

TREE PLANTING IN BIG COTTONWOOD.

The Forest Service Will Make an
Experiment in Canyon, Feel-
ing Assured of Success.

CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE.

Many Applications Being Made to
Purchase Timber on Various
Reserves.

(Special to the "News.")

Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—During the field season the forest service has been making an examination of the Salt Lake forest reserve to determine the advisability of forest planting. Early in the season it became evident that the upper portion of Big Cottonwood canyon offered a very favorable situation for planting operations. Originally covered with forest growth, fire and lumbering have reduced the cover until now it consists mainly of grass and low shrubs. The soil and climatic conditions are favorable and there is no doubt but that trees can be made to grow successfully. An essential point in favor of this watershed is its high value from the standpoint of water supply. Power houses for generating electrical energy are located in the canyon, and the water after passing through turbines goes on down to the valley where it is used for irrigation. Very recently Salt Lake City acquired title to 89 per cent of the water carried in the streams and construction of a conduit is now under way. A nursery site where favorable soil conditions are combined with an abundant water supply has been selected. On the whole, the project is most favorable and results will be of high value not only to Salt Lake City but to local power and irrigation interests as well.

Application for the purchase of timber, aggregating 3,400,000 feet, have just been received by the forest service for timber standing on three recently created reserves. Two applications for timber on the Henry's Lake forest reserve, in Idaho, are for 1,600,000 and 200,000 feet of lodgepole and western yellow pine respectively. Another application is for 1,000,000 feet of timber, a large percentage of which is dead, on the Holy Cross reserve, in Colorado. The third is for 600,000 feet of dead and insect-infested timber on the Pike's Peak reserve, in the same state.

When it is remembered how much opposition was once felt to the establishment of forest reserves in these regions, on the ground that the resources of reserved forests would be withheld from use, these offers for timber strikingly indicate the progress which has been made, both in sentiment toward the reserves and in the better understanding of their object. With the opening of the reserves to the fullest use consistent with the lasting productiveness and protective value of the forest, the last trace of public misapprehension as to their need and value has practically vanished.
