

# THE WELFARE FUND

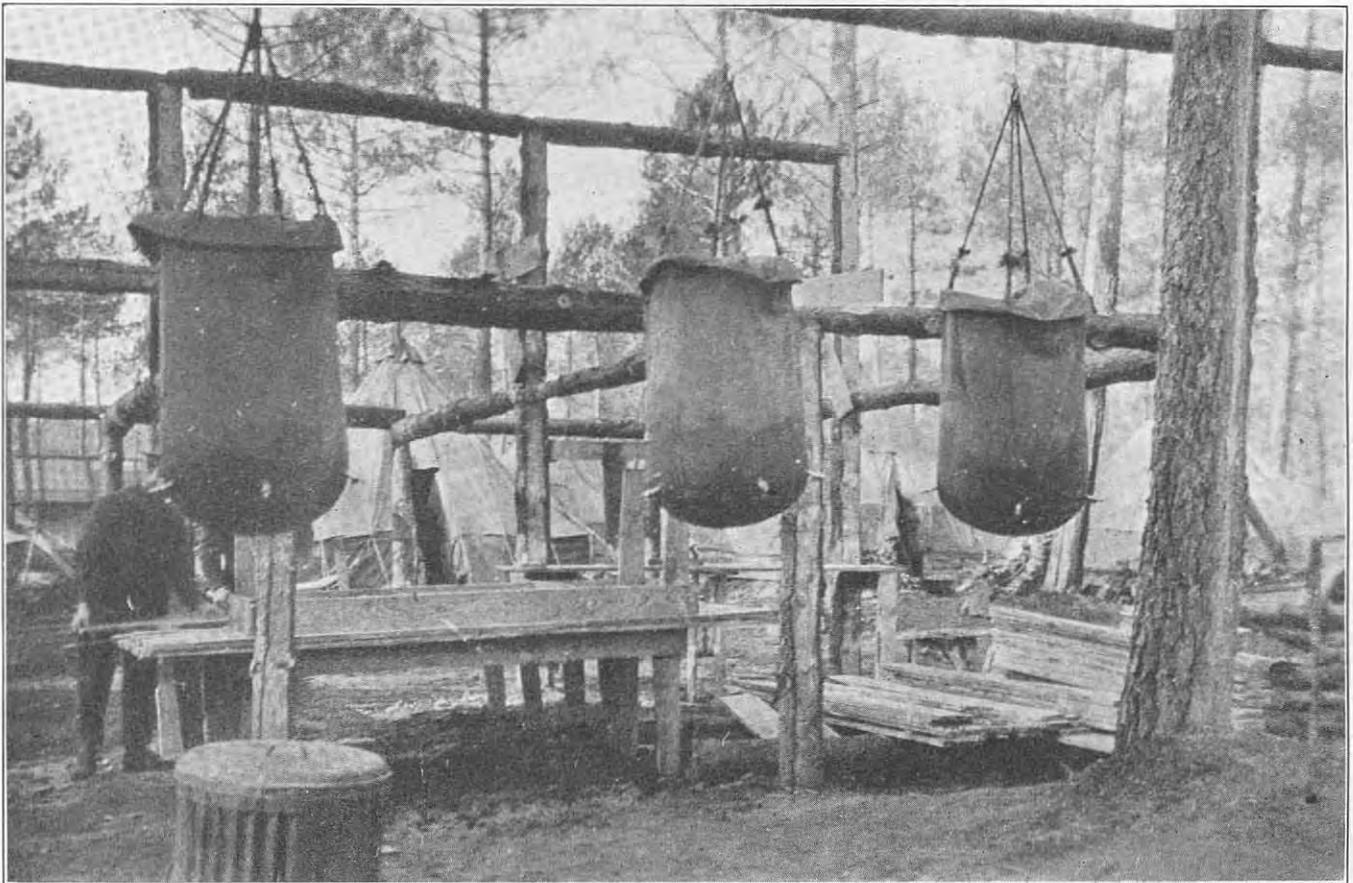
**W**HEN the forestry and lumberjack regiment was organized the American Forestry Association started the collection of a Welfare Fund for the purpose of supplying the men with comforts needed and with means for recreation to aid in keeping up their morale. This fund was later developed into the Welfare Fund for Lumbermen and Foresters in War Service, with the following officers: Honorary chairman, R. H. Downman, Council of National Defense, Washington, D. C.; acting chairman, W. R. Brown, Berlin, N. H.; secretary, E. A. Sterling, New York City; treasurer, Percival S. Ridsdale, secretary American Forestry Association, Washington, D. C. The members of the committee are: R. H. Downman, W. R. Brown, E. T. Allen, E. A. Diebold, M. E. Preisch, for the Lumber Industry; W. A. Priddie, E. D. Tennant, for the Order of Hoo-Hoo; A. F. Potter, W. L. Hall, for the U. S. Forest Service; Charles Lathrop Pack, for the American Forestry Association; James Boyd, John W. Long, for the Lumber Trade Press.

The Welfare Fund was devoted to purchasing wool to be knitted into sweaters, scarfs, socks, helmets, etc., to furnishing phonographs, athletic supplies and various articles needed by the men, and in providing funds for the use of the men when their pay failed to arrive. It was also

used in caring for sick and needy persons in the families of soldiers and after they had been ordered home it was used in the endeavor to secure work for those who desired jobs. It is still being used for this particular purpose. The method of finding jobs for jobless men is described on pages 1159 and 1160.

Senior Chaplain Howard Y. Williams of the 20th Regiment, in writing on February 25 from France about the use of the fund, said:

"The welfare fund raised for the men of the 20th Engineers is unique in the A. E. F. No other organization that I know of has had such splendid backing as the forestry troops in France. The \$4,000 sent seemed a fortune when it stood to our credit in a French bank for 22,400 francs. Almost 3,800 francs was assigned to work among the pioneer forestry engineers, the 10th Regiment. Athletic supplies, indoor games, phonograph records, needles, books, sheet music, refreshments for evening parties and other like necessities have been purchased with this fund. One of the large uses to which it has been put has been that of loans. The fund has been put out on loans several times over and has proved a friend indeed to men in need. It has made it possible for men to go out on leave; it has brought to men discharged from hospitals, who had not seen a pay day for



LISTER BAGS ("CARRIE NATION COWS") CONTAINING CHLORINATED WATER FOR DRINKING PURPOSES. BELLEVUE CAMP, PONTENX, LANDES, FRANCE

some time, pocket money to start them on the trip home. This fund has always meant that men and worthy objects could find financial assistance.

"The balance of the fund used distinctively for the 20th Engineers, after initial expenses for entertainment equipment had been provided, was divided among the different battalions on a per capita basis and used by the company commanders as they deemed best in supplying the various needs of their companies. These battalion funds have always been at the disposal of the battalion chaplain and have proven a great blessing.

"The thirty-eight phonographs bought from this fund and forwarded from the States to each one of the original engineer companies have found continual use, sending forth their melodious sounds from tents, barracks, old barns, dugouts, and often used in the open air. These phonographs have proven the opportunity for many a friend in the States to express his interest in us by forwarding phonograph records. I shall never forget standing in front of a dugout in Puvénelle Wood, in the midst of devastation, when suddenly there came upon my ear the voice of John McCormack as played on one of these machines. The contrast between this evidence of civilization and the absolute lack of it around me was tremendously striking.

"Warm clothing is always a necessity in the ever-present humidity of France. The sweaters made from the wool purchased by this fund are a daily comfort to these men, who often have labored all day long in torrents of rain, returning to their tents to find a good warm sweater waiting.

"During these days of waiting to come home, we are bending all our efforts to provide entertainment, parties, educational classes that will occupy the minds of the men and that shall prepare them for larger services in the future. We shall use this fund in every way to provide these events.

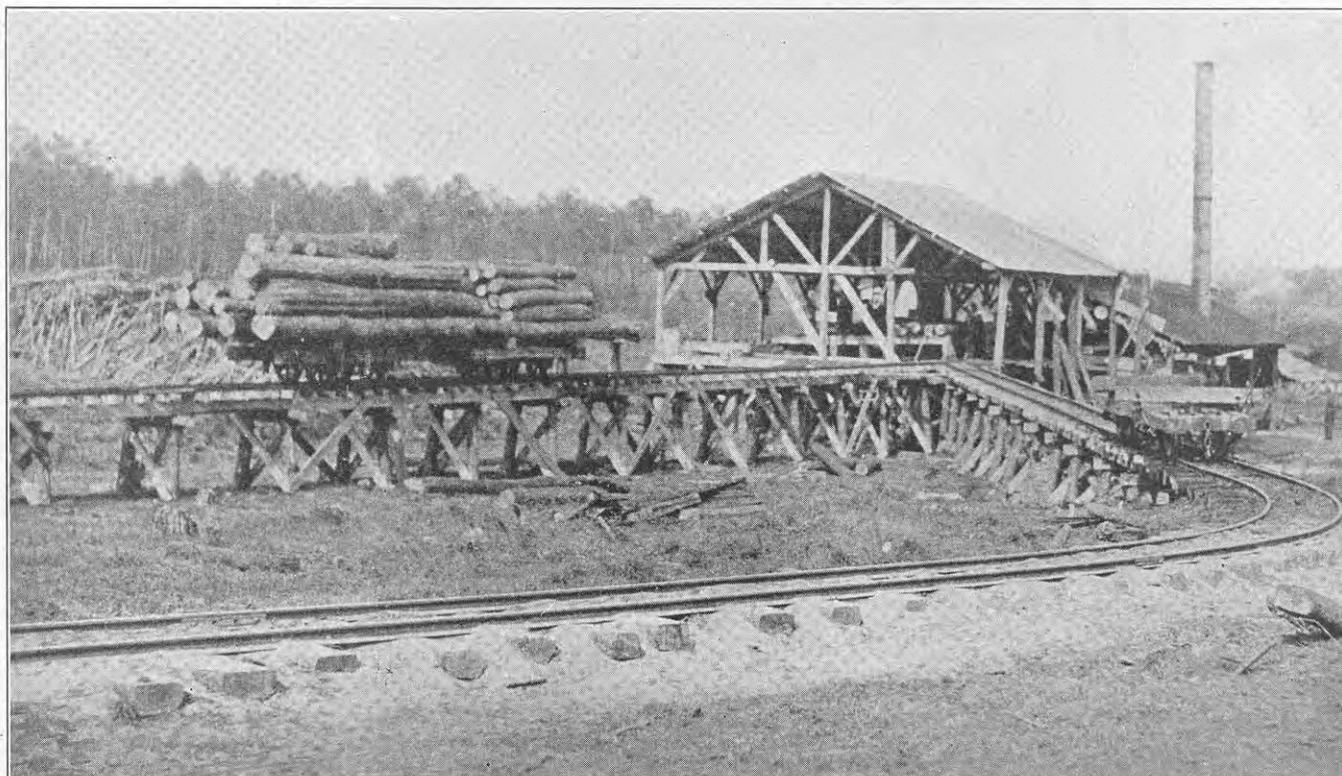
"Twenty thousand soldiers united with me in expressing gratitude to those who have made all these things a reality and a daily reminder of your interest."

The list of donations received by the Welfare Fund is published on pages 1168, 1173, 1175, 1177 and 1178.

#### HOW THE FOREST SERVICE HELPED

From the day that the 10th Engineers was organized the members of the Forest Service took a deep interest in the regiment and were anxious to find ways in which they might forward the comfort and happiness of the men. The Service had co-operated with the War Department in recruiting the regiment, and a great many of its men were on the regimental rolls. A suggestion that an ambulance would be of great value was seized upon with eagerness, and during the summer of 1917 contributions poured in from the members of the Forest Service in all parts of the country. A fund of \$4,274.68 was raised, more than enough to purchase two motor ambulances and two kitchen trailers. One of these ambulances and its trailer was paid for entirely by the Northwestern District. The remainder of the fund was used to buy a photographic developing outfit for the 10th Engineers and wool to be made into knitted garments.

In September, 1917, when the 10th was ready to leave



MARITIME PINE LOGS ON THE WAY INTO 20-M AMERICAN SAWMILL IN FOREST OF THE DUNE COUNTRY IN SOUTHWESTERN FRANCE

# Welcome Home 20th Engineers

Your noble work in The Great War is completed.

The great efforts you put forth—the great assistance rendered the A. E. F.—was largely instrumental in turning the tide of conflict and in speedily ending the war.

Your untiring efforts must now be devoted to reconstruction work in the good old U. S. A.

The lumber industry welcomes you home—there is a great need for your valuable services and assistance.

The future of the lumber business is indeed bright. Building operations have been greatly curtailed during your absence but with settled business conditions here great strides will be made in an effort to partially catch up.

You will be interested to learn that every man from this organization now in service will be furnished employment immediately upon receiving his discharge.

## Crookston Lumber Company

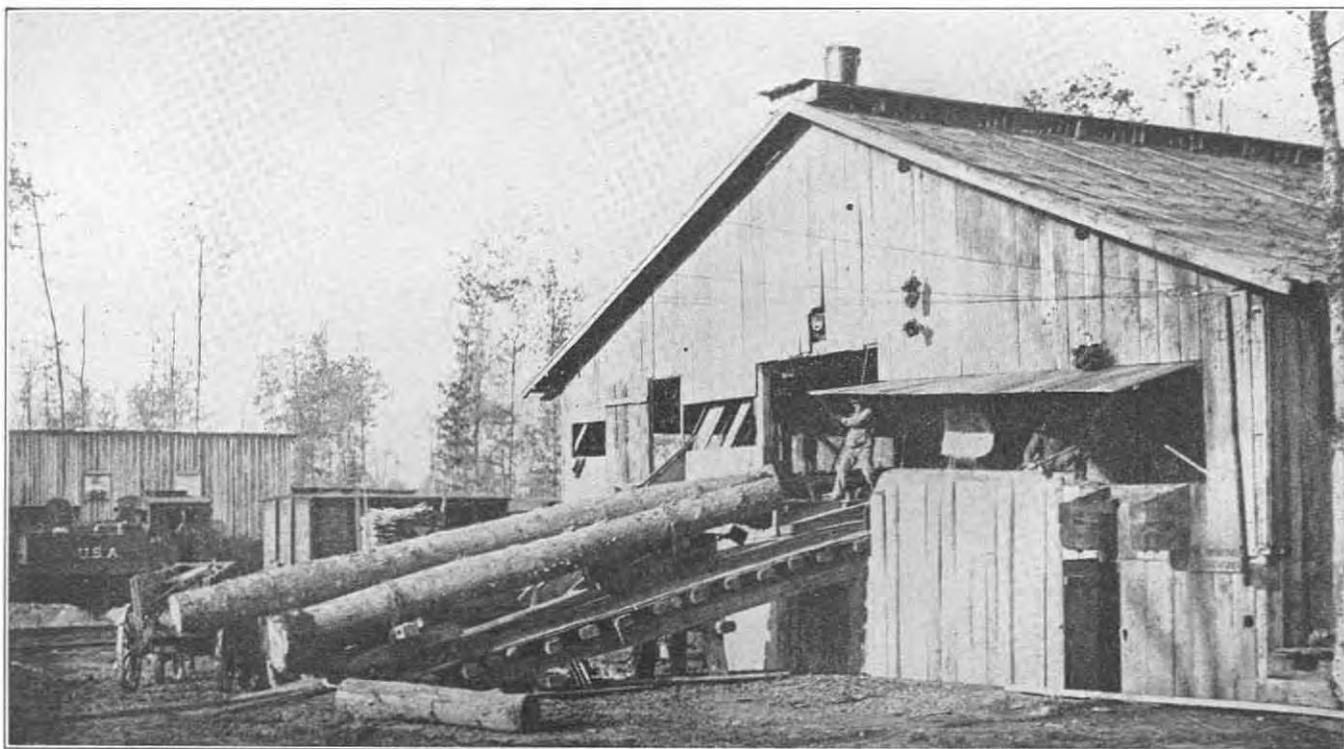
SALES DEPARTMENT



903 First National-Soo Line Bldg.

Minneapolis, Minn.





SLAKING BIG LOGS, THREE AT A TIME, IN A BIG SAWMILL OPERATED BY THE AMERICAN FORESTRY ENGINEERS AT ST. DOZIER ON THE MARNE

for France, money was appropriated by the Department of Agriculture ambulance fund committee for the purchase of six phonographs and records to accompany them. The day the 10th left Washington these were bought and sent to the camp at American University in time to go across with the regiment.

In the fall of 1917 when knitting for soldiers began to be pushed vigorously by the Red Cross, the women of the Forest Service saw their opportunity and took up enthusiastically the making of knitted garments for the men of the Forest Regiments. Wool was bought with money left over from the ambulance fund, new funds were raised, and the work grew to such proportions that regular means had to be provided for handling the wool and distributing the garments. Early in November a women's committee was formed, with Mrs. Henry S. Graves as chairman and Mrs. Lilian T. Conway in charge of organization. This committee took over the purchasing of wool and other supplies, and the making of knitted garments and sending them to the men.

The supplying of comfortable woolen things was the main work of the women's committee. Of course, everybody knew that the lumberjack has plenty of experience in making the best of hardship and discomfort, and that the men of the Forest Engineers had gone to France ready and willing to endure many a visit from these old acquaintances. But frost-bitten toes and a chilly spinal column never made anyone's work improve, and so, as the Chaplain of the 10th put it, "the sound of sweaters in the making was received with great joy" over there.

The sweaters and other knitted garments, however, were not all. The purpose was also to promote cheerfulness in the camps, and one way of doing this was to

send Christmas things. The first work of this kind that the committee did was to get together, pack, and ship a large box of Christmas things donated by the members of the Washington office of the Forest Service. This box contained 126 knitted garments, 164 bags, 75 cans, and 18 packages of tobacco, 2,500 cigarettes, and a quantity of candy, chewing gum, and pocket flash lights. Special arrangements were made to have this box go forward with Red Cross shipments to France, and it was with considerable satisfaction that those who had packed it saw it start on its way on November 15. It did not arrive in time for Christmas. In fact, with this shipment began the difficulties with which the women's committee had to contend all through the war in getting its material into the hands of those for whom it was intended. The boys knew that the box was coming, but they had such a long wait before it arrived that fears began to be entertained that it had gone to the bottom with some torpedoed ship. At last came the word, in a letter dated June 26, 1917: "We received here yesterday a large Christmas box containing a splendid and most welcome assortment of things for the men. . . . I can not but remark with what accuracy of planning and dispatch the box reached us an even and exact six months after the date on which you proposed it should reach us. But not one regret is there, and not one man but is most delighted that the shipping authorities so cleverly divided our 'from home' Christmas pleasures half way between Christmases."

As the 20th Engineers was being organized, the battalions were encamped successively at American University, Washington, D. C. Practically every man in these battalions was supplied with a sweater, and many were

given socks, wristlets, scarfs, and helmets, through the efforts of the Forest Service in co-operation with the Potomac Division of the Red Cross. By March 18, 1918, the committee was able to announce that, with the assistance of the Red Cross, the 10th and 20th Engineers had been supplied with sweaters so that practically every man had one.

The success of the plan to outfit the Forest Engineers with knitted garments was due to the constant and enthusiastic support of the women of the Forest Service in Washington and throughout the western Districts. They kept at the knitting all the time, and continually asked for wool and then more wool. The only difficulty was keeping them supplied. The workers knitted enthusiastically all through the summer of 1918, and the sudden coming of the armistice in the fall found the storage space of the committee filled to overflowing. There was no way of getting these garments across to the Forest Engineers in France. In the fall and winter, with the approval of the committee in charge of the "Welfare Fund for Lumbermen and Foresters in War Service," the garments on hand were distributed to sailors, soldiers at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, hospital orderlies at Camps

Meade and Humphreys during the Spanish influenza epidemic, and the Serbian Relief Committee.

The War Department announced in the fall of 1918 that each soldier in the American E. F. would be allowed to receive one Christmas box, and that he would be given a label which would have to be put on the package before it could be shipped. This order suggested the possibility that there might be some men in the Forest Engineers without any one to whom they cared to send the label. A cablegram was sent by the treasurer of the Welfare Fund to the commander of the 20th Engineers offering to send Christmas boxes to any of the men in the regiment. Labels were received from 283 men. The purchasing of the articles to go into the boxes and the packing was done by ladies of the Forest Service. Special care was taken to provide, so far as the small size of the box permitted, a variety of articles which would be useful to the men and at the same time embody the spirit of Christmas cheer. A number of labels arrived after the Christmas ship had sailed for France. This was a source of great regret, but, as the next best thing to a box, each man whose label came too late was sent a money order and a Christmas card.

# BOGALUSA BOGALUSA BOGALUSA

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Site of the world's largest saw-mill, 1,000,000 feet daily cut. (And still time left to be interested in YOU.)

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." "Some" lumber plant!—occupies 260 acres and requires a mill-pond of 27 acres. Cuts 1,000,000 feet a day.

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Where 250,000 logs of "extra dense," really superior long-leaf pine logs are sawed up every month.

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." "What do you mean—'Bogalusa'?" Well, its bank deposits are \$1,750,000. (\$117 per.) Write the Mayor.

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Where lumber docks total 18,000 lineal ft., with 60 miles of tram track. Plant operated on own refuse only.

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." "New one on me." Well, it has 15,000 people. 11 years ago its site was a pine forest. Mayor knows why.

## A Salute to the Heroes of the 20th Engineers:

You have contributed a big part of the biggest job ever done by men in the history of creation.

You have distinguished yourselves, loved your families, honored your country and given lustre to the great industry from which you went—with courage, patriotism, fidelity *and brains and skill* the best ever.

The greatest lumber operation in the world welcomes back home the greatest group of actual and potential heroes in the world.

Bogalusa is wide open to you. And the terms of employment are intended to express the above sentiments. *Bogalusa led all Southern industrial cities* in all war work—our boys won their honors "over there." Nobody "has anything on us." Write us in the spirit of this statement. We will reply in a parallel spirit. Try us. *Write the Mayor.*

"Bogalusa is the best bet in America."

Ask us about conditions here. You will get a truthful reply.

# BOGALUSA

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Tourists, in New Orleans, phone Great Southern Lumber Co., Bogalusa, for guides and Southern welcome.

# BOGALUSA

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Never heard of it? Well, the payroll of Bogalusa's Industries is \$250,000 monthly. Write the Mayor.

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." New paper mill cost \$1,500,000. Y. W. C. A. Bldg. \$35,000. I. M. C. A., \$50,000; Armory, \$12,000.

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Site of largest wood-pulp paper plant in the U. S. A. (As well as the largest lumber operation on earth).

BOGALUSA  
"The New South's Young City of Destiny." It's where the Great Southern Lumber Co. takes up and lays a mile of Railway track daily (60 m. total).

GREAT SOUTHERN LUMBER COMPANY

1628 4th Ave., Bogalusa, La.

# BOGALUSA BOGALUSA BOGALUSA

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." Where 700,000 railway cross-ties are made yearly, and the poor little box-shoos run 50 cars a month.

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." If in New Orleans don't miss this revelation of American energy and foresight. Take N. O. & G. N. Ry.

"The New South's Young City of Destiny." That PINE TREE INN equals anything I've seen. Who'd expect such a hotel in a city you never heard of."