

From Forestry Men at the Front

From Capt. L. N. Seaman, Forest Products Laboratories:

Since writing last I have been posted to a Howitzer Battery. We came out here over a month ago and have since been situated in a very warm corner of the line, pushing over large pills towards Fritz with a long thrust, and I have good reason to believe with splendid precision and effect. It is hard work, and trying, but my knowledge of engineering has been of the greatest value to me in moving our piece, as I am the only officer in the Battery with any engineering experience at all.

From Pte. Frank Haworth, Forest Ranger, Clearwater Forest, writing from France:

This is a finely wooded country—some of the finest beech I ever saw. Some of them are as large as $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4 feet on the stump. Also some very fine oak. There seems to be very little soft wood. Some pine, but very small.

From Lieut. L. C. Tilt, Assistant to the Dominion District Forest Inspector for Manitoba:

I was down to see an extra fine stand of oak recently in the Forest of Compeigne, which runs about 50M. ft. B.M. per acre. This is used as a park now and they are only cutting the trees that blow down. There are numerous oak there 30 inches and 90 feet high. There is one they have named the Oak of the Allies. It is over 6 feet in diameter and 110 feet high and is certainly a fine tree.

From Lieut. R. G. Lewis, head office, Ottawa, writing from France:

I had my first flight in a machine yesterday when a French officer was kind enough to take me up for a quarter hour flight. We circled around our own camp here and dropped a message in a metal tube. This

fell in a field near camp and was brought in by one of the men who first took it for a bomb and then came in breathless with the letter which I enclosed, thinking it was a warning of an air raid. I enjoyed the experience very much.

From Lieut. W. J. Boyd, head office, Ottawa:

Just the other day I bought two small wagon-loads of ordinary shavings to use as standings in our stables and these English people had the cheek to charge a pound sterling per load. They could be had at any mill in Canada for carting them away.

From Captain W. L. Scandrett, Dominion Forest Supervisor, British Columbia Reserves:

I see by the Bulletin that the Americans are handling the problem of war forestry in their usual thorough manner. They seem to require a great deal of timber over there (France), and both we and the Huns have already wiped out a great many of the little forests which were scattered about France. In parenthesis I might say that this has worried the airmen more than a little as we use forests for landmarks to a great extent, distinguishing them by their shape. It is a bit disconcerting when one's landmarks disappear or develop characteristics different from those shown on the map.

The timber question is quite acute in England and sawn lumber worth its weight in gold.

I am sure you will be glad to know that I am free of war dangers for some time to come (I hope), having been transferred to England "for a rest." I had just under eleven months of active service with the Royal Flying Corps in France and was quite satisfied to take a turn of duty at home. They gave me ten days' leave, part of which I spent in