

SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

**Price Brothers Forest Protective  
Association, Ltd.**



QUEBEC, Que.  
1929

APP30132R

**SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF**  
**PRICE BROTHERS FOREST PROTECTIVE**  
**ASSOCIATION, LIMITED**

---

**OFFICERS 1929**

**President** ..... **Mr. J. H. PRICE**  
**Vice-President and Manager** ..... **Mr. R. H. NISBET**  
**Secretary** ..... **Mr. J. H. STEPHENS**  
**Director** ..... **Mr. A. C. PRICE**

**DIVISION MANAGERS:**

**Saguenay** ..... **Mr. R. D. JAGO**  
**Lake St. John** ..... **Mr. W. G. WRIGHT**  
**St. Lawrence** ..... **Mr. E. H. GUNTER**

# ANNUAL REPORT

---

To the President, Directors and Members of  
**PRICE BROTHERS FOREST PROTECTIVE  
ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.**

I have the honour to submit herewith, the Sixth Annual Report of this Association.

## Organization.

Administrative headquarters for the St. Lawrence and Saguenay and Lake St. John Divisions of the Association continued to be maintained at Rimouski, Chicoutimi and Riverbend.

The protection of the limits within the confines of the Laurentide National Park, consisting of 667,936 acres, was continued by the Provincial Forest Protection Service.

The system of detection and suppression of fires depending on observation from permanently manned lookout towers, has been further improved and extended so that in a general way all limits except the very remote ones are covered by observers.

Arrangements were made with the Curtis-Reid Co. to cover from their flying base at St. Felicien, certain remote areas with aeroplane patrol during hazardous periods.

The ground patrol of traffic routes and hazardous areas was continued and allowed a complete check on persons entering limits under the protection of the Association. The circulation permit and the identification badge are now recognised and accepted by the public as being necessary for persons entering the woods.

The type of inspector, ranger and observer is improving. It is unfortunate that curtailment of woods operations of member companies has caused difficulty in employing these men during the present winter.

### Patrol of Limits outside the Association's Territory.

With the sanction of the Department of Lands and Forests, the following arrangements for patrol of areas outside the territory of the Association were continued.

1. Between the Lake St. John Power and Paper Company and the Association, whereby each patrolled the area of the other on the watersheds of the Rivers Mistassibi and aux Rats respectively.

2. With the Wayagamack Pulp and Paper Company whereby the Association patrolled limits of that Company on the Portneuf River.

3. Between the Port Alfred Pulp and Paper Corporation and the Quebec Pulp and Paper Corporation, whereby the Association patrolled the holdings of the Port Alfred Pulp and Paper Corporation and the Quebec Pulp and Paper Corporation on the River Grande Peribonka above the 2 mile Rapid.

4. With the Quebec Pulp and Paper Corporation, whereby the Association patrolled limits and freehold of that Company in the Saguenay and Lake St. John Divisions.

5. Between the Shawinigan Engineering Company and the Association for patrol of the transmission line area in limits north of the Laurentide Park.

6. With the D'Auteuil Lumber Company for the patrol of their limit north of Township of Albert.

7. With the Laurentian Forest Protective Association, for patrol of the limits of Price Brothers & Company, Limited, in Township of Charlevoix.

In addition, the Forest Protection Service delegated to the Association, the protection of patrol of colonization areas in the Townships of Saguenay and LaTour.

### Equipment.

The equipment of the Association is distributed throughout the territory of each Division as circumstances require. Suitable units of fire fighting tools, fire fighting pumps, tents and other equipment, are kept at strategic points, while reserves of equipment and provisions are maintained at inspectors' headquarters and at other bases. Motor trucks and pumps are allotted to inspectors in those districts where road communications are sufficiently good to warrant their use.

In all there are 40 equipment units, 8 equipment reserves with fire fighting equipment and kitchen batteries for 1500 men, 2 steam pumps, 34 portable fire fighting pumps, 45,000 feet of hose and 81 canvas knapsack sprayers.

### Seasons's Work.

8,777,556 acres of Freehold Land and Limits came under the jurisdiction of the Association for fire protection.

For administrative purposes, the areas were divided as follows:

St. Lawrence Division.....	1,924,800
Saguenay Division.....	3,003,236
Lake St. John Division.....	3,849,520

In the two former Divisions the whole area was either patrolled or under tower observation, while in the latter the areas were divided into:

(a) Regular patrol.....	1,542,568
(b) Tower Observation.....	1,172,872
(c) Aeroplane patrol during hazardous period	1,134,080

The permanent force consisted of 114 inspectors and rangers of whom 72 were equipped with patrol clocks; their time was distributed as follows:—

8,671	man days on patrol and observation.
3,683½	man days on improvements or construction of telephone lines, roads, portages.
19½	man days on fire fighting.

Observation towers manned during hazardous weather in each division were as follows:—

Saguenay Division.....	4.
Lake St. John Division.....	8.
St. Lawrence Division.....	6.

In addition to the regular staff of the Association, grand foremen, river clerks, chief of survey parties and engineers employed by member firms acted as supernumerary fire inspectors and rangers and their active interest did much to assist the Association. The foremen of all drive crews and construction gangs detailed men to act as fire guards, part of whose duty was to prepare lunch fires, to extinguish same and to patrol the areas in which the crews were working. 67 ex officio inspectors and rangers were employed.

Approximately 51 miles of new telephone lines were constructed, which, with the 380 miles already owned by the Association in the various divisions were kept in repair. In addition 700 miles owned by Price Brothers & Company, Limited and 500 miles owned by other Companies were at the disposal of the Association.

Two, eighty foot steel towers with enclosed cabins, were erected in the Sault au Cochon district of the St. Lawrence Division, one overlooking the colonization area in Canton Laval and LaTour will prove of great value in

controlling the slash burning operations in that district. The second tower was erected at the Grand Serre on the Portneuf River, overlooking this river valley as far as the Forks as well as part of the valley of the Sault au Cochon River. A third tower was portaged above the Forks of the Portneuf River and will be erected next season.

The weather during the past season was generally favourable to the work of the Association. A period of low humidity during the latter part of May and early June created a temporary hazard when slash fires got out of control. However, no merchantable timber was burned. Rainfall at intervals throughout the season prevented further periods of extreme hazard and permitted the employment of fewer rangers.

The meteorological stations organized three years ago in co-operation with the Meteorological Bureau of the Federal Government were again maintained. Daily reports of local conditions were telegraphed to Toronto and daily forecasts were received. The forecasts were quite accurate; their general result was effective and any error was, in the main, as in the previous years, in the direction of not forecasting rain when rain occurred. We believe that forecasting is a success and request that it be developed.

These meteorological stations were under the supervision of Mr. L. H. Nichols who had made the preliminary investigation in local forecasting on behalf of the Quebec Forest Industries Association, Limited.

#### **Fires.**

The Association took action in the case of 14 fires which occurred on, or adjacent to limits; of these 7 took place in the Saguenay Division, 5 in the Lake St. John Division and 2 in the St. Lawrence Division. 240 acres were burned over without any serious damage to timber. None of the fires reached such proportions that they could not be dealt with by the ranger staff.

#### **Permits.**

Circulation permits for the forest under control of the Association were issued at various places convenient to the people of the districts when conditions were favourable. Some cases still occur of persons entering limits without the required circulation permit or other authority, but on the whole, we may say that the circulation permit system is now well established.

All companies operating in the territory under control of the Association have now instituted a system of identification badges for their woods employees, jobbers and other woods labour.

Uniform fire protection regulations for Company employees and jobbers were adopted by all companies operating within the territory of the Association; these regulations were published in poster form over the joint names of the

various companies concerned, and clauses, providing for the enforcement of them, were embodied in jobbers' contracts. These regulations provide against smoking in the woods except at camps and depots and on open water;

Little or no difficulty was experienced in enforcing this prohibition on Company employees and jobbers, although certain difficulty has been met with in respect to the general public in the absence of the support of law or government regulation.

The Association has to thank all Companies operating within its territory for their co-operation in enforcing these regulations.

#### **Publicity.**

The publicity campaign was continued on the same lines as in previous years, to keep before the public the hazard of forest fires and the necessity of preventing losses from them.

1. Control was kept on all persons entering the woods and, where feasible, gates were erected, each with a guardian who allowed entry only to such persons as had circulation permits or other authorization in lieu thereof.

2. Suitable forest protective signs were posted throughout the Association's territory; 2,750 signs issued by the Provincial Forest Protection Service were by the Association. Special notices were issued by the Association and large signs were set up at entrances to limits and along roads through limits where traffic is increasing.

3. The Canadian Forestry Association continued its excellent work in the districts with which this Association is concerned; 34 lectures, illustrated by moving pictures, were given in the Saguenay and Lake St. John Districts and approximately the same number in the St. Lawrence division; special lectures were given to school children.

4. Inspectors and rangers kept in close touch with local people and, by example and precept, contributed to the work. We are particularly indebted to the local clergy for their help in this respect.

5. The Association placed exhibits and distributed fire protective literature at local fairs and exhibitions.

#### **Fire Preventive Recommendations.**

It is recommended:—

1. That the educational campaign be developed still further, by lectures, by personal contact and example, with a particular effort to reach school children and those settlers in outlying colonization areas where the hazard inclines to be extreme.

2. That the Government should be urged to prohibit by law, smoking while in the forest, except at recognized camps or on open water.

3. That areas, where the hazard from settlers abatis is extreme, should be classified as such and that special steps should be taken for patrol, and for control of burnings, having particular regard to the fire hazard as shown by relative humidity and other meteorological conditions.

4. That special precautions be continued for patrol and for otherwise limiting the hazard in areas of slash in logging operations.

5. That the system of lookout towers, telephone lines, portages and roads be further improved and extended.

6. That further study be made of the application of meteorological data and forecasts as an aide to predicting a hazardous period before it arises and to assist in combatting fires when they have arisen.

In general the association believes that the direction from which most progress towards immunity from forest fires will be achieved is by instructing those of the general public who use the woods, in the danger and public loss which result from forest fires; that the Government and the public expect from individuals, the same care for public property as they have for their own and that the responsibility for the prevention and suppression of forest fires is shared by every one.

The Association also believes that its efforts and those of similar bodies should be directed towards this aim rather than towards more elaborate organizations for the detection and suppression of fires such as now exist and which, if the present public attitude and behaviour do not improve, must be still further expanded.

#### Relations with other Associations.

The thanks of the Association are due to all those who lent their co-operation in the work of the Association; particularly the Forest Protection Service for its help and guidance, to the Canadian National Railway, the Laurentian Forest Protective Association, the Port Alfred Pulp and Paper Corporation, the Lake St. John Power and Paper Company, the Quebec Pulp and Paper Corporation, the Shawinigan Engineering Company, D. H. Pennington, Limited, the Wayagamack Pulp and Paper Company, the personnel of Price Brothers & Company, Limited, and members of those Fishing and Hunting Clubs who so generously assisted by their good will and observance of the Association rules

**R. H. NISBET,**  
Manager.

## STATISTICS.

Total acreage in Association.....	8,777,556
Square miles in Association.....	13,375
Acreage covered by Aeroplane Patrol.....	1,134,080
Cost of Aeroplane Patrol.....	\$ 0
Acreage covered by ground patrol and towers.....	7,643,476
Square miles patrolled.....	11,942
Total cost of Fire Protection.....	\$ 88,261.26
Cost of Fire Protection per acre.....	\$ 0.0114
Cost of Fire Protection per square mile.....	\$ 7.30
Total cost of fire fighting.....	\$ 38.48
Value of Camps and Towers.....	\$ 9,000.00
Value of Equipment purchased.....	\$ 2,834.34
Value of Equipment on hand.....	\$ 32,273.56
Towers constructed.....	2
Towers in operation.....	18
Rangers' Cabins constructed.....	7
Rangers' Cabins in use.....	45
Telephone lines constructed.....	51 Miles.
Telephone lines in use and Company Lines.....	1,600 "
Roads, Trails and Portages constructed.....	59 "

# PRICE BROTHERS FOREST PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED

STATEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER, 1929.

### Operating Expenses.

Saguenay Division.....	\$ 23,330.81
Lake St. John Division.....	25,012.24
St. Lawrence Division.....	28,465.05
	\$ 76,808.10
Gov't. Assessment Laurentide National Park.....	\$ 10,864.64
Lake St. John Power & Paper Patrol.....	431.00
Laurentian Protective Service Patrol.....	196.00
	\$ 11,491.64
	\$ 88,299.74

### Receipts.

Provincial Forest Protection Service Allowances.....	\$ 2,000.00
Provincial Forest Protection, Rangers' Wages Cantons LaTour and Saguenay.....	544.68
Price Brothers & Company, Limited, Assessment.....	69,512.41
Quebec Pulp and Paper Corporation, Assessment.....	5,319.54
Port Alfred Pulp and Paper Corporation, Assessment.....	4,366.65
Wayagamack Pulp and Paper Corporation, Assessment.....	6,103.37
D'Auteuil Lumber Company, Assessment.....	100.00
Lake St. John Power & Paper Company, Assessment.....	353.09
	\$ 88,299.74

DIVISIONAL STATISTICS.—TABLE No. 1

Divisions	Acreage	No. Inspectors	No. Rangers	No. Sup. Insp. and Rangers	Circulation Permits Issued	Slash Burning Permits Issued	Patrol Mileage
Saguenay.....	* 2,325,300	6	32	44	2,755	5	44,084
Lake St. John.....	3,849,520	4	30	2	1,905	.....	45,890
St. Lawrence.....	1,924,800	6	36	21	1,209	11	23,716
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>8,099,620</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>5,869</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>113,690</b>

\* 677,936 acres in Laurentide National Park not included.

DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES IN MAN DAYS.—TABLE No. 2

Activities	Saguenay Division	Lake St. John Division	St. Lawrence Division	Total
Foot Patrol.....	1,977	551	1169	3,697
Horse Patrol.....	1,178	111½	455	1,724½
Canoe Patrol.....	91½	209½	306	607
Motor boat Patrol.....	79	442½	33	554½
Auto and Speeder Patrol.....	212	353½	0	565½
Fire Fighting.....	9½	1	9	19½
Tower Observation.....	280	482½	422	1,184½
Telephone Maintenance.....	46	265	230	541
Tower Maintenance and Construction.....	1	0	153	31
Portages.....	39½	73	116	229
Buildings.....	42	73½	197	312½
Meteorological Observation.....	0	0	108	108
Portageing Equipment and Supplies.....	0	0	166	166
Other kinds of Work.....	717½	777	787	2,281

— 12 —

MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION OF FIRES.—TABLE No. 3

	Saguenay Division	Lake St. John Division	St. Lawrence Division	Total
May.....	4	1	2	7
June.....	3	..	..	3
July.....	..	..	..	..
August.....	..	4	..	4
September.....	..	..	..	..
October.....	..	..	..	..
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>

— 13 —



DISTRIBUTION OF FIRES BY CAUSES.—TABLE No. 4

Causes	Saguenay Division		Lake St. John Division		St. Lawrence Division		Total
	Cost	No Cost	Cost	No Cost	Cost	No Cost	
Slash burning.....	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Lumbering.....	2	..	..	..	..	..	2
Fishing and Hunting.....	2	..	3	..	..	..	5
Travellers.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Railways.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lightning.....	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Public Works.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Incendiary.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Unclassified.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unknown.....	1	..	1	..	1	..	3
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>14</b>

— 14 —

DISTRIBUTION OF FIRES BY ACRES.—TABLE No. 5

	Saguenay Division		Lake St. John Division		St. Lawrence Division		Total
	Cost	No Cost	Cost	No Cost	Cost	No Cost	
Less than one acre.....	..	1	1	4	..	1	7
1 to 5 acres.....	3	..	1	..	..	..	4
5 to 10 acres.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
10 to 100 acres.....	..	..	..	1	..	1	2
100 to 500 acres.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Over 500 acres.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>

— 15 —

**DIVISIONAL FIRE PROTECTION AND FIRE FIGHTING EXPENSES.—TABLE No. 6**

	DIVISIONS			
	Saguenay	Lake St. John	St. Lawrence	Total
Patrol Expenses.....	\$ 13,566.61	\$ 11,779.22	\$ 15,443.43	\$ 40,789.26
Horse Expenses.....	1,551.72	147.66	1596.60	2,295.38
General Expenses.....	714.50	3,520.11	2,369.10	6,603.71
Administration.....	5,190.39	4,016.95	4,926.15	14,133.49
Towers and Telephone Lines Constructed.....	.....	3,581.06	3,840.87	7,421.93
New Equipment.....	145.35	2,184.19	505.16	2,834.70
Depreciation.....	2,125.45	408.36	784.34	3,318.15
<b>Total Fire Protection excluding area within Laurentide National Park.....</b>	<b>\$ 23,294.02</b>	<b>\$ 25,637.55</b>	<b>\$ 28,465.05</b>	<b>\$ 77,396.62</b>
Charge by Government Forest Protection Service for area within the National Park.....	10,864.64	.....	.....	10,864.64
<b>Total Cost of Fire Suppression.....</b>	<b>36.79</b>	<b>1.36</b>	<b>.....</b>	<b>38.15</b>
<b>Total Cost of Fire Protection and Fire Suppression.....</b>	<b>\$ 34,195.45</b>	<b>\$ 25,639.24</b>	<b>\$ 28,465.05</b>	<b>\$ 88,299.74</b>
Area in Acres.....	‡ 3,003,236	2,715,440	1,924,800	7,643,476
Cost per Acre.....	\$ 0.01138	\$ 0.00944	\$ 0.01479	\$ 0.01142
Cost per Square Mile.....	\$ 7.283	\$ 6.041	\$ 9.46	\$ 7.31
Value of Equipment.....	\$ 5,755.00	\$ 10,890.00	\$ 15,628.56	\$ 32,273.56
Value of Telephone Lines constructed by Association.....	2,560.00	18,000.00	14,700.00	35,260.00
Value of Camps and Towers.....	500.00	3,000.00	5,500.00	9,000.00

‡ 67,6936 acres in Laurentide National Park included.