

enormous extent of area of over 10 million square miles of territory on the African Continent was covered. The determination that this extensive infestation of the Migratory Locust had originated in a single outbreak centre, *viz.*, the San-Macina District of French Sudan has been appropriately described as "an outstanding achievement of the international anti-locust investigations".

Adverting to the practical aspect of the results of locust research, it may be stated that it is an exceedingly difficult task attempting to control locusts, when they have taken the shape of swarms. The swarms appear in such large numbers and have such immense powers of migration, that it would be well nigh impossible to control them. On the other hand, it should be an easier task to tackle an infestation in its

initial stages, in the outbreak areas. If all potential outbreak centres could be delimited, and the area watched by a fully competent organisation, the incipient swarms could be dealt with as they arise. If this could be arranged, it should be possible to nip the evil in the bud, and save the enormous expenses entailed in the attempt to deal with infestations after they have developed.

In the words of Uvarov, "the alternative to thorough studies of locusts leading to rational schemes of control, is to continue paying annual tribute to the oldest enemy of agriculture—the Locust. This may have been unavoidable in the past, but there is now no excuse for carrying on the old policy of letting locusts develop unchecked and then spending millions in attempting to control them."

Forest Research in India, 1936-37.*

TWO official publications summarising the work done during 1936-37 at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun and in the various British Indian Provinces (including Burma) have recently been issued. The first opens with a general review followed by five chapters, each dealing in turn with the work of the Sylvicultural, Botanical, Entomological, Utilisation and Chemical sections of the Institute. The second has much the same general plan, the sectional accounts, however, being summarised with reference to the provinces. This arrangement, while admitting of reference under subject-heads, precludes a coherent account being given of the work done on Forest Research in any one province. The compiler of the Reports has realised this drawback and sought to overcome it by brief provincial summaries in the opening "General" chapter in the second publication.

It is not possible even to merely mention, in a brief note the important problems, work on which is referred to in these two interesting reports. It would be very much like summarising a catalogue. The range

of problems covered is exceptionally wide and, to the student who is particularly interested in any of these, an appendix to each of these reports provides a useful bibliography of the publications.

Special mention must be made of two features, during the year under review, which are of significant importance to Forest Research in India. The first of these is the inauguration of the Timber Development Section at the Dehra Dun Institute. Secondly, this was the first year in which the Indian Paper Mills subscribed towards part of the cost of the Paper Pulp Section of the Institute. This donation is, perhaps, the first outward indication that at long last Indian industry is beginning to realise the importance of Indian forests as feeders of Indian industry. Such recognition, long overdue and in an increasing measure in future, is essential for the prosperity of Indian industry no less than of Indian forests.

The reports are printed on paper made at the Dehra Dun experimental paper plant and this fact finds mention (as suggested in an earlier review in *Curr. Sci.*, Vol. IV, 789) at the beginning of each volume. A few well-chosen photographs in the body of the reports, while adding to their value, would go far in counteracting the "Blue Book" atmosphere of these publications.

EMMENNAR.

* *Forest Research in India, 1936-37*. Part I. Forest Research Institute. (Manager of Publications, Delhi), 1937. Pp. 92. Price Rs. 1-10-0 or 2*sh.* 9*d.*

Forest Research in India, 1936-37. Part II. Provincial Reports. (Manager of Publications, Delhi), 1938. Pp. 205. Price Rs. 4-6-0 or 7*sh.* 3*d.*