



AVIATION

IN FOREST CONSERVATION



A Department Devoted to the Discussion and Promotion of Civil Aviation in Canada

Edited by George A. Mackie.

Flying Services Rendered to Canada's Forests in 1921

Stations in all Parts of Dominion have Thoroughly Established the Value of Aircraft.

By J. A. Wilson, Secretary, the Air Board, Ottawa.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT FLYING, APRIL 1st TO SEPT. 30th—6 MONTHS.

Station or Base.	Aeros or Seaplanes.	Flying Commenced.	Flying Discontinued.	Flying Period to Date, Total Possible Days.	Nature of Flights.										Total Hours Flown.	Approx. Miles Flown.	Aver. Flight Duration (Hrs.—Mins.)	Days on which Flying Took Place.
					Forestry Recon., Photography and Fire Protection.	Misc. Recon., Photography, etc.	Photographic Survey.	Exploration.	Preventative Reconnaissance.	Communication, Transportation, & Demonstration.	Instructional.	Experimental Flying and Testing.	Miscellaneous or Unspecified.	Total Flights.				
*Vancouver, B.C.-----S.				183	127	34	11		49	35	15	11		282	388-42	29,153	1-23	129
High River, Alta.-----A.		May 6th		148	187	17				1	1	30	5	241	595-20	59,533	2-28	127
Victoria Beach, Man.---S.		July 1st		92	56	4	1			1	5	21	1	89	163-53	12,292	1-50	59
N. Ont. Mobile Unit---S.		May 20th		134	105	13				28		33	3	182	321-28	24,110	1-46	100
Ottawa, Ont.-----A-S.		April 25th		159		40	9			34	9	20	1	113	217-35	18,480	1-55	85
Roberval, P.Q.-----S.		June 2nd		121	57	10	3			10		10	1	91	161-11	12,089	1-46	63
@*Halifax, N.S.-----S.				183		3				5		5		13	21-25	1,756	1-48	12
Totals-----																		
All Stations-----				1020	532	121	24		49	114	30	130	11	1011	1871-24	157,413	1-51	575
Stations Average-----				145-7														
@ Mainly Erection and Repair Base. * Open Year Round.																		82.1

THE Forestry Magazine has asked for a brief description of the flying operations undertaken last summer in conjunction with the forestry officers of the Dominion and Provincial Governments throughout the country.

Particulars of all flying, civil and military, carried out by the Air Board during the six months ending September 30th, are given on the accompanying summary. We are here concerned only with civil operations; but the work of the Canadian Air Force must not be overlooked. The Civil Operations Branch and the C.A.F. are complementary services: their officers and men are interchangeable; the knowledge and experience now so valuable in civil life, were gained during the war, on

service overseas; and the training carried on by the C.A.F. at Camp Borden, in flying, navigation, wireless, photography, the repair and upkeep of aircraft material and so forth, is of inestimable value to the Civil Branches. In return, the Civil Stations provide what elsewhere cannot be obtained—experience in administration, practical work in the field, opportunities for the development of initiative and resource. So it is that flying personnel required for purposes of defence, can be employed in time of peace in ways beneficial to the public; and Canada is fortunate in being able to make such extensive use of Civil Aviation, which stands to the C.A.F. in the same relation as the merchant marine to the Royal Navy.

A Varied Usefulness.

As will be seen from the tabulated statements, each station has served many different Departments and undertaken work of many different kinds; but at each and every station, it may be remarked, most of the work has had to do with forestry. This is as it should be: so important to the future of this country is the conservation of our forests. There are, next to our farms, our chief asset. Their neglect and destruction threaten to have economic consequences disastrous to the whole Dominion, while their conservation will ensure prosperity for all time to come in those vast areas which otherwise would gradually degenerate into waste and barren lands.