

facturing of lumber on this side of the line, instead of exporting the log has also had its effect in this direction. The resolution passed at the Reciprocity Convention held at Washington recently could hardly, however, be described as radical, as it favored only reduction of duties on articles not produced in the United States. While the States, whose supplies of lumber are at the point of exhaustion, will be the strong supporters of the movement for reciprocity in lumber, there will certainly be decided opposition from the lumber-producing states, and, as the number of people employed in the manufacture of lumber in the United States is estimated at five millions and a half, their influence will be a potent factor in the consideration of the problem.

But from the point of view of the Canadian Forestry Association, the chief consideration is as to the effect of reciprocal arrangements on the method of dealing with our forests. The present condition of the forests on the southern side of the international boundary is not particularly reassuring, and whether the cause be found in defective legislation or elsewhere, the fact remains that American lumbermen, generally, have attained the reputation of being anything but economical or provident in their operations. Canadians themselves are not as yet alive to the necessity for improvement in their own methods. On very uncertain information we talk largely of our inexhaustible forest wealth, and on unverifiable figures we give bold estimates of our ability to supply the world for centuries to come, and we conclude that we need worry ourselves no more about the matter. But if we cannot keep the fires from devastating the forests within our reach, the far-off fields that now look so green may be but a barren brûlé, when we have need of them. More care and study should be given to what we have presently available, and we should be careful that our hands should not be tied by treaty arrangements, in such a way that we cannot take the necessary measures to provide for the proper management of our timber resources, and while expansion is not necessarily evil, it may be made so if we do not know how properly to manage or control it, and do not make the effort in proper time.

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The Forest School at Biltmore, N.C., conducted by C. A. Schenck, Ph. D., is in a very favorable position from the fact that the forest, which is under Dr. Schenck's management is available for the practical demonstration, which is a very necessary adjunct to theoretical work. From a notice which has reached us, it appears that the course of study followed provides, in the first place, for practical instruction in the forest where actual work, such as planting, cutting, road-making, etc., is going on. The forests comprise an area of 110,000 acres, there being three separate tracts—Busbee forest, which controls the water supply of the estate, and is dealt with accordingly; Biltmore forest, which has a near and ever ready market in Asheville; and Pisgah forest, a great rugged tract of Appalachian virgin forest, which has supplied yellow poplar and other woods to the mills for some time. A system of roads is being developed to open up this tract, and make it easily accessible for all purposes to which any part of it may be devoted. Tree planting is undertaken only on a small scale, natural reproduction being relied on.

The theoretical instruction includes Sylviculture, Forest Utilization, Forest Management, Forest Finance, Forest Protection, Forest Politics, Forest History. This part of the course also includes a study of Fish and Game-keeping.

Forest Researches, such as Stem Analysis, Sample Acres, Test Growth, Construction of Yield Tables, form the third part of the course.

The full course, which occupies a period of twelve months, is concluded by a three months' tour of the European forests, commencing in April, which gives an opportunity for investigating the forestry systems practised there and comparing them with American methods. Those who have read the last report of the Canadian Forestry Association will understand that Dr. Schenck is no visionary, that he understands the limitations of the present situation on this continent, and will not ignore them with his pupils. We believe most thoroughly that it would be a most valuable experience for all those who are *intending to devote themselves to the lumber business* to have the opportunity which a course at this or some of the other schools of forestry would give of getting an insight in scientific methods of forest management. The effect on the future of Canada would be very important if we had a large number of men who had a clear appreciation of the meaning and methods of scientific forestry. Any further information in regard to the Forest School at Biltmore may be obtained by communicating with C. A. Schenck, Ph. D., Biltmore, North Carolina.

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Professor J. W. Towner, of the Yale Forest School, has become a life member of the Canadian Forestry Association. This is the kind of American aggression that we welcome. And we must further say that the kindnesses we have received from our friends in the United States who are interested in forestry, make us wish that in this respect we were able to give a reciprocity that would be of anything like an equal value.

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Some time ago we announced that we had made arrangements to have any questions in regard to forestry, tree planting, or allied topics that any of our members wished to submit, answered by experts in these subjects. Up to the present time advantage has not been taken of this offer, and we must therefore conclude that no unsolved problems vex the souls of our subscribers. Our offer is still open, however, and we hope it will be made use of both for the sake of those desiring information and in order that we may understand better the subjects that should be brought before our readers.

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We have had the pleasure recently of a visit from Rev. A. E. Burke, of Alberton, P.E.I. Father Burke has been working vigorously for some time to interest the Government and people of the island in the work of preserving and managing scientifically their timber supplies. Unfortunately the area of land still in the hands of the Provincial Government is very small, amounting to only 15,000 acres, and even this is a scattered tract, so that the field to work on is not extensive from the forester's point of view. The land is mostly of a character unsuitable for agriculture, so that it could not be used for any other purpose than tree growing. Father Burke states that a number of bush fires have occurred in the Province this year, and that the country is becoming so bare as to affect very injuriously the water supply. It is to be hoped that Father Burke's untiring efforts may have the success they deserve.

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