

Home No. 2.

Hallo Albert,

I am quite out of practice with my writing now but I'll do my little best. Things are going quite OK here though we still have to wangle things carefully. I don't know when you got your last letter or how you are up on the news but I'll be mainly on bush this time. I'll just tell you something first. We had to dig up a new radiator for the white, the other one leaked too badly. Well we got one from old Semmens at Taneatua for £2, a real chuckin about we put it on and it was on for about a fortnight and then we put Simon on the truck for a day, you see I am working with the forestry, and damn me if he didn't ram the sawdust drain with it and poked a hole in it. We fixed that up and damn me if Ted didn't put his damn foot through it the clumsy fool. Christ a' could kick him. Well that's that. I have been working with the forestry for the last two months

bush any more. I have seen it; where the roads go to get it out so you may rest assured, we can get all of it, even behind the trig. By gosh it's great to know it all over. We were very lucky too, I mentioned to old Froh about a very rough scattered piece of about 70 or 80 acres and we are going to get it cut off the block so that whittles it down a bit. There is about 100 acres round the trig which is nothing but scrub so when you cut that off we will have about 700 acres with 4 million on it. This will give us about 7 years cutting. My being with them has saved the old firm much £.s.d. I can tell you, here's one little item. We have marked about four ratas in the whole bush and I can tell you there is lots of it there and we are getting £3.0. per 100 for it. Keep this dark. And boy there are quite a few trees with arrows on them too I can tell you. There tally will say 4 million but I'm damn sure we can beat that you

We are getting the blade put on tomorrow. We have been delayed with the power control for it but all is ok now. Do you know, that for some reason Cole has taken a great fancy in us, I think it is on account of our good timber, and if we want wire rope or any damn thing at all we just write to him and it comes straight down whereas we might not get it at all on our own hook. Wire rope is hard to get these days. He has offered to help us with getting new bark and God knows what not. He offered us \$1000 to buy a plane with the other day because he is keen on planed timber from here and gee so are we though I'd sooner see a deal frame first. Oh well - they'll come but its good to have him to help here and there, don't worry he's still at a distance. Cole's taken a great fancy to the old man. Home news now. Mum and Dad are keeping well and so ~~is~~ are all of us except Evelyn. She is having a bit of nerve

trouble, but don't mention this in your letters to either Youngs or home. There's nothing serious of course and I think that if Evelyn was to take a stick to those damn kids and shake herself up a bit all would be well. Lord you have no idea, they absolutely drive us mad on a Sunday. Yelling and screaming and playing up something awful, though I will admit Cecil is coming down on them a bit now, but Cecil is so flat out for over time now that he neglects his home. Do you know, I think Youngs are a little jealous of us now, oh but they are not a bad and it's good to see them now and again. I can't get films now much and when I do they are no damn good so - that's the lack of photos. We are starting to build Roy's house, and it will be good when he is in it. Really, kids are beyond Mum and Dad now and they need their sleep. Ivan wants to go on the bus badly but he's got no one to go with, I

The timber is beautiful. All in all I think we have a good proposition here. There will be ~~the~~ 8 major stands (about 150 rimus per stand and one or two smaller stands. I only hope you get this letter because you will eat it up I think. Do you know Albert I could loose any of these jokers in the bush. There are times when I was the only one who knew where to look for our tucker bags. There are 2 totaras in the bush, about 9 matais about 12 meros and the rest rimus and white pine. Your kike was the biggest in the bush. We struck a few rimus 6ft and one 6'6" in diameter though. They are measuring Tawa mangear and Puketea too. 4 million takes in every thing, but we'll let you know exactly when we know the real figures. I was surveying with Gainsford for a week or so. Now the news. Dulce is sure turning up trumps. Boy if you are wise you will get married soon and I can now say this after 4 months of married life.

cruising the bush, and we still have another week to go. There's Fred Armitage, Ben Brothers (I think he was in England with you) Tata Futa from Potaiti (Peter Futa's brother, Peter drove the Thornycroft for Mr. Pherson at Turuncleffes, Roy Nixon you know Roy, and me. I have been over every inch of Smiths bush now. I know every inch from the mill to the grass, from the horse track (George Emrys) to the grass or from there to home, also inch for inch behind the trig. I can tell you exactly what timber there is, what roads we want, and how many stands there will be. I know every ridge and track in the whole bush. There is going to be about 4 million. Important little sentence that eh? Not so much as you thought I suppose, but let me tell you, when you measure off 1 million trees you get the surprise of your life when you see how many it takes. There is definitely no need to worry about the