ter, it might be of interest to note that all civilized and indeed all semi-civilized countries are constantly increasing their demand for forest products, and particularly for that major product, wood. Many can hardly credit this, for on every hand they see wood being replaced by coal, steel and cement. Unhappily this substitution is more than offset by the increasing use of wood in other lines, with the result that every decade shows an enormous increase in the annual toll levied on the forest. I use the word "unhappily" advisedly, for increasing consumption of wood—a constantly ascending scale of prices and therefore a hardship on all users of wood, which is pretty nearly equivalent to saying a hardship on everybody. The only exception that I can think of just now would be the owners of timberlands.

But I must return to my text. What place shall British Columbia play as a producer of wood for the great lumber marts of the future? My answer is that it will occupy a place in the very front rank because of the vast area available for wood crops and yet unsuited for any other crop, because of her ideal climate for timber growth, because of the unsurpassed eudowment by nature of almost all that is best in structural timbers and pulp woods, because her forest resources have remained practically unimpaired until the present, and because the wisdom necessary for the intelligent conservation of these resources in the future can now be had, thanks to the marvellous development of the profession of the Forest Engineer during the past decade.

British Columbia has but a small part of the 182,000,000 acres of forest with which she is credited by misguided enthusiasts, but she has, perhaps, 25,000,000 acres, fully 80 per cent. of which will never be as profitably devoted to any other crop. A very conservative estimate of the annual growth on this area under forestry management would be 200 feet, board measure, of lumber per acre, or some 5 billions feet per annum for the entire province. This would be about five-fold the present annual cut and would yield an annual revenue in perpetuity of about $4,000,000 at the present rate of taxation and royalty dues. The revenue feature would be far from the most important direct financial consideration, for the logging and sawing of this crop would mean the additional distribution of about $50,000,000 in wages and supplies. The indirect advantage of maintaining a forest cover on these rough lands might