

THE PROGRESS OF DEPLETION IN THE UNITED STATES

822—MILLION ACRES—ORIGINAL FOREST AREA

137—MILLION ACRES PRESENT AREA VIRGIN TIMBER

26—BILLION CU. FEET—ANNUAL CUT AND DESTRUCTION

6—BILLION CU. FEET ANNUAL GROWTH

Present and Future Consumption of Lumber in U. S.

By Wm. B. Greeley, Chief Forester of the United States.

The average annual per capita consumption of lumber in the Lake States is probably not far from the average for the whole country—300 feet. Assuming a 12 per cent increase in population since 1910 (the increase for the previous decade was at the rate of 14.06 per cent), the present population of the Lake States is about 8,000,000. The total annual consumption of lumber in the three States is thus about 2,426,000,000 board feet, or 70 per cent of the lumber produced.

Comparison with the estimates of future cut above given indicates that by 1925 the local consumption will be equal to the local production, assuming no increase in population and the same per capita rate of consumption. At the end of a

decade, allowing for a 10 per cent increase in population, consumption will exceed cut by nearly 50 per cent. In other words, the per capita consumption must either fall from 300 to nearly 200 board feet per year or the Lake States must import nearly one-third of the lumber needed for home use. With each succeeding year the discrepancy between consumption and local supply will become greater. Much western fir and pine lumber is already being consumed in the Lake States, and as the local cut decreases they will depend more and more upon the far West. While an actual lumber shortage may not, therefore, be anticipated as long as the western stands hold out, the lack of a local supply will be felt in increased prices.

tounded to think that this practice of destroying the timber resources of the country could be allowed to continue and that even the Ministers appeared to be blind to the calamity of the future.

WE'LL ALL APPLAUD THIS:

Believing it to be of the utmost importance that Canadian shade trees should be saved from mutilation, the Ontario Department of Highways is carrying on an educational campaign among the wire companies in the province. Recently H. J. Moore, Highways Forester, addressed some 60 foremen and supervisors of the Bell Telephone Company in the company's auditorium in Toronto, and with lantern slides, showed the function of the trees and how they might be pruned to the best advantage.

There are several hundred men working throughout the province who are under orders to free the wires at various places, and who, through lack of education in this respect, have unwittingly ruined many fine maples. The meeting was arranged by R. A. Choquette, superintendent of construction of the western division of the Bell Telephone Company.

The Life of the Lumber Industry

By Wm. B. Greeley, Chief Forester of the United States.

At a diminishing rate of depletion due to the cutting out of one holding after another, it is estimated that the lumber cut of the U.S. Lake States at the end of the next 5 and 10 years will be about as follows:—

Estimated cut, 1925—	2,400,000,000
Present annual cut—	3,500,000,000
Estimated cut, 1930—	1,800,000,000

This represents only the production

from commercial tracts. As the commercial stands dwindle the production of lumber and other products from farm wood-lots and from second growth in swamps and cut-over areas may be expected to increase considerably in proportion to the total cut, though not in actual amount. Such lumber will be much inferior in quality to that from the commercial stands.

The Warning of Australia

The unnecessary destruction of large areas of forest in Australia is severely commented upon by Dr. Arnold Heim, a Swiss scientist and president of the Geological Society of Zurich, who is at present in Melbourne. Speaking to a press reporter he said. "I have been deeply impressed to find your most wonderful timber ruined even far away from roads and railways. The most magnificent hardwood trees of the world, each one of which would be admired in Europe and looked on as a little fortune, are shame-

lessly ringbarked, killed, and fired. This rough method might be justified for a new settlement on timbered country to prepare land for intense culture, but here it is continued in order to provide more grass for cattle and sheep." "The results of this policy were already apparent," continued the Doctor, and he had noticed it particularly north of Murrumbidgee (N.S.W.) where square miles of soil had commenced gliding towards the valleys even at an angle of seven degrees only. Dr. Heim expressed himself as as-

TRIBUTE TO THE TREE PLANTING CAR.

From: O. W. Colley, Secretary,
Castor Board of Trade,

To the Canadian Forestry Association: "I am reminded this evening in looking through my correspondence that as Secretary of the Board of Trade of Castor I have failed to thank you for sending the Tree Planting Car to Castor, August 18th. The event was well advertised and Mr. Mitchell had a splendid crowd all interested from the beginning. There must have been over 50 who could not find room in the car. Mr. Mitchell is doing splendid work, ever helpful and willing to lend a hand to beautify the town and community.