and marketing of indigenous timbers striking evidence was given of
the coming of age of the exotic wood industry.

Those responsible for the Conference organisation deserve high
praise for its efficient operation.

RADIATA PINE

The development of major industries, dependent wholly or sub-
stantially on radiata pine as a basic raw material, is well advanced.
The official opening at Kinleith in February 1954, of the integrated
sawmill, pulp mill and paper mill saw the fruition of the development
plans of New Zealand’s largest private forest owner, Forest Products
Limited. Construction of the Tasman Pulp and Paper Company’s
integrated plant is in progress at Kawerau, Bay of Plenty, scheduled
to commence production in 1955. Known as the Murupara Project,
raw material for this plant will be obtained from part of Kaingaroa
Forest, New Zealand’s largest state exotic forest. Other wood using
industries, state and private, dependent on raw material from exotic
forests have been operating in the Rotorua-Bay of Plenty District
for some years. Thus within a radius of fifty miles of Rotorua will
be concentrated a heavy capital investment in industrial plant de-
pendent for its raw material on exotic forests within the area—from
forests in which radiata pine is a major component, forests repre-
senting two-thirds of New Zealand’s exotic forest resource.

Foresters may perhaps be forgiven for thinking that the easy
task has been the development of these exotic forests and forest
industries. The difficult task lies ahead—the maintenance of these
forests on a sustained yield basis and in a healthy and vigorous
condition. Only by the adoption of sound silvicultural practice and
thorough research into the early detection and control of tree diseases
can this task be accomplished.

OBITUARY.—W. S. Anderson

It is with the greatest regret that we have to record the acci-
dental death on 27th February 1954 of W. S. Anderson. “Stewart”
had been an Associate Member of our institute since 1947 and was an
active member of the Rotorua Section. He first became known to
many of our older members when he took charge of planting oper-
ations in the Pukahunui Block of Whakatane Board Mills Ltd. in
1928. He continued supervising planting on their Matahina Block
in 1931. Later still he superintended thinning operations for his
company on Matakana Island. In 1943 he returned to Matahina to
take charge of clear felling in the Radiata Pine stands he had planted
twelve years earlier. “Stewart” was a big man in the truest and
best sense of the word and was well known for the hospitality extended
to many of our members on their visits to Matahina. Our deepest
sympathy in their bereavement goes out to Mrs. Anderson, her
daughter and two sons, one of whom is a trainee with the Forest
Service.

DEVELOPMENT IN OUR EXOTIC FORESTS
(PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS BY G. H. HOCKING)

More than half of New Zealand's exotic forest estate lies within
50 miles of Rotorua. So it seems an appropriate place to take stock
of our exotic forests, see in what ways they are unsatisfactory and
how their shortcomings can be remedied. I do not presume to don
the prophet's mantle or offer a panacea but in all trepidation make
some suggestions in the hope of drawing forth other views.

THE PRESENT POSITION

The history of our exotic forests must be fairly well known to
you all. I do not propose to go over in detail the ground which has
been well covered in recent years by Foster (1) in his paper to the 1947
Empire Forestry Conference and by Kennedy (2) at our 1951 Annual
Meeting, but only to repeat the salient features necessary to an
appreciation of the present.

The figures below are not quite up to date but are sufficiently
accurate for our present purpose:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Acres</th>
<th>Per cent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State forests</td>
<td>470,000</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company forests</td>
<td>310,000</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other forests</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>880,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foster has distinguished three phases in the planting of State
forests; bringing his figures up to 1951 these are:
(1) 1898-1922 46,700 acres: first period of intensive forestry.
(2) 1923-1936 376,500 acres: period of intensive forestry.
(3) Since 1937 45,500 acres to 1951: second period of intensive
forestry

468-700

Nearly all the 310,000 acres of company forests fall within the
second period. The 100,000 acres of forests of all other ownerships
are very varied in kind and age; perhaps half should be disregarded
in considering production.

The characteristics of the exotic forests can best be considered
under the three main periods mentioned above.

PERIOD OF INTENSIVE STATE FORESTRY, 1898-1922

A wide range of species, mainly European, was planted with
high standards of establishment and high initial stocking. While