

PREFACE.

REVIEW OF PERIOD 1919–1936.

THE outstanding features of the past seventeen years are:—

- (1) The control by the State Forest Service in 1936 of 7,910,172 acres of forest land, as compared with 1,654,214 acres in 1919.
- (2) The dedication as permanent State forests of 4,043,693 acres, as compared with 2,196,033 acres four years ago and 1,654,214 acres seventeen years ago.
- (3) The systematic prevention of fire losses in State forests.
- (4) The protection of Native-owned forests, securing to the Maori owner his full equity.
- (5) The planting of 385,536 acres of exotic forests.
- (6) The cleaning and underscrubbing of 23,000 acres and thinning of 12,000 acres of the earlier-planted exotic forests.
- (7) A commencement with establishment and assessment surveys, working plans, thinnings, and minor utilization projects in the older exotic forests.
- (8) The experimental underplanting of exotics in the indigenous cut-over forests.
- (9) The adoption of general working plans to regulate the cutting of kauri timber on a sustained-yield basis, and the application of similar plans to the rimu pole-type forests of Westland.
- (10) A substantial reduction in forest wastage and a marked improvement in the utilization of both exotic and indigenous timbers, by the establishment of modern timber-grading and kiln-drying practices.
- (11) Numerous demonstrations of the suitability of New-Zealand-grown timbers for creosoted posts, poles, &c., including the manufacture of pulp and paper products.

Credit for these achievements must be given not only to the State Forest Service, but also to numerous other Departments—*e.g.*, the Lands and Survey, Public Works, Internal Affairs, and Native—for valuable co-operation.

PROPOSALS FOR PERIOD 1936–1940.

A five-year programme of forest works should include the following essential features:—

- (1) Extension of fire-protection methods.
- (2) Further planting of exotics to be limited to consolidation and blanking of existing forests.
- (3) Further experimental underplanting of indigenous cut-over forests with exotics.
- (4) Placing the major kauri forests, portions of the silver-beech forests of Southland, the rimu pole-type forests of Westland, and the mixed rimu forests of the North Island under working-plan management, and substituting log sales for block sales of standing timber wherever practicable.