

The Forests of Newfoundland

(BRITISH RECONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE REPORT.)

Newfoundland has considerable reserves of timber, which, though under a separate Government, form part of the same Imperial question. They illustrate incidentally how rapidly forests, which at first sight seem vast, may be absorbed. The Newfoundland woods cover 10,000 square miles, but more than a third has been taken over by a single company. The produce from this area, nearly equal to the whole woodlands of Great Britain, feeds the pulp and paper mills of the Anglo-Newfoundland Development Company and supplies the requirements of four British newspapers. Newfoundland has assisted the United

Kingdom during the war with supplies of pitwood from the three-mile belt round the coast reserved by the Colonial Government for the use of the Colony and not ordinarily available for export except in the form of pulp. Labrador, which is a dependency of Newfoundland, is believed to have considerable resources in timber suitable for pulpwood and pitwood.

India, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand are already importers of soft woods, and no relief with regard to future supplies, but rather the contrary, may be expected from those quarters.

French Lecturers do Excellent Work

The educational propaganda of the Canadian Forestry Association this year has taken an unusually practical turn. The aim has been to carry the educational work directly to the door of the settler in timbered districts in an effort to reduce the annual harvest of settlers' fires. It has been proved abundantly that no system of mechanical equipment such as patrolmen, fire towers, telephone lines, etc., is more than half complete in itself and must fail in its objects if the human material responsible for causing the fires is not brought into an intelligent and sympathetic relation towards the whole forest protection enterprise.

Mr. A. H. Beaubien, a talented French speaker with personal knowledge of Quebec conditions in the timbered areas, was engaged by the Forestry Association to hold public meetings covering three weeks in the territory of the Ottawa River Forest Protective Association which embraces twenty million acres. Mr. Beaubien held his first meeting at Ferme Neuve near Mont Laurier, Quebec, on Tuesday, May 7th, il-

lustrating his address with a large number of excellent lantern slides. Mr. Beaubien's route was confined almost wholly to the country settlements, particularly the newer parishes where the greatest need exists for educational activities. At all of Mr. Beaubien's meetings every auditor is presented with reading material which further emphasizes the common sense of being careful with clearing fires. Co-operation of the parish priests and influential local men was secured in advance, the lectures being well advertised by printed matter and by the announcements at the church services.

It is expected that two additional French lecturers will be made available for Central and Eastern Quebec through the co-operation of the Department of Lands and Forests of Quebec.

Mr. J. A. Doucet concluded a three weeks' tour of Northern New Brunswick on behalf of the Canadian Forestry Association, where his public lectures on forest protection were a pronounced success. Large audiences were secured, in one instance