

language, shall be kept informed of these laws, and that everyone, whatever be his respect for Canadian law—which is new to most of our settlers—shall be taught that to observe it is salutary and economical. Linen notices, setting forth the law in many languages, are each year tacked up in conspicuous places in every settlement from Le Pas to Spirit River and from Athabaska Landing and Vermillion to Port Moody. From the Dominion Land offices, to which every settler first and last must go, are distributed circulars in which eight different languages point out to the newcomer the value of the forest, the damage wrought by fire, and the safest methods to be followed in clearing land.

There is practically no wilful setting of bush fires, and such carelessness as is not overcome by educational measures is prevented by the fire rangers, who are chosen in each district from those of the settlers best acquainted with the country and are most capable of tactfully and efficiently administering the law. These men are temporary appointees who travel their districts throughout the dry season, teach the law to all newcomers, supervise all brush-burning, and take charge of all fire-fighting. When it is necessary to arrest offenders to secure general observance of the law, the fire rangers do so; twelve different persons who set fires on public lands were arrested in 1909, eleven of them were convicted and fined a total of \$514 and costs.

The other common causes of forest fires, campers, travellers, prospectors, hunters, lumbermen and Indians, are, because of the immense tract over which they are scattered—the whole 700,000 square miles of timbered Dominion lands—more difficult to

reach. To insure that they shall all be reached the Forest Service has divided the timbered lands into about ten administrative units and placed in charge of the fire protection of each a permanent employee, thoroughly acquainted with the country, whose chief care it is to watch every development within his territory. Whenever a road or stream shows signs of becoming a thoroughfare for travellers or campers a fire ranger is appointed to patrol it, wherever a prospecting boom breaks out a fire ranger is stationed, wherever lumber operations are undertaken a fire ranger is placed on duty. In this manner the patrolling force is located so as to cover best the dangerous situations. All fire rangers appointed are instructed to keep warning notices posted at conspicuous points, to meet all the inhabitants of their territory, solicit their support of the fire laws, to see all travellers, visit all exploitation works and see that everywhere all possible precautions against fire are enforced. April to October of every year now sees these scattered servants of the Government—14 in Saskatchewan, 45 in Alberta, and 37 in British Columbia—patrolling all scenes of forest activity, even to such outlying regions as Churchill River, Lac La Rouge, Athabaska River and Peace River.

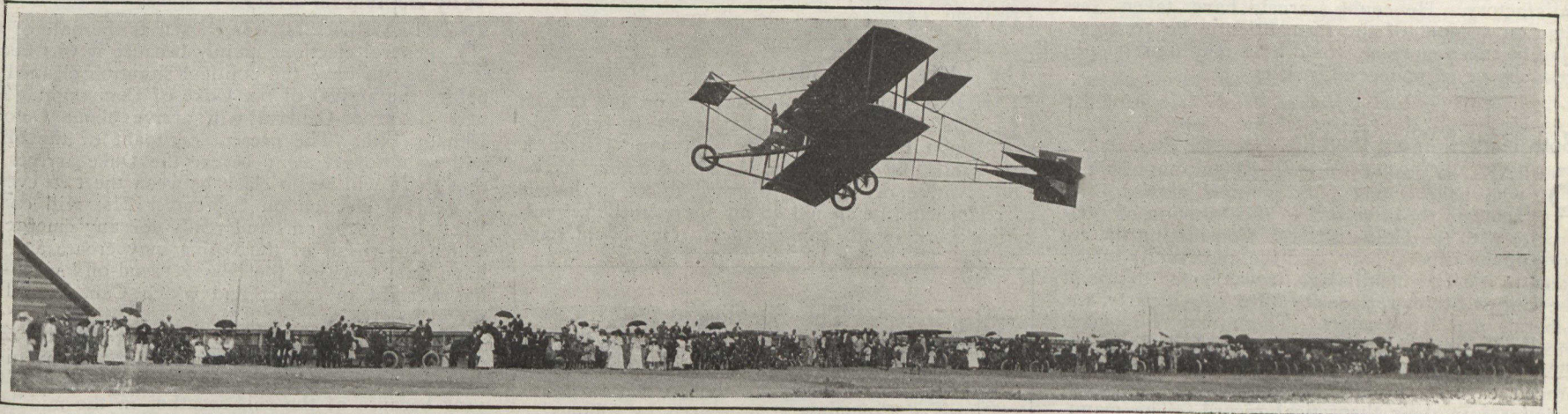
What type of men the forest rangers are in Western Canada and how well they do their duty, may be judged from the following paragraph by a prominent Canadian author and traveller, now residing in the United States: "A thousand miles north of the British line one has seen a fire guardian, the only officer of his kind in a section of country hundreds of miles in extent. A splendid, quiet, self-respecting chap this man was, too; one

whose word was law and unhesitatingly accepted as such by red and white. One day during a steamer voyage this fire guardian saw smoke rising on the horizon far inland from the river on which we were travelling. He stopped the boat at once, got his pack together and went ashore. As he figured it out this fire was forty miles away, probably at the edge of a certain large prairie surrounded by heavy woods. He would reach it in the afternoon of the second day on foot. He would carry most of his camp kit on his back until that night; then he would cache some of it and would leave yet more of it mid-day of the next day, cached against his return to the river where he could get supplies or find the trail in and out of the country. He did not know who had started the fire or what shape the fire itself would have by the time he got to it. All alone, a sturdy and self-reliant figure—representing the law, representing civilization even in the wilderness, representing a decent regard of organized society for the organized society that is to follow us—he set out on foot for his wilderness journey across an untracked country. In all of one's experience with outdoor men rarely has one met a better, simpler, nobler figure than this one."

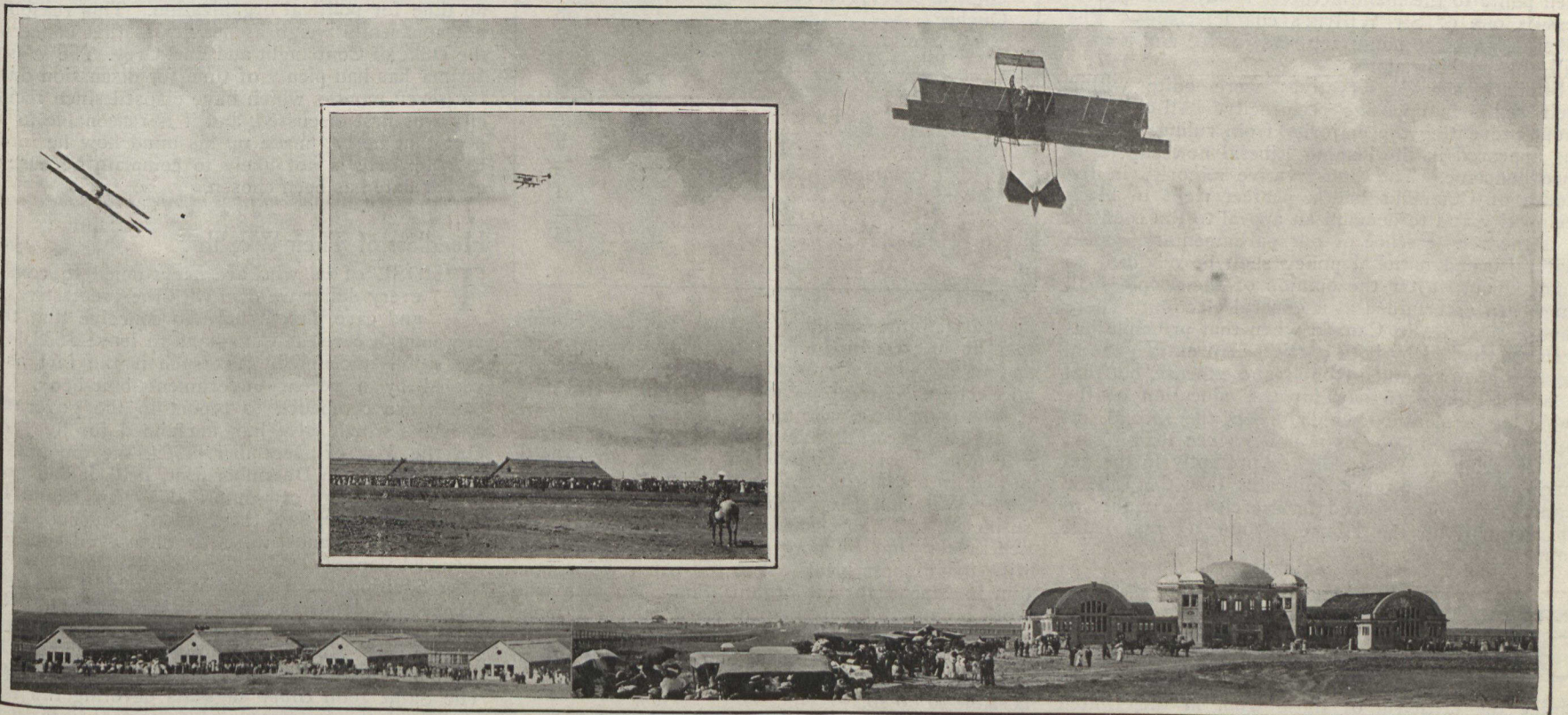
The work already accomplished has been done under great difficulties. There has been a lack of public support, a dearth of public money and a great scarcity of trained men. These desiderata are now coming forth more generously, and the Forest Service intends to establish forest reserves upon all public lands unfit for agriculture or other productive uses and to manage those reserves as national forests upon which will be grown timber which will be so urgently needed by inhabitants of the prairies.

THE ART OF FLYING—AS THEY HAVE IT IN THE WEST

Eugene Ely Performs Aerial Manoeuvres at Lethbridge, Alberta.



Ely in his Curtiss Eiplane as he left the starting ground at Henderson Park Fair Grounds on July 14th



The picture to the right shows Ely getting away to a good flight over the handsome Exhibition Buildings at Lethbridge. On the left he is seen "banking" his machine at an angle of 45 degrees in the spiral glide which has been the last feat of some flying artists. The middle picture depicts the envy of the mounted policeman as he watches Ely at a height of 700 feet. As Lethbridge is 3,000 feet above sea level the light, dry air made it possible to get a speed of 65 miles an hour.