N. B. SOLDIERS WITH CANADIAN FORESTRY CORPS IN SCOTLAND

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SOMEBODY IN SCOTLAND, June 3—(C. P.)—From Scottish forests on the slopes of snow-crested mountains and along craggy valleys, a steady stream of logs moves to the Canadian-managed sawmills in the Highlands as the Canadian Forestry Corps swing into big-scale production of lumber for the war effort.

Canadian woodsmen cut down 150-foot pines and they crack to earth with the lumbermen’s shouts of “timber” echoing down the glens. Tractors drag the logs to mills where they become lumber for a score of war uses.

Modern Canadian lumbering methods were introduced by this Canadian Army unit, and streamlined Canadian mills with equipment brought from Canada have supplanted the small Scottish mills.

More than a dozen standard mills have been built and more will follow, each one powered by diesel engines and constructed so it can be dismantled in 24 hours to be moved to another location.

The first mill established has been operating since early this year and now turns out about 15,000 board feet a day under direction of the mill officer, Lieut. George Rowe, Port William.

“Amazed At Us”

Maj. F. J. Dawson, Port Arthur, commander of the First Forestry Company to land in the United Kingdom last Christmas, told The Canadian Press: “The Scots around these parts are amazed at us. They say we no sooner get into a piece of timber than it’s gone.”

A mile from the mill, 50 men were felling trees. One 15-foot pine with a four-foot base fell in 15 minutes after Pte. Joe Doucette, Bathurst, N. B., and two others started to saw and chop.

Sgt. Larry Loken, La Tugue, Que., was in charge of the bush operations here.

Down at the mill, tractors and the two-wheeled “sulkies” used for the first time in Scotland by the Canadians hauled four to six tons of logs. From the mill pond the logs were pushed on to the “bull chain” which hauled them into the mill, 200 feet long and 50 feet wide.

The mill hummed from dawn to 6 p.m. and men from Canadian lumber camps in many provinces worked with team-like precision. Pte. John Conelly, Flint, Ont., was a log cutter and Pte. Bill Ridout, Bristol, N. B., was the saw filer who worked with Sgt. Bob Mills, Ottawa.


Other important cogs in that lumbering team were Sgt. W. L. McGarrigle, Sussex, N. B., and M. L. Taylor, Stellarton, N. S., the welder and mechanic.

One of the busiest of the other Canadian mills was operated by a company recruited in Quebec province. (CSM, Harry Caminer, Montreal, with a Distinguished Conduct Medal and Military Medal from the last war, kept the mill going even during a terrific snowstorm.

Two hard-working men under him were Pte. Fred Fortin and Pte. George Derose, both of Quebec City, and in the same company were Sgt. Jim Keller, who used to play amateur hockey with Quebec Aces and Sgt. Norman Gilpin, also of Quebec.