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The Aeroplane's Service to Forestry

A Record of Actual Tests in Fire Detection, Survey of Wind Damage, and Cutting Costs of Fire Fighting.

By Major L. A. Andrews, Regional Forester, Vancouver.

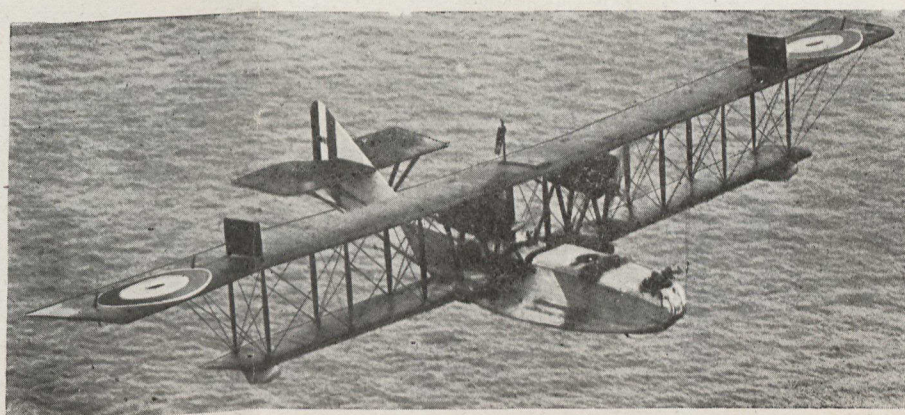
Commercial flying has made rapid and permanent advancement during the past few years. Types of machines have evolved from those suitable for War purposes stripped to the bone for speed, weight-carrying or fighting to those more suitable for passenger and freight transportation and the latest machines are models of comfort and luxury.

The safety factor in construction is not now sacrificed for other consideration and reasonably priced insurance is easily procured in the Old Country, where travel by air has become well established. At the present time over fifteen different lines operate daily out of London and Paris on published time tables, fog being the only element of uncertainty or danger. Accidents are very few and the risk is little greater than by boat, train or motor.

The short period of joy riding on unsuitable types of machines which followed the termination of the War and gave flying a black eye for a time has passed. Flying is now done to accomplish certain definite objects to obtain accurate information quickly and to travel more expeditiously.

Flying on the Pacific Coast has followed the general trend and is now carried on in a sane businesslike basis. The Seaplane base established last year by the Air Board for the development of civil flying has undertaken and carried out a large amount of work covering a wide field. One of the principal uses of Government work carried out on this coast has been flying in connection with Forest work.

Before going into the subject, however, I wish to express a few words in appreciation of the efforts of Major MacLaurin who is in charge of Government flying operations in British Columbia. The efficiency with which his flying station at Jericho Beach was established and gear assembled for flying is generally recog-



Photographed in flight. An F-3 Flying Boat, with two Rolls Royce 360 h.p. engines. This machine can carry a fire fighting party of twelve men with necessary equipment.



Unloading Supplies carried by air to fire fighters near Roberval, P.Q.