

*Forestry Department*

pamphlets which have been published throughout the years and which have been of increasing interest and value to the small lumber operators.

These are the fields of research which the association suggests, and I am in hearty agreement with those suggestions: extension work, information service, short term industrial research, expanded and increased studies on logging research, and investigations into the utilization of saw mill residue. I think there is a good deal here which our laboratory has not had the opportunity to go into, on account of lack of funds. The recommendations obviously cover very important fields of research: research on the improved efficiency of saw mill equipment; research on the utilization of wood residues from the secondary wood-using industries; accelerated research on lumber seasoning—that is a very important one as well, Mr. Speaker—research into the dimensional stabilization of wood; research on the use of timber in structures; research on glues; research on paints and coatings. This last one is very important; a great deal of work needs to be done in that field. Therefore they strongly support an increase in the money to be spent upon research by the forest products laboratories.

Then I notice that the forest industry associations of British Columbia support the same point of view. At page 21 of their brief, presented to the committee on May 13, 1959, they say in connection with forest products research:

In emphasizing the importance the lumber industry attaches to the forest products research currently being undertaken by the forest products laboratories in Canada, it is hard to avoid citing the analogy that exists between the lumber and agricultural industries. No one farmer has the resources to spend millions on developing a new rust-resistant wheat for example. Similarly no one lumber manufacturer, especially when operating at today's low margins—

I can support that remark with great fervour.

—has the resources to undertake the applied research which is immediately needed if the decline in lumber usage is to be halted.

They go on then to give further details. However, I mention the recommendations made by the Canadian lumbermen's association and various industries in British Columbia to indicate how important they consider the work of the forest products laboratories and the need at the present time for its considerable expansion.

Forestry and all aspects of natural growth which are of primary importance must be viewed as a long term undertaking. For the most part the expenditures and activities of today will benefit future generations. I wish to emphasize this so that we get a proper

balance as between forestry research and research in so far as utilization is concerned. There is no question about the need for this work and its expansion, but the immediate urgency does not reside primarily within this field, although it should be expanded, but rather in the varied and complex fields of utilization.

I think it is the primary view that the federal government should concern itself with this field in the immediate future, in addition to carrying on its present policy of research and its expansion at appropriate levels and at the tempo that is necessary in order to avoid waste and increase production from the present yield of raw materials from the lands that are now being harvested.

I can speak from some personal experience, and no doubt other members can speak with even greater experience than I have had. One of the problems we have to solve is the utilization of the waste which now occurs in the woods and in the manufacture of lumber and lumber products in the lumber industry in Canada. The report of the committee on mines, forests and waters indicates this. A perusal of the committee's report clearly indicates the concern and emphasis of the forest industry's representations to the various parliamentary committees, some of which I have mentioned. They emphasize both the economic impact and the national importance of the forest industry and the necessity for research along these lines.

Repeatedly, in the committee and in previous representations, in previous years in this house and on recent occasions, we have emphasized that these industries are vital to our national well being, both to supply home needs and to provide export credits. We must not forget that the forest industry plays a very great role in the field of providing export credits for Canada.

From a purely national point of view the impact of the forest industries cannot be overemphasized. It is felt in nearly every hamlet, village and town across Canada. They supply revenues at the federal, provincial and local levels and to business and to many individuals. They form an important and integral part of our agricultural operations in a good many sections of Canada, and that part in relation to agriculture is increasing daily. These industries, and there are thousands of them, are generally small units, very often family units. Few are large enough to maintain research facilities. They must remain dependent on government efforts and help in those fields. That is why this branch of our research is so important.

It is worthy of note that while these industries have, no doubt, been the largest