

HENRY E. HARDTNER, PRES., LOUISIANA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

can forestry XVIII, no. 10 (Oct., 1912) SOUTH'S TIMBER DISAPPEARING

BY HENRY E. HARDTNER,

President Louisiana Forestry Association

T is a well known fact that the forests of the South will be completely exhausted inside of fifteen years at the present rate of cutting. I have studied forest conditions in every Southern State and have conversed with well informed lumber operators and timber owners and am fully convinced that the present supply of virgin timber is nearing exhaustion. It is sad for one who has grown up in the

forests and who saw them in their virgin splendor to witness their complete destruction. Yet, we must consider that the trees are ripe and full grown and should be utilized to the best advantage, and that it is not criminal to denude these magnificent forests. Where we deserve censure is in failing to enforce reforestation on lands chiefly valuable for timber culture.

The present rate of cutting timber for

