

"We recognize as natural resources all materials available for the use of man as means of life and welfare, including those on the surface of the earth, like the soil and the waters; those below the surface, like the minerals; and those above the surface, like the forests. We agree that these resources should be developed, used and conserved for the future in the interests of mankind, whose rights and duties to guard and control the natural sources of life and welfare are inherent, perpetual, and indefeasible. We agree that those resources which are necessities of life should be regarded as public utilities, that their ownership entails specific duties to the public, and that as far as possible effective measures should be adopted to guard against monopoly.

USE AND MANAGEMENT OF FORESTS.

"We recognize that the forests are indispensable to civilization and public welfare. They furnish material for construction and manufacture, and promote the habitability of the earth. We regard the wise use, effective protection, especially from fire, and prompt renewal of the forests on land best adapted to such use, as a public necessity and hence a public duty devolving upon all forest owners alike, whether public, corporate or individual.

FOREST RESERVES.

"We consider the creation of many and large forest reservations and their permanent maintenance under Government control absolutely essential to the public welfare.

FOREST INVENTORIES.

"We favor the early completion of inventories of forest resources, in order to ascertain the available supply and the rate of consumption and reproduction.

FORESTRY EDUCATION.

"We recommend the extension of technical education and practical field instruction in forest conservation, afforestation, and reforestation, so as to provide efficient forest officers whose knowledge will be available for necessary public information on these subjects.

FOREST TAXATION.

"Believing that excessive taxation on standing timber privately owned is a potent cause of forest destruction by increasing the cost of maintaining growing forests, we agree in the wisdom and justice of separating the taxation of timber land from the taxation of the timber growing upon it, and adjusting