

face in the whole District, is covered everywhere, except on some of the more prominent parts of the old gravel beaches, by a layer of bog mosses from two to five feet deep, and is thus one continuous swamp, broken only by the narrow channels of the streams which flow across it. In no case was any such great depth of moss discovered as is found in many of the rock basins in the forest country farther south.

This great swamp covering the Littoral plain has an area of 60,000 square miles within the District of Patricia, and if the adjoining areas to the west, in Manitoba, and to the southeast, in Ontario and Quebec, are taken into consideration, it has a total area of about 120,000 square miles. This is undoubtedly the largest continuous swamp in America, and it is possibly the largest in any country in the world. In order to designate it with greater accuracy I would propose that it be known as *Archudsonian Swamp*, signifying that it was within the confines of the older and larger representative of Hudson Bay.

Small Pine and Spruce.

The gravel beach which extends along the shore in front of it, within the limits of the district of Patricia, is devoid of trees, while behind the beach there is usually a wet marshy belt, or perhaps a series of long shallow ponds. Farther back is another older beach, and on the second or third of these beaches the coniferous forest begins as a belt of white and black spruce of medium size. Behind this narrow coastal belt of timber the mossy plain begins and extends inland to the rougher upland country. Lakes are almost entirely absent, and the few that are said to exist are probably shallow ponds dammed up behind the old abandoned sea beaches. The absence of lakes, and the consequent scarcity of fish, makes it difficult for Indians to live in this swamp, so that the native population of Patricia is confined almost entirely to the

Interior Upland Country. The lower layers of moss, and doubtless also the underlying ground, are frozen throughout the year, while the upper layers are in summer completely soaked with water, so that travel over it at that season of the year is practically impossible. From the surface of this soaking bed of moss small isolated black spruce and tamarack stick up like big bristles, while here and there, on small areas that for some reason or other are drier than those adjoining similar trees are collected together in small groves.

Absence of Real Timber.

On the banks of the streams which flow through or across this swamp the land is better drained than elsewhere, and here are usually narrow belts of tall straight timber, some of which may be 16 or 18 inches in diameter. There are other trees, such as the aspen and balsam poplar, on the river banks within this swamp, but nevertheless the only tree of any importance as timber is the white spruce. Although this Littoral belt, to which we have applied the name Archudsonian Swamp, must be classed as a forest country, the total quantity of valuable timber in it is small, and the average of the whole country would probably not exceed one or two cords to the acre.

The friends of Mr. J. Douglas Moir of Wm. Whitmer & Sons, Inc., will be glad to hear that he passed the crisis in a very acute attack of pneumonia on Monday, January 24th, at St. Luke's Hospital, Ottawa, Ont. Mr. Moir left New York on the sleeper on Sunday, January 16th to attend the 8th Annual Meeting of the Canadian Lumbermen's Association and was taken ill suddenly on the way up. He was conveyed from the Chateau Laurier to the hospital by ambulance shortly after his arrival. It will be the middle of February before Mr. Moir will be able to return to New York.