FOREST REGIMENT OFF FOR FRANCE

The roster of commissioned officers in the "forest regiment," or, as the War Department designates it, the Tenth Reserve Engineers (Forest), has just been announced and includes two regular army officers, 15 foresters from the U. S. Forest Service and two from the Forest Branch of British Columbia, one lumberman from the Indian Forest Service, and 13 foresters and lumbermen taken from private or institutional work.

The War Department has designated Lieutenant Colonel James A. Woodruff of the Engineer Corps to organize and command the regiment, and Beverly C. Dunn, Captain of Engineers, as Adjutant. W. B. Greeley, now Assistant Forester in charge of the branches of silviculture and research, U. S. Forest Service, and formerly district forester in charge of the National Forests of Montana and Northern Idaho, has been selected to serve as Major on the regimental staff and to aid in the organization and equipment of the regiment. The remaining officers will be as follows:

Majors in command of battalions: R. E. Benedict, assistant forester in the Forest Branch of British Columbia, and C. S. Chapman, manager of the private timber protective associations of Western Oregon.

Captains: Edward S. Bryant, forest inspector, U. S. Forest Service, stationed at Washington, D. C.; Inman F. Eldredge, forest supervisor of the Florida National Forest, stationed at Pensacola, Florida; J. D. Guthrie, forest supervisor of the Coconino National Forest, stationed at Flagstaff, Arizona; Evan W. Kelly, forest examiner, U. S. Forest Service, stationed at San Francisco; John Lafon, assistant forester in charge of timber operations, Forest Branch of British Columbia; David T. Mason, professor of forestry at the University of California; W. N. Millar, professor of forestry at the University of Toronto; Barrington Moore, a private forester from New York City; Arthur C. Ringland, forest inspector, U. S. Forest Service, stationed at Washington, D. C.; Dorr Skeels, logging engineer and professor of forestry at the University of Montana. The three captains taken from university professorships are, it is stated, chosen because of their extensive past experience in practical lumbering and other woods work.


Recruiting for the rank and file of the regiment is actively under way. The enlisted men will be picked woodsmen. With only two thousand men needed out of the vast number of woods workers which the lumber industry of the United States employs, and with rapid recruiting necessary, a special machinery has been developed to handle the preliminary stages of enlistment. Local representatives of the Forest Service in various parts of the country and a number of State forestry officials have been designated as "listing officers" to secure applications from men in their neighborhood who are known to be of the right type. By this "still hunt" method it is believed that an efficient force can be gathered much more successfully than by encouraging a large number of miscellaneous applications which could not be thoroughly sifted without a great deal of effort. Great care will be used to secure men proficient in woods work.

The regiment will convert available timber behind the battle lines in France into railroad ties, trench timbers, mine props, bridge timbers, lumber, and cordwood needed in the military operations of the British Army. The work may, it is stated, fall within the danger zone and will be done largely in sprout forests of oak, beech, hornbeam, and other hardwoods, with some stands of pine. The timber is small in comparison with most American forests, much of it from 8 to 12 inches in diameter. These forests resemble the woodlots of southern New England, and the operations will be similar to portable sawmill logging and tie cutting in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maryland, and Virginia. The larger logs will be sawn into boards and dimension material, while the smaller trees will be cut into hewn ties, poles, props, etc. The closest possible use of timber will be required.

The French forests have for many years been managed with great care and skill. It is the view of the Government's forestry officials that if the American forest regiment is to do creditable work, it must be able not only to cut and manufacture the timber with high efficiency, but also to avoid waste and leave the forests in good shape for future production. This is the reason for selecting mainly trained foresters as officers.

The regiment will be made up of six companies of 164 men each, aside from battalion and regimental staffs, drivers, and commissioned officers. It will be sent overseas as soon as organized, trained and equipped. It will first be assembled at two training camps, the regimental headquarters, and one battalion at the American University, Washington, D. C., and one battalion at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Enlistment is for the period of the war. Recruits must be between the ages of 18 and 40 and must be citizens of the United States or have declared their intention to become such. They are subject to the same physical examination as that required for other military service.

While designed to serve primarily as a mobile logging and milling crew, the regiment will be organized on military lines and its members will be uniformed and armed like other units in the United States Army. The first duty of its officers and men will be to learn military discipline and teamwork through thorough-going drill at training camps.
FOR THE best abroad colossal may services in building for the of American being pushed in France in connection with the Inilitary sending been command. Forest engineers will military purposes. commission. more arm' furniture. docks and piers, trench lining. saddles. first be made not been the of agriculture to explain in what equipment 'lwhile thousand feet of the 25,000 originally National Defense. war which no apprehension that it country understand shipping the estimates that to be. made at each camIl glTn some a build­ings at army Paris, will of Henry S. a shortage delivery at such shipyards as may be serve as due purpose 5 per cent of one training lumber required for war work up to $35 a wooden will be called for, Graves men. Co·ernmcnl. the timbers required to be standard, of the total navy. has been to cause the request it allbel'llll:n can and it is a big figure. the camps by staff actually this is next Board proceed by to exceed require about 400.000.000 feet of lumber. largely swell is landed for year's the next to France in order to extent lumber produc­tion of be. This sounds like wooden shipbuilding program. which the committee esti­mates will require about 400,000,000 feet of lumber. in a statement the committee says: "The best estimate that can be made of the total amount of lumber required for purposes of national defense within the next twelve months is 2,000,000,000 feet. This sounds like a colossal figure, and it is a big figure, but should give no apprehension that it will disturb the markets or cause a shortage of lumber. Actually this will not exceed 5 per cent of one year's lumber produc­tion of this country." Here are some more lumber requirements seen by the committee: Structures for training camp purposes for the navy, 200,000,000 feet; aviation school cantonments, 120,000,000 feet; erection of 200 buildings at army and navy training camps by the war work council of the

FORESTER GRAVES IN FRANCE

ANNOUNCEMENT of the arrival of Henry S. Graves, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service in Paris, has led the Department of Agriculture to explain that Mr. Graves has been abroad to make arrangements for the forest work which the American army engineers will undertake in France in connection with the military operations of the Allied forces.

Because of the opportunity for service by this country in woods work incidental to the war which the request of the British Government for the sending of a forest regiment was believed to present, Mr. Graves has been granted leave of absence from his position as head of the Forest Service and has received a commission as Major in the Reserve Engineer Corps. He has not been assigned to any command, but is acting under instruc­tions, it is stated, to proceed to France in order to learn on the ground in advance just what conditions will need to be met, what equipment will be called for, and how extensively the services of American lumbermen can be utilized to advantage. Meanwhile the recruiting of the regiment which has already been asked for is being pushed by the Forest Service and is said to be advancing rapidly.

One of the staff officers of the regiment, Captain Harrington Moore, is with Mr. Graves for the purpose of arranging for its prompt assumption of the specific duties to which it will be assigned when it is landed in France. While organized on military lines, the work of the regiment will be industrial, not combatant. It will operate in the woods behind the armies, getting out timbers, ties, and lumber required for military purposes,

LUMBER FOR WAR-TIME USES

THE lumber committee of the advisory commission, Council of National Defense, estimates that 2,000,000,000 feet of lumber may be used for purposes directly connected with the war in the next twelve months.

The committee now is given to understand that provision will be made at each camp for anywhere up to 40,000 men, instead of the 25,000 originally planned. This may be due to the decision to call for 125,000 men to serve as a reserve for the first 500,000 men drafted for the new national army.

Second in quantity of lumber required comes the wooden shipbuilding program, which the committee estimates will require about 400,000,000 feet of lumber.

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INSTEAD of planting a horse-chestnut, why not plant a real nut tree? Pecans, hickories, or English walnuts cost very little more than horse-chestnuts, make less litter and produce a valuable crop.

MAPLE sugar season is over. It ended when the first leaves unfurled, the sap then becoming less sweet. Seventy drops of sap per minute flow from good trees, and twenty-five gallons of sap make about five pounds of sugar.