

knee. About a year or so later it gets shorter, and finally dies out, and the land grows a crop of rubbish. There is no body in the soil; and not only that, the underlying pumice makes the whole thing so friable that the stock tear it off the face of the earth. Most of the country is very rough, and a lot of it should never be deforested. We must preserve a lot of our bush or our climate is going to suffer, and the rough country like the Urewera is the part we should keep intact as far as the forest is concerned. There is no doubt, in my opinion, that New Zealand will sooner or later have to grow her own timber entirely—judging from what is taking place in other parts of the world. Such country as the Urewera is natural forest country—and much of it suitable for nothing else.”—*Star*.

Relative to the foregoing subject the following has been supplied to us as being appropriate to the occasion:—“The people who originally put the little green splashes on the map of New Zealand appear to have held that all that area of mountain top, which contains no millable timber, which produces no revenue, which will never produce revenue, which will not carry more than one goat to 20 acres, and which nobody has or is likely to ever have any use for, shall be known hereafter as ‘State Forest.’ It is no doubt easy to argue that such country could be State forest for climatic, scenic, soil-protection, river and water preservation, etc., reasons. On the other hand any tract of land clothed in forest of sufficient value to produce a little revenue, must, according to their lights, be earmarked a land for settlement, and when, with the assistance of fire and axe, the forest is no more (and the hill sides have slipped into the valleys, and the floods and droughts have ruined the countryside), the settler (?), having succeeded in making ‘one blade of grass grow where two trees grew before,’ buys a motor-car from the proceeds of the sale of the timber and moves on to the next bit of bush.”

The Rev. J. H. Simmonds, the well-known forestry expert, is at present on a visit to Australia. Writing to Mr. R. Reynolds, Cambridge, a few days ago, Mr. Simmonds stated that he had “done” Tasmania and Victoria, and was moving on to New South Wales. It was in the quiet valleys of the back country, where there was plenty of rain, that one saw gigantic trees, and plenty of them; but the sawmills are busy, and the day cannot be far distant when nearly all parts of the original bush will be cut out. Other forests are coming on, said Mr. Simmonds, but in them the trees will be smaller. One of the main objects of Mr. Simmonds’ visit is to find out what are the best trees suitable for growing in New Zealand, and how seed can be secured from the original sources, true to name, and of the best strains.—*Waikato Independent*.

From the first of a series of most interesting articles on “Forestry” by R. R. Macgregor, Ph.D., F.R.I.A., appearing in the *Waikato Times*, but which is too long to print in full, we cull the following, which will be of interest to timber men:

“... with the industrial development of the present age, we find that the consumption of timber far exceeds Nature’s rate of production, and the consequence is that the available timber supplies are diminishing with startling rapidity. Great Britain consumes timber to the extent of over £100,000 each day of the year. At present for the coniferous timbers used for railway work, for mining, and for building and general structural purposes, England now produces only about 2 per cent. of the amount consumed. In New Zealand we have good timber land, many millions of acres of it, quite unfit for agriculture, but ideal for forest, now lying more or less waste. We must afforest it, and as mistakes with a crop which takes from half a century to a century to mature are apt to be costly, we cannot afford to adopt slipshod rule-of-thumb methods...” (It might be stated here that New Zealand’s timber import is of nearly the same value as her timber export, the former consisting chiefly of eucalypts, iron bark and jarrah from Australia, and coniferous timber from U.S.A., Canada and Baltic countries.)

By the courtesy of the State Forest Service we have received the first two copies of “Te Karere o Tane,” the monthly newsletter issued by the personnel of that Department. It is bright and interestingly written, and, though mainly devoted to matters of purely Departmental and personal interest to the staff, it still contains much that is of especial interest to timbermen, and several items culled from it have already appeared in the daily Press. Among these latter is the following rather important ruling upon the matter of “Forest Reserves”:

#### FOREST RESERVES.

##### POSITION AS TO CONTROL.

The first issue of “Te Karere o Tane,” the interesting monthly newsletter issued by the personnel of the State Forest Service of New Zealand, says:—

“An opinion of great interest to this service was recently given by the Crown Law Office. It is, in effect, that all ‘forest reserves,’ ‘timber reserves,’ ‘bush reserves,’ ‘reserves for the growth and preservation of timber,’ and ‘forest plantation reserves,’ made under any Land Act prior to August 4th, 1908, are now under the control of the service, and not under the Lands Department, as was generally thought to be the case. This important ruling will result in an area of approximately a quarter of a million acres being placed under forest service control. Steps are now being taken to secure an accurate list of these reserves, and it is hoped that shortly each con-