

in its possibilities of good to the world. To satisfy this hungry demand of the daily press, the forests of spruce, fir, balsam and poplar in the United States have been slain by counties and States, until now those who have studied the situation begin to realize that America's supply of cheap pulp is at an end, because the remaining areas of pulp timber are either inaccessible or insufficient. Year by year, the United States pulp manufacturers have to go further away for their supplies of timber within their own territory, and year by year, they have had to draw to an ever increasing extent upon the forests of Canada for pulpwood. During the year ending June, 1907, the United States imported pulpwood from Canada to the amount of 650,366 cords, or enough to manufacture say 520,000 tons of news paper, while its imports of ground pulp from Canada were 149,827 tons, valued at \$3,230,272. Besides this it imported pulp from other countries, chiefly Norway, to the amount of 63,283 tons valued at \$3,118,585, largely chemical pulp. These are official figures of the United States, but while the Canadian official returns show an export to the United States of 452,846 cords in the nine months ending March, 1907, or at the rate of over 603,794 cords for the year, it is the opinion of the "Pulp and Paper Magazine of Canada" that the actual quantity of pulpwood shipped to the United States amounts to from 800,000 to 1,000,000 cords per year. Reasons for this estimate are given in a paper to be found in the Canadian Forestry Association's Report for 1906. According to a special report of the United States Census Bureau the consumption of domestic spruce wood used by United States pulp mills increased 47 per cent. in quantity, and 122 per cent. in price in the five years from 1900 to 1905, while the consumption of Canadian spruce wood by United States mills increased 102 per cent. in quantity, and 150 per cent. in price in the same period. The general cost of wood used for mechanical and chemical pulp was more than doubled in the five years named, for every variety of pulpwood except domestic poplar. Canadian poplar had increased 176 per cent. If these percentages could be applied to the conditions in 1907 the increase would be still greater.

A World's Problem. As the increase in the number and circulation of newspapers proceeds throughout the world, the difficulty of supplies must increase, unless some substitute, not yet practicable, is discovered for pulp from wood, so that what is now a national problem to the United States and other large paper manufacturing countries, will be a world's problem a few years hence. It is not alone the ever growing demand of the newspaper press, but the manifold uses of wood in other arts which is laying waste the forests of North America, and bringing this crisis near. Industrial statistics recently compiled show that while steel, concrete and other materials are increasing so rapidly for structural purposes, the consumption of wood is greater per head of population in civilized countries than ever before.

The vast expansion of manufacturing in America has brought about this exhaustion of its surplus timber so swiftly that it is only now beginning to be comprehended. It is but a few years, for example, since official documents spoke of the timber supplies of the State of Michigan