

The Possibilities of Co-operation between
the Forest Products Laboratories of Canada and McGill University.

1. The Importance of the F.P.L. as a technological institution.

- (a) Forest products, as a national resource, are second in importance to agriculture only.
- (b) Some of the largest Canadian industries (e.g., lumber, pulp, paper, building, wood-products etc.) are dependent upon forest products for their chief raw materials.
- (c) Canada is the largest timber and pulp producing country within the British Empire.
- (d) The world is using wood faster than ever before and much faster than it can be grown. The proper utilization of wood is one means of counteracting the inevitable shortage.
- (e) Very little scientific study has been devoted to wood as compared with other materials.
- (f) The F.P.L. have valuable equipment for scientific and technical research into wood and wood-products. They have instruments for investigating the chemical and physical nature of woods, machines for testing the strength of timbers, plant for methods of preserving timber, plant and apparatus for making pulp and a fine paper machine specially arranged for experimental work. A library of books and periodicals relating to the utilization of forest products is kept abreast of the world's knowledge of such subjects.

The staff is familiar with the problems offered by the work and have now some experience in dealing with them.