

analysis of the ash shows it to be rich in titanium, a character common to the few examples yet analyzed of the basaltic volcanic rocks of Iceland, the Færoes, and Greenland.

UTILIZATION OF THE FORESTS OF ALASKA

COLONEL W. B. GREELEY, the new chief forester of the United States, has returned from a month's inspection of the timber, water power and national resources of Alaska. In an interview in the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* he is reported to have said:

Alaska has more than 100,000,000 cords of pulp wood. The territory has sufficient timber resources to produce 1,500,000 tons of paper annually. The Alaska Pulp and Paper Company, comprising California interests, is now constructing the first pulp plant at Port Snettisham, in southeastern Alaska. This mill will be supplied with 100,000,000 feet of timber just purchased from the Forest Service and is probably the forerunner of a large pulp and newspaper factory at that point.

In addition to the vast pulp resources of Alaska, Puget Sound offers splendid opportunity for at least six large pulp and paper mills. There are frequent inquiries of the Federal Forest Department for pulp wood concessions in this state. Even at the present time there is enough or would be enough wood of inferior quality cut in logging camps to support a large local paper industry here.

Establishment of such an industry on Puget Sound would be a great accomplishment from the standpoint of practical conservation—it would afford a market for inferior woods now being wasted in logging camps already established. In addition, there are large areas of hemlock and spruce and balsam on the Olympic Peninsula and in the Snoqualmie national forest. The entire forestry industry of the United States is moving westward, and with it is coming the paper industry.

Alaska contains 100,000,000 cords of pulpwood. She has the resources to produce 1,500,000 tons of paper yearly. That is nearly a third of the paper used in the United States, an amount nearly equal to what we are now compelled to import from Canada. With reasonable care, under the methods followed by the Forest Service, this output can be kept up from the national forests of Alaska perpetually. There is a real solution of the paper shortage.

A few years ago we heard much about the inferior character of the forests in Alaska. As a matter of fact, aside from enormous quantities of good pulpwood and serviceable construction timber, the territory probably contains the largest quantity of clear, high-grade spruce to be found in the United States.

During the war this spruce passed every test for airplane construction, and it is now being shipped to the eastern states in increasing quantities for car and factory stock and high-grade finish. One of the things we shall accomplish by bringing the paper industry into Alaska will be to open up her thousands of miles of coastal forests and make available a much larger supply of special products like cedar, clear spruce and long piling.

THE INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL CONFERENCE

THE third session of the International Chemical Conference met at Rome, June 21 to 25, with Professor Charles Moureu, member of the Institute of France, as president. According to the account of the *Journal of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry* the program began with the meeting of the council of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, composed of the representatives of the five nations which founded the Union. The council considered the adhesion to the union of seven new countries: namely, Canada, Denmark, Spain, Greece, the Netherlands, Portugal and Czecho-Slovakia, which were all admitted. The plan of organization and administration of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, which was presented by M. Gerard, was as follows:

To adhere to the union a country must establish a liaison between its chemical groups by the formation of a national council or federation. The initiative of this organization must be taken by a chemical society, the National Academy, the National Research Council or a similar national institution, or by the government.

The union is governed by the council, composed of delegates from each of the supporting countries, whose executive power is vested in a bureau. The general assembly receives reports from the council, approves the accounts of the past session, adopts the budget for the following session, and considers the questions to be included on the program. Under the council and an executive com-