

men should carry their insurance among themselves. He thought that by this means they would get cheaper insurance. The advisability of affiliating with the Millers' and Manufacturers' Association was suggested, and on the motion of Mr. Bertram, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, that the recent advance of rates of insurance on lumber, ranging from 50 to 225 per cent., is, in our opinion, not warranted by the circumstances, and the Board of Management are requested to communicate with saw mill owners, whether members of the association or not, with a view to taking joint action, either in forming a new insurance company by associating themselves with other manufacturers, and so dividing the risk, or by joining on favorable terms some existing institution; that the Board of Management report as soon as possible to a meeting to be called for the purpose, and take action with a view of remedying the present abnormal conditions."

Mr. Dymont stated that it was possible to obtain from the same company cheaper insurance for lumber in the United States than in Canada.

The President referred to the action of the Ontario Government in passing an order-in-council compelling the medical inspection of lumber camps. This order was passed last winter and took effect on September 1st.

Those present were unanimous in condemning the regulations, which they thought to be unjust. One of the gentlemen present stated that not a case of smallpox on the north shore had originated in the lumber camps, but that it had been carried from the Michigan Soo and distributed from hotels along the C.P.R. Some striking comparisons were made between the conditions under which the men in the woods and people in the large cities live, the opinion being expressed that much greater need exists for a compulsory inspection of dwellings in cities than of the camps in the woods. It was also shown that the regulations requiring the men to take out certificates of freedom from smallpox were improperly carried out, and that it was simply a means of adding to the revenue of doctors. No action regarding the order-in-council was taken, but it is probable that the matter will be considered by the Board of Management.

The lumbermen have experienced some annoyance from "jumpers" from camps after their expenses had been paid. It was pointed out that there was a law to protect employers, but that it was often found inadvisable to enforce it. This law is an amendment to the Act Respecting Master and Servant, and reads as follows:

The Act Respecting Master and Servant is amended by adding thereto the following section:

"In case any person enters into an agreement under which he receives as an advance of wages, money, food, lodging or railway or steamboat ticket, to enable him to reach any place at which he has engaged to perform labor, work, or other services, if such person thereafter, without the consent of his employer, leaves his employment before the money or

cost of such food, lodging or transportation has been repaid, he shall, on proof thereof before a justice of the peace, be liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding \$25; and in default of payment of such penalty to imprisonment in common jail of the county or district for a period not exceeding thirty days, as the justice may direct."

A general discussion followed respecting the price of lumber, after which the meeting adjourned.

### AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

THE summer meeting of the American Forestry Association was held at Denver, Colorado, on August 27th, 28th and 29th. There were two sessions daily and an open meeting on the evening of the 28th, at which Mr. Gifford Pinchot, Forester of the United States Department of Agriculture, gave an illustrated lecture entitled "The Government and the Forest Reserves."

Altogether, the meeting was very successful, about twenty papers on subjects pertaining to forestry being presented.

One of these was by A. D. Hopkins, on "Insect Enemies of Forests and Forest Products." The author briefly reviewed the subject of insect enemies of forests and forest products, and its relation to the scientific methods of forest management, giving as examples the ravages of the chestnut timber worm, the oak timber worm, the spruce destroying beetle, and certain enemies of the forests of the north-west, which, by the adoption of improved and inexpensive forestry methods, may be controlled, so as to prevent the loss of a vast amount of timber. Doctor Hopkins also referred to insects injurious to forest products used in railroad construction, and methods of preventing losses; insect enemies of stored hemlock and oak tanbark, and the simple remedy suggested by a knowledge of the habits of the pest. He also spoke of the difficulties met with (owing to insufficient funds and assistance) in conducting the elaborate experiments necessary to determine important facts relating to the life and habits of the more destructive species, and to demonstrate the practical application of results.

Doctor Hopkins also presented a paper on "Forest Conditions in West Virginia." He related the observations made during a recent trip through the forest areas of the state of West Virginia, which furnish (in their varied conditions of primitive growth, extensive lumbering operations, exhausted supply of merchantable product, depredations by fire and insects), some of the leading problems, which are so important to study, with a view of determining scientific methods of management and protection. He referred to the fact that the harvesting of the forest crops, which represent one of the important natural resources, continues unabated; but called attention to the marked difference (from the old method of culling out the best timber for special purposes), in the present utilization of all kinds of available products in one operation. Thus a clean sweep is made, and little is left

for the forest fires, except the debris. In sections, the conditions are favorable for profitable second growth forest. An example of what a natural second growth will do, under utter neglect, is had in an area of some thousand acres denuded some seventy to hundred years ago, to supply charcoal for furnaces, which is now yielding a quantity of chestnut telephone poles, pins and other minor products. Much encouragement is found in the fact that some of the wealthiest owners of extensive forest are beginning to consider and apply improved scientific methods in harvesting forest products, providing for the perpetuation of profitable forest growth, and encouraging reforestation of the denuded areas. Dr. Hopkins mentions one of these public spirited men, who although eighty years old, contemplating the extensive planting of seedlings for a future supply of railroad ties.

In a paper on "The Reforestation of Watersheds," T. P. Lukens said that depletion of forests caused extremes of flood and drought, as shown by the present conditions in Southern California as contrasted with the same area prior to the introduction of unrestricted sheep and cattle grazing, waste methods of lumbering and destructive fires. Originally the mountains and valleys were forested and the streams flowed continuously. The effect of these abuses is seen in the increased flow of streams, and the rapid deterioration of the originally productive soil. The remedies proposed are the absolute prohibition of grazing, except within fenced areas, employment of rangers to guard against fires, and to enforce the grazing regulations, and the inauguration of improved methods of lumbering under trained foresters.

"The Progress in Tree Planting" treated by William L. Hall. The past year, said, has been notable for the planting of timber. Never before were so many trees planted in a single year. The work is limited to the plains but extends throughout the Mississippi Valley and to the Atlantic States, where some of the largest operations are now in progress.

In the west besides for general utility plantations have been established as investments and have proved profitable. The success has influenced more extensive planting for the same purpose. Eastern planting has two purposes in view. First, to utilize waste land. Second, to protect water supply. For these purposes extensive planting is being done. Both in the east and in the west the planting problem is being studied to develop cheaper and more rapid methods, for on cheapness and rapidity will depend the importance of planting in American forestry.

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