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This publication, issued twice a year, contains a wide selection of original articles and a Review and Abstract section which enables the forester to keep in touch with the latest advances and "spot" publications of special interest to himself.

In this issue J. J. Macgregor reviews two previous contributions by Taylor and Hiley dealing with the function of compound interest in forestry. We think Hiley puts the position in a nut-shell: "Thus compound interest is not a shrine at which we worship, but a useful method of working which allows a more correct assessment than would otherwise be possible of the relative merits of alternative policies." Taylor's parting shot—"the imponderables also remain with us"—is a timely warning against attaching too much importance to the results of actual calculations; but does not invalidate the use of such methods.

Irish readers will be interested in Dr. M. L. Anderson's "Impressions of Forestry in Finland." As might be expected he manages as the result of an eleven day visit to give us an excellent overall picture of Finnish forestry, illustrated with many facts and figures.

Finland has 53½ million acres of forest employing one third of the population. There are few species of importance,

percentage by area being Norway spruce 52, Scots pine 28, birch 17, alders $1\frac{1}{2}$, aspen $\frac{1}{4}$. The birch, especially *Betula verrucosa*, produces trees of fine stem form and is highly prized for its timber.

Although the forest is almost all natural in origin, heavily stocked stands are scarce due to heavy thinning methods. An area of mixed spruce, pine and birch, in which there had been no fellings since 1907, and where the trees vary from 60 to 230 years old, had an estimated volume of 6,950 Hoppus feet, which is exceptional. Regeneration is almost entirely by self-seeding methods but, owing to the long intervals between seed-years, seeding fellings must be carefully timed. It is worth noting that, apart from its timber value, birch is fully appreciated as a soil improver and nurse. Heavy thinnings are the rule.

The average volume per acre over-bark is about 700 Hoppus feet and the average increment per acre only about 21 Hoppus feet.

There are over 24 million acres of swamp and a special branch of the State service deals with its reclamation. The better types when drained seed over naturally and produce very satisfactory forest.

In management, which is intensive, the excellent principle of devotion of responsibility is in force.

Extraction is carried out over the snow in winter and transport is by floating, road and rail. Sawmilling and other industrial uses are, of course, highly developed.

In education, the University course to supply forest officers lasts three to four years and includes two periods of thorough practical work in successive summers. The superintendent of the forest training school is responsible for 67,000 acres of State forest which is available for demonstration and implementing working plans. At one of the experimental forests seven races of *Pinus murrayana* were undergoing trial.