

THE IMPORTANCE OF FORESTRY.

The question is frequently asked, of the trained forester in America, "what is Forestry?" And Mr. E. J. Zavitz, M.A., who contributes an article on forestry education to the University of Toronto Monthly for November, gives a quotation from one of Professor Fernow's writings which helps to furnish an answer: "A forester is not, as the American public has been prone to apply the word, one who knows the names of trees and flowers,—a botanist; nor even one who knows their life history,—a dendrologist; nor one who, for the love of trees, proclaims the need of preserving them,—a propagandist; nor one who makes a business of planting parks or orchards,—an arboriculturist, fruit-grower, landscape gardener, or nurseryman; nor one who cuts down trees and converts them into lumber,—a wood-chopper or lumberman; nor one set to prevent fires or depredations in woodlands,—a forest guard; nor one who knows how to produce and reproduce wood crops,—a silviculturist; but, in the fullest sense of the term, a forester is a technically educated man, who, with the knowledge of the forest trees and their life history, and all that pertains to their growth and production, combines further knowledge which enables him to manage a forest property, so as to produce certain conditions resulting in the highest attainable revenue from the soil by wood crops."

Mr. Zavitz contends that forestry is an art depending on business and scientific knowledge. In an address recently, President Roosevelt said: "The United States is exhausting its forest supplies far more rapidly than they are being produced. The situation is grave, and there is only one remedy. That remedy is the introduction of practical forestry on a large scale; and, of course, that is impossible without trained men—men trained in the closet, and also by actual field work under practical conditions." And indeed in the United States, rapid strides are being made towards a rational forestry policy. The Bureau of Forestry at Washington is composed of technically trained men, assisted in the summer by students from various forestry institutions.

After showing what progress has been made in forestry by different countries of late years, Mr. Zavitz concludes by asserting that technical training is as necessary for the proper treatment of forest lands as it is for the operation of mining or agricultural interests. "A Forestry School in the Province of Ontario is evidently the next step towards the formation of a rational forestry policy. This step should not be difficult, as we have guidance in the experience of many older countries. The natural place for a Forestry School is in a state or provincial institution, such as the University of Toronto. Very valuable relations could be established between such a school and the Crown Lands Department, which has the administration of our forest reserves."



JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The war expenditure of Japan, as is naturally to be expected considering the prolonged and desperate character of her struggle with Russia, is reaching great proportions. And the exhaustive nature of this heroic struggle is made evident by the onerous terms

of Japan's most recent borrowing in the money market. As we have shown elsewhere, Japan's requirements for blankets and winter clothing are making whole districts of Yorkshire busy, and in other countries her orders for various kinds of merchandise are enormous.

Nevertheless, the commercial and industrial development of the Flowery Empire continues apparently unchecked. Statistics of Japan's foreign trade for eight months of the current year quoted by the London Economist, indicate that the war had not up to the 1st September checked the country's development. The total exports amounted to 189,595,727 yen, compared with 179,615,518 yen last year, and the total imports to 234,505,482 yen, against 225,486,025 yen. As regards exports, there were increases of 11,929,743 yen and 3,481,044 yen in manufactured articles and half-wrought articles respectively, and a decrease of 5,430,578 yen in raw products. The exports of silk tissues increased by 6,385,000 yen, and cotton tissues by 1,098,118 yen; but raw silk was practically stationary, the figures for 1903 being 41,841,398 yen, and for the present year 41,813,441 yen. Coal exports decreased to the extent of 2,878,239 yen, and those of coarse and refined copper by 2,337,564 yen. In imports an increase of 9,019,457 yen is shown. Raw cotton fell to the extent of 4,862,790 yen in the eight months, and shirting and cotton prints were down by 4,104,423 yen. Raw wool, however, shows an increase of 3,691,555 yen, steam vessels 6,081,131 yen, kerosene oil 5,971,428 yen, and "others" 15,377,720 yen. There were also appreciable increases in machinery and engines, but the imports of rice decreased by 3,430,181 yen, and oil-cake by 5,480,076 yen.



MONTREAL MANUFACTURERS.

At the monthly meeting of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, held last week, some very strong language was used condemning the delays experienced with express parcels going through the customs examining warehouse. "If an importer of goods wants his goods in a reasonable time, he should have them sent by freight, rather than express," was the way one man put it. And a committee was instructed to wait upon both the Canadian Express Company and the Collector of Customs to register complaint. To further place themselves on record regarding the matter, the Association passed a resolution, as follows: "That in the opinion of the executive committee of the Montreal branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, it is advisable that the express companies should be placed within the jurisdiction of the railway companies." The president, Mr. J. J. McGill, was in the chair, and the members in attendance were: Messrs. W. T. Whitehead, Clarence F. Smith, Charles B. Gordon, D. Lorne McGibbon, J. S. N. Dougall, S. W. Ewing, G. W. Sadler, and D. Williamson.



A LONDON JOURNALIST'S VIEWS.

It is well to take note of what intelligent observers from other countries think of Canada's arrangements and prospects, especially when such observers betray reasonable reserve, and are not in haste to declare themselves positively and at large with only a globe-trotter's day or two in which to make their observations. Mr. George Paish, editor of the London Statist, gave to a Montreal interviewer the other day his conclusions thus far reached in the course of a visit for the especial purpose of studying our railway system and the prospects of the Grand Trunk Pacific road. He also visits the United States

"The prosperity of Canada," said Mr. Paish, "is governed by three conditions. Firstly, the state of the crops; secondly, by the inflow of new population, and of capital, and, thirdly,