

forest of the greatest possible production for the future, but suffers the fault of giving, during the nearest periods, a very uneven present production.

In Sweden there are now (1900) no suitable regulations for divisions for thinning, but there is a passing from an old and obsolete method to a better one under which the foresters make their own various proposals. Lately the domain department has brought forth a project for regulating the division of the public forests for systematic thinning. This proposition differs from the regulations for tract cutting now in force in that the map of the forest is made on a scale of 1:25,000, that only trees which are disposable as timber are estimated in regard to number and culic contents, and that the quantity of the yearly consumption is based on the amount of timber and the time of rotation, according to the future relation between the production and the amount of timber which is expected to exist in the forest after it has been thoroughly renewed and the production raised to its highest point.

When taking out the yearly timber production, the forester, as a rule, first removes the trees that have blown down and those which are dry or otherwise injured. Next of importance is to remove standing seed trees or other older trees which prevent the growth of the younger trees. The cutting must thereafter be extended to old woods, which have become thin and sparse, and in their place new tracts with a better growth must be established. The thinning may now begin in such young and middle-aged forests that are too dense, and last of all, the better and older forests are attacked in order to complete the yearly production. In mountainous regions and other districts where the forests are liable to suffer from storms, it is customary to let that part of the forest remain the longest which forms a kind of defense against the fury of the tempests. In other words, the cutting proceeds against the direction from which the storms come with the greatest violence.

When not all trees in an older forest shall be felled at the same time, the forest supervisor has each separate tree marked, the mark being placed both on the trunk and near the root or on a larger root branch, so that he can tell, after the cutting is over, whether other trees than those that were marked have been felled.