

THIS WEEK'S OUTLOOK

A WEEKLY OUTLINE STUDY OF CURRENT HISTORY¹

BY J. MADISON GATHANY

SCARBOROUGH SCHOOL, SCARBOROUGH-ON-HUDSON, N. Y.

America's Forests; The Tree Crop

IN this issue Mr. Pack, Mr. Allen, Mr. Driggs, and The Outlook all write about one of our indispensable natural resources—our forests.

For what reasons has the conservation of our forests not received proper attention in the past? What are forest reserves? Where are such reserves located in the United States? How are they managed?

What can you tell of the efforts of President Roosevelt and of Gifford Pinchot towards the solution of our forest problem? Can you name any other Americans who have been or are vitally interested in this question?

Is your own State doing anything to promote forest conservation and to assist the people in the planting and the care of trees? If so, tell what is being done.

Have we a National forestry policy? What points would you emphasize in outlining a forestry policy?

Explain carefully the following terms: *Natural resources, corrals, sacrosanct, arboreal, primeval.*

The question of the conservation of our natural resources is discussed in the following books: "Foundations of National Prosperity," by R. T. Ely (Macmillan); "United States Forest Policy," by J. Ise (Yale University Press); "Conservation Reader," by H. W. Fairbanks (World Book Co.).

The Jew-Eaters; Anti-Jewish Propaganda

What explanation does Miss Moravsky give as to why the Jews have been objects of hatred in Russia? Does this seem to you to be a satisfactory explanation?

If you were asked to sign a protest against anti-Jewish propaganda in the United States, what reasons would you give for signing the protest or refusing to sign it?

One daily editor tells us that the Jews in America "have prospered and have taken a great part in the making of the Republic." What facts are there in our history which you would use in support of this editorial comment?

There are those who believe that giving publicity to the campaign against the Jews in America will do more harm than good. One point brought out by these critics is that such notice will make a National issue out of what is now mostly imagination. Do, or do you not, agree with these critics?

Can you give any illustrations from

¹ These questions and comments are designed not only for the use of current events classes and clubs, debating societies, teachers of history and English, and the like, but also for discussion in the home and for suggestions to any reader who desires to study current affairs as well as to read about them.—The Editors.

American history which tend to show that "ideas and feelings survive the facts of which they were born"?

Define these expressions: *Jews, Hebrews, pogroms, imperialistic, intelligenzia, propaganda, insidious, prejudice.*

The First Real Test of Mr. Harding

How many members has the President's Cabinet? How do they receive their positions? What are the chief functions of the Cabinet?

What principles do you think should guide President-elect Harding in the selection of his Cabinet?

Is a President-elect entirely free to select whom he wishes for his Cabinet? Is Mr. Harding's measure of freedom of choice greater than was President Wilson's when he was President-elect?

Why is the position of Secretary of State generally considered the premier post in the Cabinet? What are the chief duties attached to this office?

What is meant by The Outlook's statement, "The payment of political debts through placement in high office"? Is such practice always to be condemned? Do you know of any of our Presidents who have paid political debts in this way? If so, what were the results?

We have taken the word "cabinet" from the British. What distinction should be noted between their Cabinet and ours?

What conditions and opportunities, in your opinion, should make it possible for Mr. Harding to carry on a genuinely constructive administration?

If you are looking for some valuable books on American Government, read "The State and the Nation," by E. Jenks (Dutton); "School Civics," by F. D. Boynton (Ginn & Co.); "American Government," by F. A. Magruder (Allyn & Bacon).

Buying up Slums

What do you know of the services rendered by Toynbee Hall?

Have we similar institutions in the United States? If so, compare their management and activities with those of Toynbee Hall.

Mrs. Barnett is quoted on page 147 of this issue as saying, "In the wider sense, home-making is neglected in the United States." If true, this is a very serious charge. Is it true?

Do you know of reasons why American cities should not build homes? What reasons can you give for spending public money for this purpose?

One of the points in the ten-point financial creed of the Y. M. C. A. is "Build a Home." Does home-owning tend to steady one's economic and political views? What other benefits of owning one's home can you name?

CONTRIBUTORS' GALLERY



(C) Harris & Ewing

JAMES P. MUNROE is Vice-Chairman of the Federal Board for Vocational Education. He is President of the Munroe Felt and Paper Company, of Boston. He is President of the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and managing editor of the "Technology Review."

He is the author of numerous books, including "The Educational Ideal," "Adventures of an Army Nurse," and "The New England Conscience." His home is in Boston.

CHARLES LATHROP PACK is President of the American Forestry Association. He lives in Lakewood, New Jersey. For a generation he has been a practical forester and a pioneer in forestry reform. He began his work as a lumberman in Michigan, and has been the owner of large tracts of timberland in the United States and Canada. He was President of the Fifth National Conservation Congress. During the late war he formed and maintained the National War Garden Commission, more than trebling the number of individual gardens in America and increasing by at least half a billion dollars the country's revenue from gardens.

MARIA MORAVSKY contributed "Uplifting the Clown" and "The Subway, Elevated, and Airplane from a Sentimental Point of View" to recent issues of The Outlook. She came to the United States in 1917 as a newspaper correspondent. Her first story was published in "Harper's Monthly." Edward J. O'Brien mentioned it as one of the best short stories of the year in his volume for 1919. "I was very glad to be thus adopted into the family of American writers," says Miss Moravsky. Her first essay was published in the "Atlantic Monthly" in 1918.

P. W. WILSON was a member of the British House of Commons from 1905 to 1910, on the Liberal side; for seven more years he occupied a seat in the Press Gallery in Parliament. He is now American correspondent of the London "Daily News." He was born in 1875. As an undergraduate of Cambridge he took mathematical honors, was editor of the University magazine, the "Granta," and was President of the Cambridge Union Society, the chief undergraduate debating club. He has contributed frequently to the London "Truth," "Blackwood's," the "Contemporary," "Fortnightly," and "Guardian." He is the author of the following books: "The Christ We Forget" and "The Unmaking of Europe."

LAURENCE LA TOURETTE DRIGGS revives in this issue his fiction hero, Arnold Adair, who has already figured in various exciting narratives in The Outlook.

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The Outlook has for many years helped its readers to dispose of property through small advertisements in these special numbers. The cost of space is only 60 cents a line.

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GUARDING THE NATION'S WOOD-LOT

BY E. T. ALLEN

FORESTER, NATIONAL LUMBER MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

FOR at least three decades public attention has been called to the dangerous diminution of American forest resources. It is estimated that three-fifths of our original timber supply is gone. We are using the remainder much faster than it is being replaced. Over half is on the Pacific coast, distant from the main consuming regions. The total is estimated at 2,215,000,000 feet board measure, while we are using and burning 56,000,000,000 feet a year.

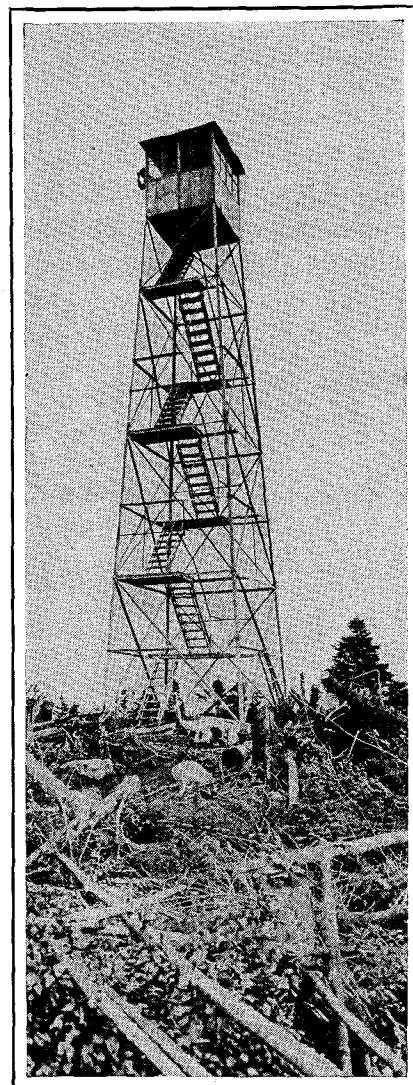
Depletion is not confined to saw timber. We have long since ceased to be self-supporting in news-print paper and now import two-thirds of our supply, although this is partly due to neglect of Western resources. Turpentine and resin production has fallen off fifty per cent. Great wood-using industries are finding their local supplies low and cannot move readily to Western fields. They will do so to a considerable extent, with less danger of being again stranded because by reason of climate, rapid-growing species, and natural reproduction the Western forests are destined to be the Nation's great permanent wood-lot; but without help this will be an overtaxed wood-lot and it will always suffer transportation handicaps. Being mostly coniferous, it offers small solution to the hardwood problem, the most serious of all from the replacement view-point.

The trouble does not lie in the use of our forest resources, but in not using our forest-growing land to replace them. We have 326,000,000 acres of cut-over lands, to which we are adding 5,000,000 acres a year by fire and cutting. Much is restocking satisfactorily, but much is not, while 81,000,000 acres are said to have practically no new forest growth. If kept producing to anything like its capacity, this enormous area, largely useless for other purposes, might together with our uncut areas supply us amply and permanently. It is not being so kept, mainly because of fire, tax laws penalizing private forest growing, and ignorance generally of the whole story of forest reproduction.

Forest fires are being combated to an increasing extent, especially on the Pacific coast, where in 1919 private owners alone spent \$1,000,000 in highly organized effort in co-operation with States and Government; but hazard also grows with human population and activity, so the struggle is like that of armor-plate with ordnance. The damage remains appalling beyond the comprehension of the lay population. As Colonel Greeley, Chief Forester for the United States, points out, accomplishment in timber production will long be measured by the reduction of fire loss, because every other factor is insignificant in comparison. Incomplete records for 1919 show 27,000 fires and 8,500,000 acres burned over. Millions of acres were burned without record.

However we may advocate other forestry steps, they seem inconsistent before we safeguard either our merchantable timber or the one hundred and thirty million odd acres of restocking land, which alone can bridge the gap until there is adjustment to a sustained yield.

This tremendous National resource of potential forest land that might take care of our wants is largely wasted, not through any one's deliberate selfishness, but because neither private nor public action has had opportunity to proceed in an intelligent, comprehensive way. The necessity of preventing "timber famine" has been preached until unquestioned by the veriest school-child. Yet for the first time in its history, after years of agitation and controversy, and although it is the greatest wood-using and wood-selling nation, the United States seems now within measurable distance of an American forest policy which permits the private, State, and Federal agencies involved to take the



(C) Keystone

A STEEL OBSERVATION TOWER ON MOUNT ADAMS, IN NEW YORK STATE