PERPETUAL YIELD (HARD BOILED)

by G. W. Nunn

We often hear from Foresters - "This mill will be cut out in 10 years or so and they need more country!!"

How many of us have given regurgitation and faith to the bedtime stories about management planning and improved yields which we imbibed during our adolescent training?

Let us look over this one.

Mill A, which has been cutting for 19 years, will "Cut out" in 10 years, i.e. first cycle of cutting and having been rather fussy about log quality.

The facts as management officers see them are -

Form 420 (c) (Abbreviated and not yet published)

- (1) Area of permit 57,000 acres.
- (2) Gross loadage over 60", including marri, 1,809,000 loads

Marri over 60" 615,000

Non marketable jarrah 107,000

Total non marketable : 722,000

- (3) Total marketable over 60" G.B.H.-1,100,000 loads.
- (4) Permissible cut 21,600 loads per annum.
- (5) Remaining life without considering growth -
 - (a) On jarrah @ 21,600 per year = 50 years
 - (b) Including 50% of total marri = 63 years after say 30 years on jarrah
- (6) Remaining life considering growth -
 - (a) Allowing 1% M.A.I. on over 60° trees for 32 years (simple = 83 years int.)
 - (b) Allowing 2% M.A.I. for 41
 years on 36" to 60" G.B.H. = 96 years
 trees 292,000 loads
 (Simple int.)

i.e. Total life in sight without using trees at present below 36" G.B.H.

(7) Information

- (a) Average percentage of total over 60" volume at present being removed under tree marking = 47%
- (b) Estimated life for first = 10 years cycle

This is by no means an unusual case and similar figures can be seen for many of the large mills with permit areas of more than 50,000 acres.

If we consult the nearest working plans office for facts

and subscribe facts and ideas, better working plans can be made in future.

A disservice to forestry, rather than a service, may easily result from having an unduly long first cutting cycle, or in other words, by having large areas of virgin forest unworked.