

to assume, has increased at the rate indicated by the later years prior to 1900, namely, by around three hundred thousand tons per year, so that now at least twenty million tons are called for from outside by these wood consumers. It is, of course, to be understood that this imported material represents mainly lumber and other sizeable material, which translated into feet B. M. may be figured as round fifteen billion feet. The principal wood consumers are Great Britain, Germany and France.

Great Britain imports practically her entire wood consumption, her imports having increased from nearly six million tons around 1880 to over ten million tons in 1900, and are now probably over twelve million tons worth not less than \$130,000,000. Unfortunately the situation of Great Britain as regards values are entirely unreliable, the values being declarations of the importers, I understand, hence by no means market values.

Germany, with her eighty-seven million inhabitants, comes next. In spite of her careful forestry, which enables her to cut fifteen million tons annually without diminishing her stock, which until 1863, made her appear still among the exporters, she imported in 1880 over one million tons, and in 1900 her imports had grown to 4,600,000 tons, one-third of her consumption, valued at \$77,000,000.

France, producing herself over four million tons, is a small third consumer, and here we have the somewhat curious anomaly of decreasing imports, for her importations fell from nearly forty million dollars and three million tons in 1880 to 1,230,000 tons or fifteen million dollars in 1900, which argues, in part, decadence in her industries, and improvement of her own forest production in part.

Belgium is a close fourth consumer to France, with over one million tons net import in 1900, the rest of Europe needing hardly two million tons. Altogether, we find, then, that a present average requirement of, say, twenty million tons, or in the neighborhood of one thousand million cubic feet, must be made up to these people from somewhere, in addition to their home production of twenty-five million tons, if they are to maintain their present industrial position, as far as wood is concerned.

Assuming, as these figures indicate, a consumption of thirteen cubic feet of timber per capita as a basis on which we could figure the needs of a modern civilized people, the consumption of timber by the three hundred and eighty million people of Europe may be set down as at least five billion cubic feet to be supplied from a forest area of eight hundred million acres. This would not be at all an impossibility if the whole area were economically managed, but, since hardly one-half of the area is under management, and especially that of the exporting countries is lacking in such management, the time will soon