

experimental work during the current year (1923-1924) the tentative conclusions remain to be confirmed by further work. It is believed, however, that, by means of the incising process, the wood can be successfully and economically treated. If so, the economic advantage to the prairie provinces and the trans-continental railways should be considerable.

Preservative Treatment of Canadian Hardwoods for Top Pins and Pole Brackets. Object: To work out a satisfactory method of creosote treatment of certain Canadian hardwoods for the accessories named.

Upwards of 6,000,000 top pins and brackets are used annually in Canada on poles for telegraph and telephone lines and up to the present time a large proportion has been manufactured from imported wood. Hardwoods must be used as mechanical strength is an important consideration. The perishability of hardwoods indicates preservative treatment as an economy.

A considerable amount of work was done both at the Laboratories and at a plant manufacturing the accessories and a satisfactory open-tank treatment was worked out. The specifications and price of the preservative were important factors and received due attention.

Special attention was also given during the year to the chemistry and specifications of creosote oils, tars and