

FORESTRY AND THE PUBLIC WELFARE

A SERIES of papers was read before the American Philosophical Society at its autumn general meeting on November 17, 1944, and has since been published in a Symposium on Forestry and the Public Welfare, *Proc. Amer. Phil. Soc.*, 89, No. 2, July 18, 1945. (Lancaster Press Inc., Lancaster, Pa.). The titles of the papers presented indicate of themselves the importance of this meeting, at which a whole session was devoted to the subject.

Perhaps one of the most interesting papers, historically and to the general public, is the last one printed, entitled "The American Philosophical Society and the Early History of Forestry in America", by Prof. Gilbert Chinard, of Princeton University. This paper occupies half this issue of the *Proceedings*, and cannot be dealt with here; it merits a review to itself. The other papers are: "Forests in Relation to Soil and Water", by Raphael Zon, Lake States Forest Experiment Station; "Wood in the National Economy", by Carlile P. Winslow, Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture; "World-wide Needs of Woods as a Land Conservation Crop", by W. C. Lowdermilk, Soil Conservation Service; "America's Role in Meeting World Timber Needs", by E. I. Kotok, U.S. Forest Service; "Forest Conservation; A Task in Engineering and in Public and Private Co-operation", by Wilson Compton, National Lumber Manufacturers Association; "Public Control of Cutting Practices on Private Timberlands", by Joseph F. Kaylor, Maryland State forester; "The Role of Federal, State, and Local Governments in Promoting Forestry", by John D. Black, Harvard University. These papers are by well-known authors in their several subjects, and cover, or very nearly cover, the whole business and research work connected with forestry. The theme underlying Zon's paper is introduced in his opening paragraph: "The entire philosophy of the role of the forest is based on the ability of the forest to prolong the water cycle from its inception as falling precipitation to its final disposal as runoff into streams and oceans. The longer the water is retained on the land, the greater is its usefulness in nurturing crops and trees, in maintaining a regular supply of water in streams, and in preventing the soil from washing. Simple as this relationship is, yet so many are the factors which play related parts in this influence, so great is the difficulty of observing them with precision, and so wide the range of economic interests affected, that considerable divergence of opinion still exists on the subject."

The following extract from Winslow's "Wood in the National Economy" is a war record of considerable value. "During this modern War," he says, "as in all past wars, wood has proved indispensable. The normal peace-time production of wood products has been radically curtailed in spite of the staggering total of thirty-seven billion board feet of lumber consumption in 1943. Wood has quartered, transported, and gone into munitions for our troops throughout the world. We are all aware of the vast quantities of lumber going into the construction of military buildings. However, it is likely that few comprehend fully the list of wood items demanded by war's insatiable appetite: wood for hangars, scaffolding, boats, wharves, bridges, pontoons, railway ties, telephone poles, mine props, anti-tank barriers,

shoring, shipping containers, and air-raid shelters; plywood for airplanes, blackout shutters, pre-fabricated housing, concrete forms, ship patterns, assault boats, ship interiors, truck bodies, and army lockers; fuel for gasolines, for trucks and tractors; pulp and paper for surgical dressings, boxes, cartridge wrappers, building papers, pasteboards, military maps, laminated plastics, gas-mask filters, printing, and propaganda distribution; synthetic wood fibers, such as in rayon, artificial wool and cotton, for clothing, parachutes, and other textiles; wood cellulose for explosives; wood charcoal for gas masks and steel production; rosin for shrapnel and varnishes; turpentine for flame throwers, paint, and varnishes; cellulose acetate for photographic film, shatterproof glass, airplane dopes, lacquer, cement, and molded articles; wood flour for dynamite; wood bark for insulation, tannin, and dyestuffs; and sugar from wood for cattle feed and alcohol for explosives and rubber.

"The amount of lumber used for containers for war material this year [1943] is more than sixteen billion board feet, or approximately one-half of the total volume of our lumber production.

"Long suffering in past years from the encroachment of competitive materials, wood has become the wartime champion substitute of all time. National security demands that it always be available."

The other papers provide an important contribution to forestry literature, more especially those by Lowdermilk on "World-wide Needs of Woods as a Land Conservation Crop", and Wilson Compton's "Forest Conservation: A Task in Engineering and in Public and Private Co-operation".

APPOINTMENTS VACANT

APPLICATIONS are invited for the following appointments on or before the dates mentioned:

TEACHERS (2, full-time) OF PHYSICS AND MATHEMATICS, at the South-East London Technical Institute, Lewisham Way, S.E.4—The Education Officer (T.1), County Hall, London, S.E.1 (August 17).

DIRECTOR—The Secretary, British Pottery Research Association, Federation House, Stoke-on-Trent (August 17).

PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY, a PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION, a LECTURER IN CHEMISTRY, and a LECTURER IN ENGLISH, at Raffles College, Singapore—The Secretary, Universities Bureau of the British Empire, 24 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1 (August 23).

SENIOR LECTURER IN AGRICULTURAL BACTERIOLOGY—The Registrar, The University, Leeds 2 (August 24).

LECTURER (Grade II) or ASSISTANT LECTURER (Grade III) IN GEOGRAPHY—The Secretary, The University, Edmund Street, Birmingham 3 (August 24).

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF (a) CHEMISTRY, (b) ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, (c) WIRELESS ENGINEERING, at the Military College of Science—The Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1, quoting No. 1577 (August 26).

HEAD OF THE ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, a HEAD OF THE APPLIED OPTICS DEPARTMENT, and a HEAD OF THE APPLIED CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT—The Secretary, Northampton Polytechnic, St. John Street, London, E.C.1 (August 26).

PRINCIPAL LECTURERS, SENIOR LECTURERS, and LECTURERS, permanent and temporary, IN BALLISTICS, CHEMISTRY, APPLIED CHEMISTRY, ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING, HEAT ENGINES, INSTRUMENTS, MACHINES, MATERIALS AND STRUCTURES, MATHEMATICS, MECHANICS, METALLURGY, PHYSICS, RADAR AND TELECOMMUNICATION, at the Military College of Science, Shrivenham, Swindon, Wilts.—The Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Burlington Gardens, London, W.1, quoting No. 1575 (August 26).

LECTURER-IN-CHARGE, TEXTILE DEPARTMENT, Technical Education Branch, New South Wales—The Acting Official Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices, 125 Strand, London, W.C.2 (August 30).

COMPUTERS (2, with Degree in either Mathematics or Physics with Mathematics preferably of Hons. standard) for the Survey, Lands and Mines Department, Uganda—The Ministry of Labour and National Service, Technical and Scientific Register, Room 572, York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2, quoting A.218 (August 31).

LECTURER-IN-CHARGE, PRODUCTION ENGINEERING, Technical Education Branch, New South Wales—The Acting Official Secretary, New South Wales Government Offices, 125 Strand, London, W.C.2 (August 31).

HEAD OF THE MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT, and a SENIOR ASSISTANT TEACHER in the ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT, at the South-East London Technical Institute, Lewisham Way, S.E.4—The Education Officer (T.1), County Hall, London, S.E.1 (August 31).