



OUR AEROPLANE WOOD RESERVE

British Columbia Production at Close of War Provided Material
for 30,000 Planes.

The demands of the war have occasioned the most phenomenal development of many industries. Not the least among these is aeroplane lumber in British Columbia. This province, in the thirteen months since the first request came from the Imperial Government for this material, has provided approximately 9,000,000 feet of Douglas fir and 26,000,000 feet of Sitka spruce aeroplane lumber. This is sufficient wood for over 30,000 ordinary planes.

The output figures do not in themselves indicate the magnitude of the undertaking necessary to produce this material. In the first place, it

must be remembered that wood for aeroplane construction must be of a special quality never before required in lumber specifications. It must be of the quality of a cabinet wood. The most important quality in aeroplane wood is straightness of grain on all four sides. Straight edge grained lumber can be produced easily by sawing parallel to the bark, but the prevailing tendency of trees to grow in more or less of a spiral form renders it difficult to secure lumber in which the fibres do not run diagonally across the flat grain faces. Very large amounts of perfectly clear sound lumber have had to be discarded on account of this spiral grain.