

able, it does not necessarily follow that that will have any effect on legislation, and in fact in regard to the defects in the organization of the forest service and in the forest laws that urgently require remedy, the government is helpless until Congress is prepared to act.

M. Jusserand, the French Ambassador, at this meeting, gave one of the best addresses of the Congress. He described the forest as the great friend which supplied the early wants of mankind, giving the first fuel, helping to the rearing of the first real house. And, now, after the lapse of thousands of years, the forest continues the great friend, so adequate is it to our wants. The forest has proved itself a friend to France in reclothing the bared and wasted mountain sides and rescuing the fertile lands of the valleys from destruction, in restraining the destructive power of the winds, in stopping the advancing flow of that great sea of sand from the ocean, which engulfed farms and towns and threatened to make the country a desert. To quote M. Jusserand's own words:—

“The importance of such plantations (i.e. forest plantations on mountain slopes) is more and more apparent. We see destruction and poverty invade the parts where they have not been observed; wealth and comfort grow in those where the rules have been observed. Where there is a just proportion of forest ground, the temperature is more equal, the yielding of water springs more regular, and observations in the south of France have shown that, since the Esteral has been reforested the destruction caused by that terrible wind, called the Mistral, has diminished. The sea coasts of France were being gradually invaded by the sand, and the wind carried the death powder farther inland as years passed on. In 1810 we tried forestry, and the forest showed itself, as usual, the friend of man; the sand country has entirely disappeared, as well on the ocean as on the channel, and the desolate regions of yore are now wealthy, pleasant ones, where people even flock for their recreation and their health.”

The size of the Congress resulted in one defect, that it was difficult to carry out a discussion of practical problems. This was partly met by a series of lectures to forestry students, follow-