

and improving their water powers, all of which is of course, very desirable; but while they have been doing this they have lost sight of the most vital question, viz. a supply of raw material to keep these mills running.

The newspaper publishers are not without blame for the present shortage in newsprint, for every time they have fought a legitimate advance in price, they have made it more difficult and expensive for the mills to do business, especially under Government control and regulation, and with regard to price it is not nearly as surprising that newsprint has advanced from 2 to 4 cents per pound and higher than it is that eggs have advanced from 25c to \$1.00 a dozen. A hen can be produced in a year, while these trees that are being made into paper have taken from 75 to 250 years to grow, and as they are becoming more and more remote from the mills, must necessarily become more costly to procure. Think even of the cost of toting supplies back into the woods, a distance of 70 miles, the cost of which in many instances, amounts from \$50 to \$60 per ton for haulage alone!

Newspapers must accept the inevitable, as all other legitimate lines of business have done, and simply pass the cost along by increasing the price of their papers and their advertising rates. The newspaper has become a public necessity—no one will do without it to-day, and papers will sell just the same, whether the price is, 2, 3, or 5 cents per copy. And when the paper mills are forced to use some annual crop as a substitute for trees in making paper (which time is not far distant) paper instead of costing 4 cents per pound will cost 24 cents or more. So far as the American publishers are concerned, it is of course immaterial to them whether newsprint comes from Canada or the United States, so long as they are assured of a paper supply while the trees last.

When the public begins to realize that this timber, which is being cut today as if it were an annual crop, has been growing from 75 to 250 years, and the only way it can be reproduced is by re-planting, planting with the present high cost of labor amounts to a matter of \$12 to \$15 per acre, to which must be added the cost of the land, which is from \$3 to \$10 per acre, something will be done. This brings the cost per acre of these plantations of tiny little seedlings from