

structed for them a new machine to replace the one destroyed, which will be ready for use at the beginning of the next forest fire season.

If the results attained are satisfactory, it is expected that the whole of the coastline will be regularly patrolled by this means, at a very considerable saving in men and with an increased efficiency. The great rapidity of motion of the hydroplane

combined with its wide range of cruising radius, would appear to make it the very finest means of fire patrol it is impossible to conceive. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the experiment will be made in due course and without a repetition of the unfortunate accident which put an untimely end to the experiment so far as the present season is concerned.

Women a Success in Planting Work

By G. P. Gordon, B. Sc. (Oxon.)

British Experiments Show Good Results in Care of Forest Nurseries and Even Felling.

During the year 1915, the Royal Scottish Arboricultural Society placed a number of women in forestry work on various estates throughout Scotland. These women were employed in estate nurseries and at certain branches at forestry work; in addition they took part in general estate work.

The women so placed were drafted from the working classes, and they had not undergone any course of training preparatory to their taking up employment in forestry. Many of them were unemployed women, who were idle because of slackness in certain industries, e.g., fishing, spinning mills, etc.

Experience of working squads of these women throughout Scotland has proved that this type of worker without training is not altogether suited for rural work on the land. Although in many cases good individuals and good squads were encountered, the average individual was too unsettled to obtain the maximum value from her work. It is thought that women of this class, for true economy, must be constantly in touch with their own homes, as they were found to be less adaptable than more intelligent and better educated women. Further, it was found that the supervision of this class of worker was somewhat costly, as initiative

so necessary in land work was almost entirely lacking.

Adapting Female Dress.

A problem which had a considerable influence on the efficiency of these workers was the question of dress. It was found that ordinary foot wear was quite unsuitable, and experiments were made with clogs, high boots, leggings, etc., and finally it was decided that stout boots and leggings were the most useful. The ordinary apparel of the women was found to be unsuited for wet weather, and experiments were made with waterproof skirts, which were not, however, found to be very successful. In nursery work skirts are always a drawback, as they damage young plants in the nursery lines, and also break down the edges of seed beds. In addition, in wet undergrowth they are a decided hindrance to freedom of action. For outdoor land work it is essential that women have the equivalent of a man's jacket, which can be donned during a shower and cast off in hot weather or for strenuous work.

A characteristic squad is seen in the illustration. It comprised some twenty women obtained through the Labour Exchanges in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Leith.

The question of housing this type