



AVIATION

IN FOREST CONSERVATION



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

Quebec Will Explore New Regions

"The Government intends to build various forest stations along the north shore of the St. Lawrence, the coast of the Labrador, in the Bay of Ungava, and also in the Hudson Bay, where the forest engineers may explore the surrounding country, employing all the instruments and means in their power, even the aeroplanes. These reconnaissances will enable the Government better to protect the country and also to put rapidly into value various units for pulp and power development," said Mr. G. C. Piché, Provincial Forester for Quebec, in course of his address before the joint meeting of the Canadian Society of Forest Engineers and the Society of American Foresters at Toronto recently. "Quebec has over 6 million acres of timberlands in private ownership, 45 million

acres under license for timber and pulpwood purposes, and more than 79 million acres of Crown lands that are as yet unoccupied. The Government aims to work in co-operation with the private owners by helping them to protect their holdings against fires and to reforest their waste lands, but no legislative power enables the provincial Government to prevent destructive cutting. Forest utilization is greatly encouraged. On the timberlands under license the Government has full control since it remains the owner, but the modifications and reforms needed must be introduced gradually. The limit holders of Quebec are eager to improve the forests leased by them and they have already done a good deal in the way of forest surveys, fire protection, conservative lumbering and reforestation."

Dusting Trees From an Aeroplane

The use of the aeroplane in entomological work is no novelty, since it has been frequently employed in both the United States and Canada in locating areas in forest lands, where injurious insects have been at work. Messrs. J. S. Houser and C. R. Neillie, of Ohio, however, tell of a new use to which aeroplanes have been put, viz., that of applying insecticides to the tops of trees.

In a paper read before the Association of Economic Entomologists at Toronto city, these gentlemen described an experiment made at Troy, by the Federal Air Service, co-operating with the Ohio Experiment Station and the Department of Forestry of the City of Cleveland, for the purpose of testing the value of the aeroplane as an instrument for distributing poison on tall trees. A six acre grove of Catalpa trees, containing 4815 trees, 25 to 30 feet tall, was selected for the work, these trees having been badly infested with caterpillars. The work of distributing the poison took only the actual flying time of 54 seconds and thus established a world's record as to speed of applying insecticides to forest areas. The trials demonstrated the ability of the pilot to place the poisonous dust where desired, and at the same time the effect on the cater-

pillars was most gratifying, since it was estimated that 99 per cent were destroyed.

EARLY HISTORY.

Geneva, N.Y.—Evidence that the art of flying was discovered before the days of Langley and the Wright Brothers has been unearthed by a student of Physics in Hobart College, doing research work in the Hobart College Library. In a newspaper of September 11, 1811, the following article was found:

"The art of rising and moving in the air by means of wings, continues to engage the attention of a number of persons in Germany. At Vienna, the watchmaker Degen, aided by a liberal subscription, is occupied in perfecting his discovery. He has recently taken several public flights in the Preter. At Berlin, Claudius, a wealthy manufacturer of oil cloth, is engaged in like pursuits; he rises in the air without difficulty and can move in a direct line, at the rate of four miles an hour, but his wings are unwieldy and he cannot turn around in them. At Ulm, a tailor named Berblinger, announced on the 24th day of April, that he had after great sacrifice of money, labor and time, invented a

machine in which he would on the twelfth day rise in the air and fly 12 miles."

PLANE SAVES 12 STRANDED.

Miami, Fla.—After passing five days without food or water on a reef of the Bahama Islands, twelve men aboard the stranded British motorboat "Priscilla," have been rescued by a hydro-aeroplane of the Aeromarine Airways Company.

AIR CRAFT INTRODUCE A NEW ERA

An address of great significance to foresters and of great interest to the public was given by Ellwood Wilson, Chief Forester to the Laurentide Company, Grand Mere, Quebec, at Toronto, recently. Hydroplanes employed in his work scout for fires, inspect logging operations, make maps and estimates of timber areas. Mr. Wilson said: "The two greatest needs of Canada to-day in the management of her all important forest resource is its protection from fire and an estimate of its extent and amount. This would have taken years of work, but with aircraft it can be completed in a very short time; witness the work done by the Air Board for the Ontario Government at English River this past season.

"In this country of poor communications and enormous distances, aircraft offer almost the only means for quickly and accurately reporting fires and getting assistance to extinguish them. A scheme for doing this has been carefully worked out, and will be given a thorough try-out in the spring.

"Those who have had experience with aircraft feel that a new era has dawned in the proper management of our forests based on the knowledge gained from the air."

IRISH FREE STATE AND AVIATION.

It is to be noted that in the peace terms with the new Irish Free State provision is made by the British Government for "Facilities in the neighborhood of the above Ports (Berehaven, Queenstown, Belfast Lough, and Lough Swilly) for Coastal Defense by Air," and further, that "A Convention shall be made between the Governments for the regulation of Civil Communication by Air."