

Wireless a Great Power in Rapid Action

By Paul G. Redington, District Forester, San Francisco.

A very important part of the air patrol programme is efficiency in communication. As soon as the planes land at the bases or sub-bases they report all fires discovered en route, and these reports are telephoned or telegraphed to the proper Forest officers. The periods of flight, however, are often two hours or more in length, and the bases are out in the valley, necessitating the transmission of reports by tele-

graph or long distance telephone. This often consumes another hour, so that if we depended alone upon the reporting of fires after the planes land there would be a delay of two to four hours in getting the reports to the men who actually fight the fires. It is necessary, therefore, to have a direct and continuous means of communication from the planes to the ground. This is accomplished by having

all planes equipped with wireless transmitting sets which are operated by the observers. There are ground wireless stations at all the bases and sub-bases, and in addition radio receiving stations are maintained at all the Forest headquarters throughout the State. The latter are manned by operators employed by the Forest Service who are usually well qualified amateurs, including schoolboys and others who wish to get out on the Forests during their summer vacations and who are particularly enthusiastic and ambitious on radio work. The observer on the plane reports regularly to the ground stations at intervals of fifteen or twenty minutes. If he discovers any fires he reports them; if not, he merely gives his location and anything else that he may have observed of interest. As he passes over one forest and out of range of the radio station there, he picks up the radio station on the next Forest, and is thereby in continuous touch with the ground forces. The forest supervisor is enabled to trace on a map in his office the exact location of the plane as it flies over his forest by the radio reports he is receiving at these regular intervals. If any fires are burning he knows immediately; if not, he has the assurance that everything is safe.

The radio has proved its efficiency as a medium of communication in work of this kind; and not only is it valuable for transmitting messages direct from the planes to the ground, but I believe we could make very good use of it for communication between ground points where we do not have adequate telephone service. Of the fifteen forest stations in California this season there are probably three or four that do not render satisfactory service, due to being located in canyons or to other reasons that can be remedied next year. We also have found that we can get amateurs—boys and young men from 16 to 25 years of age—who are well qualified, ambitious and interested in the work, for a reasonable salary for the summer period, and that if necessary they will furnish their own equipment.

**10 to
20 times**
the amount taken

That is the nourishing
power (proved by
independent scientific
experiment) of

BOVRIL

It makes other foods nourish you

Laurentide Company
LIMITED

GRAND MERE, QUEBEC

Manufacturers of

GROUNDWOOD PULP

SULPHITE PULP

NEWSPRINT PAPER

CARDBOARD

FORESTRY MEETINGS AT MONTREAL.

A number of meetings connected with forestry interests will be held in Montreal during the week of January 23. The Province of Quebec Limit Holders' Association will meet in the Windsor Hotel on Wednesday, January 25, while meetings of the Quebec Forests Protective Association, Limited, St. Maurice Fire Protective Association, Limited, will be held on the same day and at the same place. The annual meeting of the Woodlands Section of the Pulp and Paper Association is fixed for Thursday, January 26, and the annual meeting of the parent association of the following day.