



This Official War Photograph shows members of the New Zealand Forestry Corps in England using a tractor and logging arch to drag heavy timber away after felling.

the size of a large plum." He found that it contained pitchblende. He had tapped the most lucrative vein of radium-bearing ore yet discovered.

Now, 600 ft. beneath the snows, in steam-heated shafts, radium-uranium-silver ore is blasted out at the rate of 100 tons a day. Every $6\frac{1}{2}$ tons of the ore yields a gram of radium.

It is estimated that man now possesses between 600 and 700 grams of radium—less than a pound and a half. Much has been used in luminous paint for clock and dial sights and other precision instruments, a use greatly expanded since the war.

The industrial uses of radium are almost limitless. Light rays fly off at such a short wave-length from the mineral that they can pierce battleship armour or a heavy mass of lead. So it is used to reveal, on radiographs, flaws in vital parts of important machinery. Experiments have shown that it can work miracles in the processing of silk and glass,

the canning of foods, the stimulation of plant-growth.

Its medical value, also, is incalculable. It is used in the treatment of birth-marks, eczema, ringworm, psoriasis, acne, warts, neuralgia, goitre. It will force menstruation to function normally and influence the work of the pituitary gland. Australian Army medical officers are using radium and its derivative gas, radon, increasingly in the treatment of tropical ulcers.

But radium's greatest aid to mankind has been in the treatment of cancer. With it many cases of early cancer can be cured, and it is an absolute cure for certain types of the disease such as cancer of the skin.

Of all our diseases, cancer is the most fatal. Commonwealth statistics show that one in every eight deaths is caused by this dread malady. To some extent this results from the fact that medical science has partly overcome many other diseases (tuberculosis, for example) and cancer usually occurs in older people.