their access to the forest severely restricted. Turning to Victoria, they campaigned for changes in the license regulations, hoping to force speculators to abandon

⁹Cail, *Land, Man and the Law*; Carrothers, "Forest Industries of British Columbia"; Whitford and Craig, *Forests of British Columbia*; and the M.A. theses previously cited treat the subject in more detail.

¹⁰"Amendment to the Land Act," *British Columbia Statutes* (1905), Chapter 33, Sect. 3, and Carrothers, "Forest Industries of British Columbia," pp. 236-37. The amendment caused some political dissension in the hurried way it was introduced, and McBride had to use closure to get it to pass. See *Vancouver Province*, April 10, 1905, p. 1.

¹¹*Report of the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works* (Victoria, 1905), pp. 33-41; *Ibid.* (1907), p. 1, A45-54; *Final Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Timber and Forestry* (Victoria, 1910), p. 37 (hereafter cited as *Final Report*). The expansion of the industry in this period was very well reported in the *Vancouver Province*. On December 22, 1907, the provincial government placed all unlicensed and unleased crown land under reserve by an order-in-council—a move that had been rumored for some time. See *Vancouver Province*, July 8, 1907, p. 13, and December 26, 1907, p. 1.

¹²*Final Report*, p. 31 and graph facing p. 49. Whitford and Craig, *Forests of British Columbia*, pp. 119-20, express the increases in percentage form.

¹³Robin, *The Rush for Spoils*, chapters 3 and 4; Patricia E. Roy, "Progress, Prosperity and Politics: The Railway Policies of Richard McBride," *B. C. Studies* 47 (Autumn 1980): 3-28.

¹⁴Wilson M. Compton, *The Organization of the Lumber Industry* (Chicago: American Lumberman, 1916), p. 11, also cites changes in lumber freight rates for west-to-east carriage as a major contributing factor. In British Columbia the disruption of the normal trade was considerable; see articles already cited in the *Vancouver Province* and "Proceedings of the Select Committee Appointed for the Purpose of Inquiring into the Prices Charged for Lumber in the Provinces of Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan," *Journals of the House of Commons of Canada*, Vol. 42, Part 2, Appendix 6 (1907).

their holdings. The loggers were supported in this by the lumber and shingle manufacturers.¹⁴ Naturally, the Timber and Forestry Chamber of Commerce proposed a different solution. Along with the men of the interior, they wanted the licenses made valid indefinitely. This would allow them more time to recoup their investment, decrease the risk of flooding the log market, and render the licenses more acceptable to the banks as loan collateral.¹⁵

Facing another contentious session of legislative lobbying in 1908-1909, McBride charged the Royal Commission with gathering opinions and recommending future policy to his government.¹⁶ McBride saw his government forced into the role of arbitrator between the various forest industry factions. With a provincial general election in the offing, he chose to avoid this onerous responsibility, which promised in the end to alienate at least some portion of his constituency. The Royal Commission was thus a means of avoiding the political pitfalls of an arbitrator's role in a volatile situation which, it can be argued, the government had actually created for itself.

Thus was formed the Royal Commission that William Ross was to use so adroitly. Unfortunately for the new minister, the commission was initially dominated by the Chamber of Commerce. Not only were most of the witnesses speculators, but the chamber hired legal counsel to accompany the commission and question witnesses.¹⁷ Because of this, practically all witnesses concentrated on the ST license issue. The most important exception was Judson F. Clark, who, acting on his own impulses, presented ideas different from those of other members of the chamber.¹⁸

Clark, a committed conservationist, had been corresponding with Bernhard E. Fernow, the dean of the University of Toronto Faculty of Forestry, about the British Columbia situation. Drawing upon his contacts in the East, Clark called for the appointment of a provincial chief forester and the creation

of a forest agency free from political influence. The agency would organize an efficient fire patrol system, sharing the cost with industry. It would administer the collection of revenue and would carry out research on slash disposal and silvicultural problems. Clark supported the ST license extension and also proposed a royalty system that took account of fluctuations in the retail price of lumber. To his credit, virtually all of Clark's proposals were incorporated in some form into the commission's report. This was especially satisfying to him. Only a few years earlier, Clark had been forced to resign from his position as the first professional forester hired by the Ontario government because he urged similar ideas upon the public and his employer.¹⁹

Clark's ideas, presented in September 1909, were before the commission and had been fully reported in the press when William Ross was made minister in November. Acting on Clark's suggestions, Ross set the commission off on a new course. Instead of reporting to the 1909-1910 winter session, the commissioners traveled east to investigate the formation and administration of the dominion, Ontario, and United States forestry organizations. They met with several leading figures in the conservation movement, including Fernow at Toronto and Gifford Pinchot and Overton Price, both with the U. S. Forest Service. Returning home, they held further public hearings and then recessed for several months to write their report.²⁰

In January 1911 the *Final Report of the Royal Commission of Inquiry on Timber and Forestry* was placed before the provincial legislature and subsequently made available to the public. The commissioners had previously issued a guarded interim recommendation that ST licenses be made valid indefinitely, and this had been followed by a change in the regulations.²¹ With this sensitive issue out of the way, the commissioners were left free in their *Final Report* to look at the problems of the industry from a broader perspective. They analyzed the situation much as Clark had and included most of his ideas in their report. In fact, the commissioners went further than Clark, drawing upon the broad range of administrative principles they had encountered in Ottawa and Washington. For instance, they proposed that all income from the forests be placed in a special fund. The government would use only the interest that accrued yearly until the fund grew large enough that withdrawals would not materially reduce the balance.²²

¹⁴*Vancouver Province*, October 7, 1908, p. 1.

¹⁵Judson F. Clark, "The Renewal Limit for Special Licenses," in *British Columbia Timber and Forestry Chamber of Commerce, Programme of Inaugural Meeting*, pp. 9-15; J. Castell Hopkins, *Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs* 10 (1910): 528; *Vancouver Province*, February 11, 1909, p. 1.

¹⁶The Royal Commission was announced during the budget speech; \$5,000 was allotted for it. *Victoria Times*, February 18, 1909, p. 12; *Vancouver Province*, June 26, 1909, p. 1.

¹⁷The daily sittings of the commission were given excellent coverage by reporters of the *Vancouver Province* and *Vancouver News-Advertiser* through August and September 1909. Besides verbatim copy, these papers identified the witnesses by their interests and business associations.

¹⁸*Vancouver News-Advertiser*, September 29, 1909, pp. 1-3; *Vancouver Province*, September 29, 1909, p. 7.

¹⁹*Ibid.*; compare these statements with the *Final Report*.

²⁰*Final Report*, pp. 9-10.

²¹*Ibid.*, pp. 77-78; "Amendments to the Land Act," *British Columbia Statutes* (1910), 10 Edw. VII, Chapter 28, No. 6, p. 238. One reason for the decline in controversy at this time was that speculators dropped their stumpage prices and considerable areas of forest became available for the loggers' use. See Compton, *Organization of the Lumber Industry*, pp. 65-70, for a discussion of factors affecting stumpage values at this time.

²²*Final Report*, pp. 71-73.

The commission's report was well received in the province and across Canada; indeed, the extraordinary demand for copies justified a second printing. This favorable reception launched Ross on the next stage in preparing a forestry program for his province: drawing up legislation to implement the report's recommendations. As a start, Ross recruited Martin A. Grainger, formerly secretary to the commission, into the Ministry of Lands and set him to work on a bill to be presented to the 1911-1912 legislative session.²³ Certain that this legislation would be passed, Ross was now committed to establishing a new bureau within his ministry. With major decisions pending regarding the bureau's structure and, later, its senior personnel, Ross corresponded with R. H. Campbell, head of the Dominion Forestry Branch, and with Fernow and Pinchot, soliciting advice and broadening his understanding. Like the Royal Commission before him, Ross traveled east in 1911 and again in 1912 to study firsthand how other forestry services were organized.²⁴

Acting on the advice of Gifford Pinchot, Ross hired a consultant to assist with the organizational details. He chose Overton Price, at that time vice-president of the U. S. National Conservation Association.²⁵ Price visited British Columbia several times over the next few years, directly advising Ross and later the staff of his new Forest Branch. Price, in fact, was instrumental in planning the organization of the new bureau.²⁶

By June 1911 Ross was looking for a forester to head the planned agency. For advice on this matter, he turned to Henry S. Graves, the newly appointed chief of the U. S. Forest Service. Graves recommended to him one of the most competent students to have passed through the Yale Forest School during his tenure as its first dean. This was Harvey Reginald MacMillan, a native of Newmarket, Ontario, and a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph.²⁷ MacMillan had worked summers on the dominion government's forest surveys from 1903, had been valedictorian for his class at Yale, and on graduation in 1908 had joined the Dominion Forestry Branch as assistant inspector of forest reserves. When approached by Ross about a job as British Columbia's first chief forester, MacMillan was the assistant director of the Forestry Branch and was spending most of his time supervising activities in the dominion's forest reserves in the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

Having secured MacMillan's appointment, Ross turned to the bill that was to become the Forest Act of 1912.²⁸ It was largely an omnibus piece, collecting under one roof the relevant clauses from the Land, Bush Fires, Timber Manufacture, and Measurement of Timber acts, as well as sections from others governing right-of-way and physical access to forestlands. Its comprehensive scope resolved a number of difficulties that had plagued other pioneering forestry administrations—difficulties brought on by divided or incomplete jurisdictions. The bill also established a new system of timber leases, though it left existing leases and licenses in force. In a section lifted directly from the commission's recommendations, the bill specified a forest protection fund with contributions coming from both industry and government. Most importantly, the bill established and empowered Ross's new bureau, the British Columbia Forest Branch.

The branch's activities were to be overseen by a "Provincial Forest Board" appointed by the lieutenant governor in council and consisting of the heads of sections within the branch. Through the board, the branch gained jurisdiction over all matters relating to forestry in the province. This included revenue collection, fire protection and suppression, logging and reforestation methods, and, of course, the trade in timberlands and logs. Below the level of the board, the organization of the branch was left undefined, thus giving Ross flexibility to accept or reject the recommendations of Overton Price. Finally, because the board was ultimately responsible for enforcing the Forest Act, it was given the power to summon witnesses, examine them under oath, and lay charges for perjury or contempt.²⁹

²⁴Hon. William R. Ross, *British Columbia's Forest Policy, Speech to the Legislative Assembly of B. C. on the 2nd Reading of the Forest Bill* (Victoria, 1912), p. 12 (hereafter cited as *1912 Speech*); Rodgers, *Fernow*, p. 507; Hopkins, *Canadian Annual Review of Public Affairs* 12 (1912): 599; *Vancouver News-Advertiser*, December 15, 1911, p. 1.

²⁵For biographical information on Price, see his sketch by Jean Pablo in Richard C. Davis, ed., *Encyclopedia of American Forest and Conservation History* (New York: Macmillan Publishing Company, 1983), p. 547; Carl A. Schenck, *The Birth of Forestry in America: Biltmore Forest School, 1898-1913* (1955; reprint, Santa Cruz, California: Forest History Society, 1974), pp. 43, 80; and H. R. MacMillan, "The Late Overton Price," *Canadian Forestry Journal* 10 (numbers 6 and 7, 1914): 67.

²⁶MacMillan, "The Late Overton Price."

²⁷Henry J. Morgan, *The Canadian Men and Women of the Times*, 2d ed. (Toronto: William Briggs, 1912); Rodgers, *Fernow*, pp. 340-41, 489, 495-98, 503, 505; and Lawrence, "Markets and Capital," pp. 158-60. A recent study containing much information on MacMillan is Donald MacKay, *Empire of Wood: The MacMillan Bloedel Story* (Vancouver: Douglas & McIntyre, 1982).

²⁸"Forest Act (27 Feb. 1912)," *Statutes of British Columbia* (1912), 2 Geo. V, Chapter 17, pp. 81-132 (hereafter cited as *Forest Act, 1912*).

²⁹*Ibid.*

²³For biographical information on Grainger, see his *Woodsmen of the West*; "Interesting People, M. A. Grainger," *Illustrated Canadian Forest and Outdoors* 20 (February 1924): 103-04; Grainger, "Early Days Out West," *ibid.* 21 (October 1925): 559-61; and his obituary in *Forestry Chronicle* 17 (December 1941): 170. See also Rupert Schieder, "Martin Allerdale Grainger: Woodsmen of the West," *Forest History* 11 (October 1967): 6-13.