

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 substantially 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 dependent for its raw material on exotic forests within the area—from forests in which radiata pine is a major component, forests representing 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 accidental 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 operations 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 :

	Acres	Per cent
State forests ...	470,000	53
Company forests ...	310,000	35
Other forests ...	100,000	12
	880,000	100

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