

SCIENCE

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1921.

<i>The Present Situation in Forestry with special reference to State Forestry</i> : PROFESSOR J. W. TOUMEY.....	559
<i>Occurrence of Pleistocene Vertebrates in an Asphalt Deposit near McKittrick, California</i> : DR. JOHN C. MERRIAM AND DR. CHESTER STOCK.....	566
<i>Special Oil-immersion Objectives for Dark-field Microscopy</i> : PROFESSOR SIMON H. GAGE....	567
<i>The International Geological Congress Committee</i>	569
Scientific Events:	
<i>Molding Sand Research; The Bayard Dominick Marquesan Expedition; Lectures by Professor Lorentz at the California Institute of Technology; The Secretaryship of Sigma Xi</i>	570
<i>Scientific Notes and News</i>	573
<i>University and Educational News</i>	575
Discussion and Correspondence:	
<i>An English Translation of Helmholtz's "Optik"</i> : PROFESSOR JAMES P. C. SOUTHWALL. <i>The American Society of Naturalists</i> : DR. HENRY FAIRFIELD OSBORN. <i>The Program of the Section of Botany for the Toronto Meeting</i> : DR. ROBERT B. WYLIE. <i>The Twentieth International Congress of Americanists</i> : DR. ALES HRDLICKA. <i>Fossil Man from Rhodesia</i> : PROFESSOR GEORGE GRANT MACCURDY.....	575
Scientific Books:	
<i>MacLeod on Physiology and Biochemistry in Modern Medicine</i> : DR. J. C. AUB. <i>Stensjö on Triassic Fishes from Spitzbergen</i> : DR. ROY L. MOODIE.....	577
Special Articles:	
<i>Inhibitory Effect of Dermal Secretion of the Sea-urchin upon the Fertilizability of the Egg</i> : DR. HIROSHI OHSHIMA. <i>Simple Method of Bleeding Rabbits</i> : DR. GEORGE F. FORSTER. <i>Adsorption by Soil Colloids</i> : DR. NEIL E. GORDON AND R. C. WILEY.....	578
<i>The American Chemical Society</i> : DR. CHARLES L. PARSONS.....	582
<i>The American Mathematical Society</i> : PROFESSOR R. G. D. RICHARDSON.....	584

THE PRESENT SITUATION IN FORESTRY, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO STATE FORESTRY¹

No nation can prosper or even exist in comfort without wood, without a considerable supply of relatively inexpensive timber. Three years ago our per capita annual consumption of wood was about 300 board feet, exclusive of large quantities used for fuel, paper and a multitude of other purposes. It is extremely difficult for our minds to picture what this means in total volume or amount when multiplied by 110 million, our present population. Each year we remove from our forests or destroy through forest fires about 56 billion board feet of timber large enough to saw into lumber. This almost incomprehensible amount of wood disappears from our forests every year. Much of it we need and use, and can not very well get along without. On the other hand much of it is destroyed by fire. The latter is not only a great immediate economic loss and waste, but also an encroachment on supplies that will be very much needed in the immediate future.

As a nation we have grown to our present stature on a lavish diet of wood. We use more wood than any other nation on earth. Our industries would stop, our very civilization stagnate were we suddenly deprived of our wood supply. Wood the world over is a basic resource. It is almost the first resource to be exploited and utilized in the development of a new country. Moreover, it is the resource that makes possible the utilization of other resources. There is scarcely an industry that can prosper without wood. Agriculture, transportation and commerce as we know them to-day are inconceivable without wood. All of us are daily in contact with wood wrought into some form for our comfort or necessity. From

¹ An address delivered in the School of Citizenship, Yale University, Wednesday, October 26.

Science

54 (1406)

Science **54** (1406), 559-584.

ARTICLE TOOLS

<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/54/1406.citation>

PERMISSIONS

<http://www.sciencemag.org/help/reprints-and-permissions>

Use of this article is subject to the [Terms of Service](#)

Science (print ISSN 0036-8075; online ISSN 1095-9203) is published by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1200 New York Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20005. 2017 © The Authors, some rights reserved; exclusive licensee American Association for the Advancement of Science. No claim to original U.S. Government Works. The title *Science* is a registered trademark of AAAS.