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Forest Owner

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Holiday Greetings from your President.

In our humble opinion this time of year must be of extra special significance to owners and students of the forest. On the one hand, in this part of our world, our forest community is in a state of rest or dormancy and quietly charging its batteries in preparation for the great burst of growth and regeneration coming in the Spring. The same is true of much of the wild-life although the chickadees and woodpeckers are as busy as ever reminding us of the continuity of things - and that if we are patient the dynamics of nature will be expressed when the warm sun and moisture come our way again.

On the other hand, we celebrate the coming of Life, One Solitary Life, and with that Gift we look ahead with the faith of our fathers to a better life and better world.

In spite of all the hustle and bustle of modern technology, including our artificial satellite "Stars in the East", we suddenly and hopefully come back to earth and realize that babies are born as they always were, and that the forest still takes its own good time in growing and reproducing according to unchangeable laws as old as creation itself.

Is it possible here that our lowly woodlots contain secrets, the understanding of which would take us a little closer to comprehension of the true meaning of Infinity? It is our belief that, in spite of our failures, and the natural feeling that many of these secrets seem out of our reach, the effort we make in search of the answers will, in itself, help us to grow and move a little nearer to real peace.

May your Holidays be happy ones.

Christmas Bonus.

Because of our change of fiscal year to April 1st, all of you having membership cards dated December 31, 1963, are automatically in good standing until March 31st, 1964. However, we are glad to take renewals at any time and these will be dated March 31st, 1965.

C. H. PEDERSEN of Deposit, New York, writes: -

TREES

You don't have to be a poet, like the immortal Joyce Kilmer, to like trees. If you enjoy the wild and its creatures, if you believe in conservation, not exploitation, of our beautiful countryside and its resources, if you ever stalked a buck through a forest glade or watched from the alders as a trout rose to the fly, if you ever planted a new tree or pruned an old one ... if you just like trees and are interested in any or all of these things, then we ---

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You don't have to own a forest to become a member; you don't even have to keep a woodlot out back - though, if you are lucky enough to have a forest or woodlot of your own, won't you please join us? Your experience may well be of value to us; perhaps some of ours may be of value to you.

What we are trying to say is that everyone interested in trees and forests and lakes and streams and wildlife will be warmly welcomed into membership in our organization.

We believe in conservation, in the broadest sense, as opposed to exploitation. But, we do plan to exploit the interest of our members in trees by making the fullest possible use of that interest, in its many aspects, for the constructive benefit of all.

FOREST OWNERS

"The newly formed New York Forest Owners Association is showing remarkable growth and group interest. The members, few of which are farmers, are hungry for information on forestry. Their members, together with those of the Empire State Forest Products Association, representing large land owners have the final say on how forest land will be managed and, hence, need special attention by the College's extension program. Their needs embrace such questions as forest investment, land productivity, leasing of hunting and other rights, timber sales, contracts and administration, handling of sales and services and promoting the welfare of forest industries."

----From Dean Shirley's report to Board of Trustees, College of Forestry for Board of Trustees Meeting, October 26, 1963.