

care in the protection of the forests, which they should remember were their own property.

Lord Clinton said although they had only been a few hours in South Australia all the delegates were greatly impressed with what they had seen and the immense possibilities that apparently were ahead in forest development. There were many evidences of admirable work having been done. They were also much interested in the wheat crops which they saw during their hurried rush through the country. In every direction they had seen sufficient to make them regret that their stay could not be lengthened instead of occupying barely a week. It was most pleasing to have all the information necessary placed so readily at the disposal of the delegates by the State authorities, and they were deeply grateful for the generous hospitality extended to them.

#### **Congratulations from Queensland.**

Mr. E. H. F. Swain, a delegate from Queensland, extended hearty congratulations to South Australia, as from one State to another, on what had been accomplished in afforestation in this State. In an interview with a representative of "The Advertiser" he said South Australia appeared to have been first in recognising the importance of afforestation, as she had also been regarding wheat-growing. A Forestry Act was passed in 1882, and South Australia established the first forestry school in Australia, and students from that school were now distributed throughout Australia. One of them, Mr. R. L. Robinson, was a commissioner of the British Empire Forestry Conference. Credit was due to the pioneers in forestry in South Australia for the work they had done, and Mr. J. Esme Brown and Mr. Walter Gill were worthy of special recognition. In Mr. E. Julius South Australia had a worthy successor to those men. A high standard of efficiency was noticed in the forestry work. It was amazing to find that a tree which in its native home of California was regarded almost as a weed should become in a country with such a low rainfall as South Australia a tree of the utmost wood productivity. One of the features that pleased the delegates during the inspection at Wirrabara was the system of planting and marketing the timber, and the steps taken for re-establishing the forests by natural regeneration, thus perpetuating them. The cost of the establishment of the forests on a basic wage of 15/3 a day was incredibly low, and the State could rest assured that the in-

into a pint pot.

#### **Commonwealth Progress.**

Reports on forest conditions in all countries which are represented were presented. Mr. C. E. Lane Poole submitted a report covering the activities of the Commonwealth for the improvement of forestry in those areas of which it had control. He said since the Empire Forestry Conference in 1923, the Commonwealth Government had embarked on a national forest policy. Surveys of the forest resources of five out of the six territories which came under Commonwealth jurisdiction had been made, and reports on them furnished. The Government had established a Commonwealth Forestry Bureau, the functions of which were to advise and inform the administrators of Federal territories on all forestry matters, to establish experiment stations for the study of silviculture and allied branches of forestry, to provide educational facilities for the training of professional foresters, and to publish information on forestry. The Australian Forestry School at Canberra had been established, and there higher forestry training was imparted to students selected from the six States. It had also offered travelling scholarships to enable picked students to study forestry technique abroad. In conjunction with the Development and Migration Commission the Government had assisted forestry development in the different States, particularly in the direction of extending programmes of planting softwoods. A policy of pine plantation had been adopted by the Federal Commission at Canberra. The Government realised their responsibilities in regard to the future supply of timber, and would do all in their power within their own territories, and by co-operation with the Governments of the States to develop the forestry asset throughout the continent and outlying islands.

The conference discussed the advisability of forming a committee on Australian forestry. It was explained that excellent results had been achieved by Canada in this connection, and several Australian delegates who spoke on the subject, including Mr. Lane Poole, supported it warmly. There was agreement on the point that the personnel of the committee should include a certain number of overseas delegates.

#### **Tribute to Lord Lovat.**

A tribute to Lord Lovat, who has presided at previous conferences, was made by the chairman. After expressing the hope that they would have Lord Lovat with them when they were in New Zealand, Lord Clinton suggested that the con-