

FORESTRY

EDITED BY DR. B. E. FERNOW,

Director of the New York School of Forestry, Cornell University, assisted by Dr. John C. Gifford, of same institution.

THE GREAT NATIONAL PARK.

(From the Hartford Courant.)

The wildest and most naturally beautiful part of this country East of the Rocky Mountains is that region where North Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia approach each other. It is a mountain country with an average elevation of 4,000 feet and peaks running up to thousands of feet higher. The tallest mountain East of the Rockies is in North Carolina.

This wild region abounds in timber, and is still a natural and unbroken wilderness except as the lumbermen invade its quiet. They have come. Already traffic in forest land is on, and the railroads of the vicinity are loaded with lumber for the market. Let the American people sit by with their accustomed optimistic apathy, and before long the forests will be gone, the water courses left to dry up, the bears, deer and other wild animals killed off, and nothing but a fading memory remain of what now is a great natural park.

The general government ought to step in, before it is too late, and take possession of the whole region. The Yellowstone Park, far away, and to all but a few inaccessible, should be supplemented by this natural reservation, which is easily reached by the great majority of the people of the United States. Take your map and you will find that from Boston on the East around by Buffalo, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis to New Orleans, Jacksonville and so on up to Washington, every city on the imaginary circuit has railroad facilities bringing it within not more at most than one night's ride of Asheville, the central point in the Blue Ridge and Great Smoky country. Establish a park there and people from every large city this side of the Mississippi would be visiting it in large numbers at all seasons of the year. This is an opportunity for conferring on the people of the country a means of great enjoyment. But that really would be only an incident of the work. In this elevated land are multitudes of clear, sweet streams, delivering water to the Atlantic coast and to the Mississippi river. The divide is in the possible park. If the timber is all stripped from these hills the streams will dry up and the ultimate loss will be serious and widespread. Leading citizens of North Carolina and other States

adjoining have recently held a meeting and formed themselves into the Appalachian National Park Association to push the project. It ought to go without much pushing. All that is needed is to set people thinking about it.

SUGAR MAPLE PESTS.

The sugar maple forests of Vermont have for 2 years been so seriously attacked by a pest of worms as to endanger the whole sugar maple industry. Can you tell me the name of these worms, how long they are likely to stay, and whether owners of sugar orchards need fear the destruction of their trees? I go to Vermont every year, and while residents deplore the ravages of the pest, no one seems able to tell what it is, or the prospects of relief from it.

C., Philadelphia, Pa.

ANSWER.

The worm affecting maple trees over a wide area in the Eastern and Northeastern States during the past few years, is the forest tent caterpillar, the maple worm, *Clisiocampa disstria*. Usually such pests have their periods, coming to a climax when, probably owing to the simultaneous development of their enemies, a sudden collapse takes place. It is, however, impossible to tell how long the pest will persist. If the trees put out new leaves in the season of defoliation the damage is not likely to be marked beyond a possible decrease in the quantity of sap. An attack on the second leafage is a more serious matter, and permanent damage or the death of the tree may follow persistent defoliation by the worm.

The Vermont State Agricultural Experiment Station has investigated this matter for the last 3 years, and is just on the point of publishing the results, having made a preliminary statement in their II annual report. A most interesting description of the development of insects injurious to maple trees has just been issued as an "Extract from the Fourth Annual Report of the Commissioners of Fisheries, Game and Forests, of the State of New York." The report is illustrated with colored plates, and can probably be obtained by application to that Commission at Albany.

The sugar maple borer is a more seri-