

## The Forests of New Zealand

By Charles S. Thompson, Vancouver

**D**URING a recent visit to New Zealand the writer made some observations on Forestry that may prove of interest to the readers of this magazine. The native bush of New Zealand is quite unlike any I have seen elsewhere. They seem to be mostly hardwoods and some species of cedar. The hardwoods have most unpronounceable names, which I have forgotten. The native bush grows short and thick. I did not see a tree that would cut more than two 12 foot logs and I saw none that in British Columbia would be considered fair sized.

This native timber cannot stand after a break is made on it by clearing. It seems to die out then. These must have been splendid big trees at one time for I saw and greatly admired in Auckland Museum a great War Canoe, about 95 feet long, 7 feet beam and about 5 feet draft. This was made out of one log, with stone and bone tools before the white man came. This canoe was most beautifully finished with carvings and had a stem and stern 7 or 8 feet high attached by pegs and cords. There was no iron in its construction or any iron tools used. It carries 100 men and is a fine sea boat.

Imported firs consist mostly of European varieties of pines, larch and many other trees. In the Roborna district, the government by means of prison labor is now planting 30,000 or 40,000 acres of mountain land with firs and pines and they are doing well. I never anywhere saw so many or such beautiful weeping willows, which reach a large size, 3 or 4 feet in diameter. These are very numerous on the banks of the Waugaubesi River and in the lovely park in the City of Christ Church I saw many of these beautiful trees.

New Zealand is a decidedly windy country and wind breaks, are planted on every country farm, to shelter the sheep and cattle and in every city garden to protect the flowers. In gardens they use hawthorne privet a very pretty cedar, called "Macricarpa." This will grow 50 or 60 feet high if not cut and is frequently used as a farm wind break.

## Cutting Trees to Improve a Woodlot

By Col. William B. Greeley,  
Chief Forester of the United States

**I**MPROVEMENT cuttings help the woods in the same way that weeding helps field crops.

Trees grown close enough together in the farm woods so that their tops are in contact produce high-grade saw logs.

Young trees should be coming up in the openings. They should be encouraged by keeping out stock and fire, and by proper cutting methods. Sometimes it is necessary to plant.

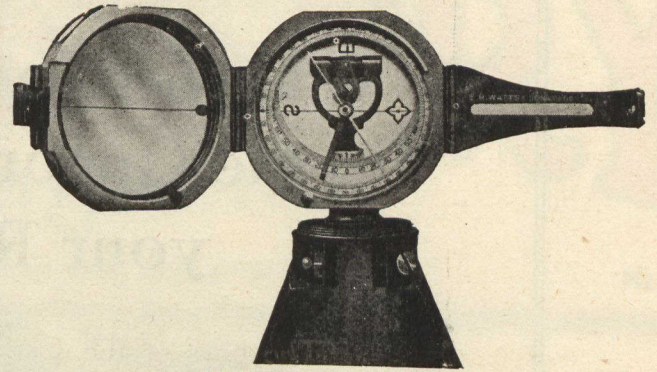
In cutting timber take out inferior species to a smaller diameter than the more valuable species and remove all defective trees in order to improve the quality of the farm woods.

Grass in the woods is a sign that the trees are not close enough together or that the woods are being mistreated. Pasturing and timber raising on the same area are mutually disadvantageous.

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