

## **The Common Problem**

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**R**EGARDLESS of necessary differences in local conditions and political organization, the fundamental features of the forestry problem are alike on both sides of the International Boundary. The pulp and paper industry of North America is conspicuously an international industry with an interlocking financial basis and largely common markets. There are also many other undertakings in which citizens of the United States and Canada are mutually interested.

In some respects, Canadian forest policies, because more recent, have heretofore been more far-sighted than those of the United States. In other respects, possibly the movement in the United

States has gone further than it has in Canada. In neither country has the problem yet been tackled in the thorough-going fashion it must be, in order that our great industries and the very life of the people may be sustained in the future upon the basis on which they have been organized and built up.

Foresters have every reason to think that the year 1921 will be the best year they have yet seen for the widespread acceptance of the gospel they have been preaching for many years, and I hazard the prediction that many seeds, which they supposed fell upon stony ground, really lodged in fertile soil and will develop into lusty saplings in the near future.

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## **An Embargo on Pulpwood Export Proposed**

**M**R. Frank J. D. Barnjum, of Annapolis Royal, N.S., has added a new bulletin to the many valuable contributions he has made to the subject of forest conservation along practical lines. It bears the title "An Immediate Export Tax for Embargo on Canada's Fee Land Pulpwood is now Imperative." After detailing the enormous losses of standing timber through the ravages of the budworm in recent years, Mr. Barnjum comes to the conclusion that the simplest way to reckon this loss through forest disease is to assume that one cord per acre on the 75 million acres of timber lands in Quebec has been done away with. In other words, the spruce budworm in the province of Quebec, according to Mr. Barnjum's statement, has caused a depreciation of 75 million cords. The author proceeds to show that the loss from fire has been equally appalling, and quoted a recent estimate that fire damage along just one line of railways, between LaTuque and Cochrane, amounts to 20 million cords,

sufficient wood to have kept the paper mills of Quebec running for ten years.

"There is one compensation, poor as it may seem, with relation to our future wood supply, and that is that the money value of what land and wood we still have left has more than doubled on account of the short supply remaining, and this fact we must not forget in considering present prices for pulp, paper, lumber, and wood.

The newspapers are asking for lower prices for paper, while as a matter of fact the manufacturer of paper and lumber is faced with increasing costs in connection with the protection of his forests from fire and bugs, and the only way this can be met is with higher prices. The bud-worm has destroyed such tremendous areas of standing fir and spruce that the fire hazard has been increased a hundred fold owing to the very large areas of dry dead trees in the woods, entailing a greatly increased fire patrol.

Higher prices for land, pulpwood,