



FOREST OWNER

- the voice of 255,000 forest owners in New York
- representing an ownership of 11 million acres

"No one can walk the soft carpeted aisles of the forest with adventure at every turn, or paddle a canoe over the winding waterways of a forest wilderness, without feeling a new grandeur in living and a stronger heartbeat."

Gurth Whipple

Vol. V

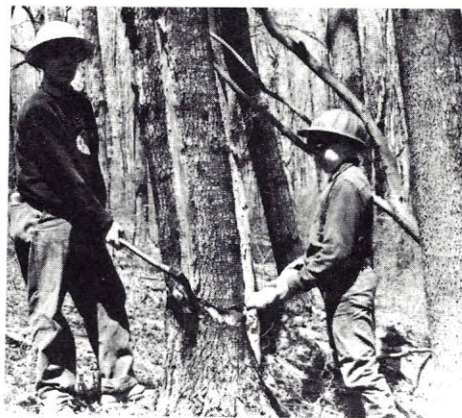
July 1967

No. 7

FIRST WOODS WALK A RESOUNDING SUCCESS (Continued from last month)

Up the hill and at the top of the ridge two of the young Kernan boys decked out in hard woodsmen's hats were carrying on timber stand improvement - one using an ax to cut frills around the trunks of trees marked with red paint by a professional forester for chemical killing. The other Kernan boy applied a chemical solution to the frill. Undesirable, poorly formed or diseased trees can thus be readily killed to make room for more promising young trees held back by the competition of the less desirable trees. County Boards of Supervisors establish just what cost sharing projects in forestry may be done - such as planting trees, improving wood lands, through releasing, thinning, pruning and the like under provisions of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

Right at the top of the ridge a moist, moss covered flat, offered an ideal location for a new red spruce planting. From here an old farm road took the Woods Walkers to the far end of a 16 acre lake, that attracts geese, ducks and other water birds as well as muskrat and beaver. The road lined with sugar maple and hemlock was a true beauty spot. Then turning left to where former hemlock stands had grown, Henry Kernan pointed to a pile of bark, remnants of a forest harvest of some 50 years before. The hemlock bark was then used for its termin in the preparation of hides for leather for shoes and harness back in the days of the horse and buggy. One pile of



BOYS IMPROVE TIMBER STANDS

the hemlock bark almost 5' high and nearly 6' long was almost entirely intact, with little evidence of decay.

Crossing a narrow rocky strewn ditch that may have been a small mill race supplied by water from the lake to operate what may have been a saw mill at a lower elevation, the hikers came upon a flat that Henry said had been formerly used for growing potatoes. Now woods and other native vegetation was returning. Included were numerous bushes which supply a blueberry harvest. In the marsh places there were some lush patches of cowslips or marsh marigold, gleaming a fresh mellow yellow.

Next stop was at a not too well handled pulpwood operation in red spruce. Here Henry Kernan brought out the serious need for capable timber harvesting-crews and the continuing shortage of dependable woods labor.

In complete contrast to the rest of the trip, the Woods Walkers now en-
(cont'd next page)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Controversy is a sign of interest and a stimulant to action.

The NYFOA is becoming involved in the forestry planning for New York State, in regional planning that might affect forest land owners, in the conservation activities of groups of young people, in policy and legislation affecting the conduct of forest operations, in the local problems of assessment and taxation, and in many other areas of public as well as forest owner interest.

The various interests within the NYFOA that express themselves provide a great service to the regulators of our society in the development of well balanced and equitable programs for the greatest benefit of the majority and the least inconvenience to the minority.

Our channels of communication are becoming strong enough to influence action at the highest administrative and legislative levels in the State.

When any member thinks something should or should not be done by the NYFOA, write a letter to the Forest Owner.

David H. Hanaburgh
President

WOOD SHAVINGS

"An increasing demand for hardwood products coupled with a growing scarcity of good commercial hardwood land and timber, can and probably will spell trouble for the hardwood industry. Therefore, it is very important that a greater effort be made through an expanded program of research, to increase the per acre growth and quality of hardwood timber.



WOODCHUCK UP A TREE!
CAUSE? - BARKING DOG BELOW.

WOODS WALK (cont'd)

tered a cool, densely shaded grove of red spruce. Several pole sized younger trees had been pruned and showed excellent promise for quality timber.

Red spruce is a special pride of Henry Kernan. Red spruce was the subject of his master's forestry thesis at Yale. He explained that red spruce has two outstanding uses. Because of its long fiber it is exceptionally well suited to pulpwood for use in paper making, and red spruce has high resonance qualities that make it in demand for sounding boards of pianos and in the construction of violins.

The dimly lighted spruce grove was heavily carpeted with a springy mat of spruce needles. Strewn about were many twig tips of new spruce growth. Henry attributed this cutting to the work of porcupine. The 1-1/2 to 2" lengths of the tiny spruce twigs however suggests this is likely the work of a red squirrel nibbling on the tender buds of the red spruce. We heard the clatter of a red squirrel as we approached the spruce stand. Closer examination of the surface surrounding the red spruce would probably reveal red squirrel burrows and piles of midden from feeding on red spruce cones.

Incidentally the red spruce gets its name from its red cones and was so named by the German botanist Johann Link, who according to Harris Collingwood, author of Knowing Your Trees states that Link was responsible for its scientific name *Picea rubra*, as early as 1841.

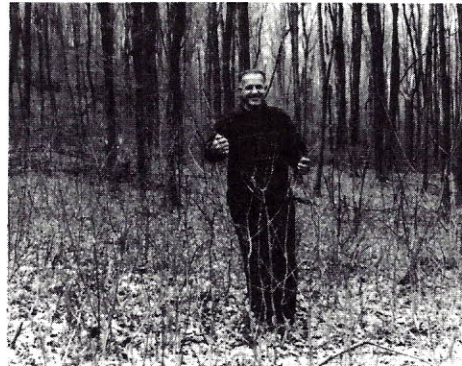
On question as to how he obtained red spruce seedlings for planting, Henry referred to the ease with which red spruce seedlings with roots near the surface could be readily plucked, and if planted immediately gave excellent survival.

On leaving the red spruce stand we followed an abandoned county road

back to the present county road. At one point we noticed where a farmhouse had been established. That this had been a home site was emphasized by a mass of lemon-yellow lilies, and some remaining over mature lilac bushes. Henry stated that three farm families had once occupied the general area.

At one point, in contrast to the alder thickets which had taken over a former hay field, the other side of the road showed a thrifty red pine plantation up to 20' high. The red pines had overcome weeds and brush presently occupying the formerly cultivated area on the opposite side of the road. Red alder does have value for game food and cover.

After passing several other plantations, the Woods Walkers came out to the county road, the clear sky affording an excellent view across the valley of Charlotte Creek.



HOST OF NYFOA'S FIRST WOODS WALK HENRY KERNAN is pleased by vigorous young sugar maples.

Dropping down to the two parked cars the Woods Walkers willingly returned to lunches, chairs and tables in the poplar grove in the back yard of Henry Kernan's home across Charlotte Creek the view of Quaker Hill where the three hour Woods Walk occurred.

Those enjoying the Woods Walk were John J. Ahern of nearby Worcester. He rode with his neighbor, NYFOA member Harold Tyler, RD 2, Worcester, N. Y., who operates a dairy farm with 75 milking cows, owns 200 acres of woods including a large sugar bush from which he gathers sap for an expanding maple sugar business. With two tank trucks he collects sap for processing from other sugar bush owners in the general area.

Then there was Steve Kutney, a barber from Binghamton. His son came along bringing fishing tackle and waders. Steve Kutney has forest property where he grows Christmas trees and has built a pool for fishing and swimming.

Nicholas Annato of Utica is employed by a large manufacturer of construction equipment. Likewise Nicholas owns a forest near Lowville and goes there nearly every weekend. He really likes his woods!

Coming from the furthest distance were Abbie Anna Royce, M. D. of Brooklyn, and co-owner of their 25 acre forest in Westchester County, Miss Beatrice Larsen also of Brooklyn, who works with Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

In addition to Henry Kernan, the host, Floyd and Helen Carlson were present, Floyd representing the Board of Directors and Henry himself the professional forester. Both a director and professional are required to be present to meet the needs of a Woods Walk.

The hostess, Jody Kernan, had made hot coffee for those who wished it. Lemonade was on hand for the non coffee drinkers.

Refreshed by the lunch, the Woods Walk was concluded with a half hour discussion that provided a fine exchange of personal experience and outlook that revealed great enthusiasm about the pleasure of living and working with forests and woodlands.

The first Woods Walk had indeed been a resounding success!

BOATERS, BEWARE; DON'T LITTER WATER

Litterbugging of the navigable waters of New York State, although many boatmen may not be aware of it, is now an offense that carries a fine of \$50 under a new law to which state sources call attention.

The boaters are breaking a new law every time they toss a paper cup, beer can or other type of litter overboard. The law makes no distinction even if holes are punched in both ends of the can so that it sinks. It is still classed as littering.



SUPERIOR HARDWOOD AT LEFT encouraged by chemical removal of undesirable competing tree.

FIFTH FALL MEETING FEATURES ARNOT FOREST

Professor Henry G. Williams, Jr., Program Chairman for the Fall Meeting, has announced that the program for the Fifth Fall Meeting will focus on the theme, Century of Change: Forest-Farm-Forest. The meeting to be held from 1 PM, on September 22, through lunch on September 23, will be held at Cornell University's Arnot Forest. Features of the Fall program will include a tour of the Arnot Forest, with distinguished Cornell Scientists; a visit to a successful private campground operation; a tour of the Cotton-Hanlon Mill at Cayuta; and a visit to the forest of a FOA member. In addition, members who attend the Fall meeting will have the unique opportunity to spend the night in a woodland setting in the Arnot Forest.

The program has been planned to enable FOA members to travel to the Arnot Forest in the morning of the 22nd, and return to their homes following the conclusion of the program on the 23rd. This arrangement will require members to spend only one night away from home. A continental breakfast will be provided for those who choose to stay in the cabins at the Arnot Forest, and there are several motels at Alpine Junction, nearby. No lunch is planned for Friday noon, the 22nd.

This program promises to be a real reward for Forest Owners because it will enable them to see the research diversity that exists at the Arnot Forest, and to witness additional ways in which the forest lands of New York State are being utilized. A detailed program for the Fall meeting will be presented in the August issue of Forest Owner.

FOREST FIRES IN NEW YORK DURING 1966

The Conservation Dept. has the very sizable responsibility of giving major protection to some 12,600,000 acres of forest land. This past year there were 1131 forest fires averaging about 5.2 acres. The total area burned was 5,856 acres, a decrease of 3% below the average for the preceding five years.

Of the acres burned 1,104 acres were grass and wasteland. The remainder 4,752 acres forest land.

The cause? Human carelessness due to smoking and due to brush burning.

There is still a job to do--one that will always be with us, namely:
KEEP NEW YORK GREEN.

NYFOA CHARTER MEMBER AUTHORS BOOK ON CATSKILLS

All members of the New York Forest Owners Association and particularly those of us who recently spent a fall weekend in the Catskills view with special pride and interest the publication of The Catskill Mountain House, written by Roland Van Zandt, a charter member of the NYFOA.

Reviewed by the New York Times February 5, this ambitious work (Rutgers University Press) tells the nostalgic story of the famed Catskill Mountain House built in 1823 on a shelf of rock a half mile above the Hudson Valley. In a setting of romantic elegance, the Greek Revival hotel with its impressive facade of Corinthian columns quickly became a "must-stop" for both American and European travelers on the Hudson. Wilderness and luxury, such a fascinating combination to the romantic tastes of the 19th Century, were the keys to the success of this unusual resort, located so far from the centers of population.

Using the Catskill Mountain House as the focal point for his book, Mr. Van Zandt has recreated the fascinating history of the upper Catskills to give a broad and illuminating view of America's 19th Century cultural, social and economic growth. Fashionable society soon discovered this luxurious retreat in a setting which was described by James Fenimore Cooper as "the greatest wonder of the American landscape."

Following the Civil War, the Catskill Mountain House faced the competition of many new hotels, the cleaving of the landscape by the railroad, the influx into the mountains of thousands of tourists, but retained always its supremacy as the most elegant and luxurious, the most beautiful, and the most unusual in its wilderness setting high above the river; for where else could one find a magnificent white-columned Greek structure, accessible not only by road but also by its almost vertical funicular railway which rose breathtakingly from the valley floor, gradually bringing into view the vast sweep of the broad Hudson River far below.

With the upheaval of World War II, the famed structure gave way to new economic and social forces and its gracious doors were finally closed. The vast acreage became a part of the New York State Park System. Curious sightseers and vandals invaded the partly dismantled structure until its skeleton became a hazard. At 6 a.m. on January 25, 1963, the state burned down what was left, ending the life of a building, but in no way impairing the memory of a romantic era in a setting of great natural beauty.

In a letter to Mrs. Luella Palmer (Membership Secretary, NYFOA) Mr. Van Zandt has written:

"The book grew out of my interest in, and love of the Catskill wilderness and its past history (I own with my wife, about 900 acres of wilderness in Shandaken Township). As I say toward the end of the book, the one good thing that came out of the demise and destruction of the great hotel was the retirement of its vast landed-domain, 3,000 acres of beautiful forests--as a perpetual wilderness for public enjoyment."

We salute Mr. Van Zandt on his achievement, and recommend his book, The Catskill Mountain House to the NYFOA. It is a living history of a great section of the magnificent wilderness of New York State written with deep love for the natural grandeur we all seek to restore and preserve.

D. Wertheimer

Note by D. W.

I have written the above with particular personal interest as the Mountain House was a part of my childhood. Our family knew it well, visiting it every year until I was in my teens. I remember going part way by auto--an open touring car--children on the jump seats and ladies protected by veils and dusters. We would change to horse and wagon part way up the hilly road.

"My father on foot always 'raced' the horses on the final stretch. He could jog along at a steady pace while the horses had to stop every few hundred yards at the 'Thank-You-Mams' to take a breather. Then Dad would pass us and be waiting victoriously at the top.

"On our last trip to the Mountain House, we were saddened to see it abandoned and to see the dismantling of the daring funicular railway we had ridden from the valley floor to the landing house high on the side of the mountain.

ARE YOU PLANNING TO MOVE?

You will not receive New York Forest Owner Association mailings if you do not send in your new ad-

dress. Third Class mail is not forwardable.

Mrs. Luella B. Palmer
Membership Secretary

FRANCIS M. LA DUC CHAIRMAN
NEW COMMITTEE ON FOREST
INDUSTRIES

Following his appointment by President Hanaburgh and the secretary's request for biodata, Francis wrote as follows:

Dear Floyd:

The following is a short history about me, as requested for the Forest Owner.

I am a native of northern New York State, born in Lewis County, and received my early education there. Upon graduation from high school, I served in the Armed Forces during World War II with the 10th Mountain Division in Colorado, Texas and overseas in Italy.

My formal education was resumed in 1946 at the New York State Ranger School. Following graduation, Class of 1947, I was employed by the New York State Conservation Department and the Virginia Forest Service until I entered the University of Michigan in the fall of 1949. I received a Bachelor of Science degree in Forestry (BSF) in February 1952, and immediately entered the employ of St. Regis Paper Company. Since that date I have continued with St. Regis as a Forester, and at various times my work has taken me to Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and the Canadian Provinces of Quebec and Alberta.

As an Industrial Forester my duties and responsibilities have varied, but generally my experience has been in the field of forest management, with considerable emphasis on forest recreation since 1962.

At present I am Superintendent of the Waddington (St. Lawrence Co.) Pulpwood Terminal, working under

the direction of Mr. H. D. Phillips, Manager, New York Department, Northern Timberlands, Forestry & Timberlands Division, St. Regis Paper Company.

I am a member of the Society of American Foresters (New York Section), New York State Ranger School Alumni Association, and New York Forest Owners Association.

Sincerely,

F. M. La Duc, Forester
New York Department
NORTHERN TIMBERLANDS

RETIRED TEACHER
IMPROVES FOREST

Miles Jacobs was a teacher up until the time he retired. Wishing to move into the Niobe area to be near relatives, he purchased a home with a beautiful view on the Hassam Road.

Two hundred sixty acres of land went with the view and 203 of these are classed as woodlands.

Through the efforts of John Nellis, FPA Forester, Mr. Jacobs became interested in improving some of these acres.

John worked up a management plan for Mr. Jacobs. The plan is being put into operation with 20 acres improved in 1965 and 70 acres improved this year. The woods were marked and the trees that should be removed were poisoned.

The crop trees that have been saved are now ready to start growing. It will be a few years before any are marketed but when they are, they will be worth much more than they would have been if no managing had been done.

By Glenn W. Cline

Cooperative Extension Agent.
(Source: Chautauqua County)

NO POLICY ON ADIRONDACK OR
CATSKILL PARKS

The Board of Directors of the New York Forest Owners Association, Inc. at its meeting in Syracuse on May 13, 1967 stated it is taking no policy stand with regard to questions concerning the Adirondack or Catskill Forest Preserve.

DAVID H. Hanaburgh, reelected President of the New York Forest Owners Association by the Board of Directors, stated that one of the values of NYFOA is that it encourages a variety of opinions regarding forestry in New York State, that it is the policy of the Association to encourage its membership to express a variety of views so that the Association may serve as a forum for forestry discussions.

In other areas the Association has taken positive positions: 1) It stands squarely behind the Tree Farm movement and encourages its members to qualify for certification as Tree Farmers. 2) It is actively supporting the Keep New York Green program. 3) It supports the further strengthening of the Forest Practice Act program to more adequately meet the needs of the 255,000 forest owners of New York State. 4) It is backing the development of a progressive, reliable privately operated timber harvesting service in New York State. 5) It recognizes the necessity for and the need to maintain competitive permanent forest industries within New York State and is working toward an economic climate favorable to their maintenance.

United States produces about 27 percent of world lumber.

President: David H. Hanaburgh
Craft Lane, Buchanan, N. Y. 10511

Treasurer-Membership Secretary:
Mrs. Luella B. Palmer
157 Ballantyne Rd.
Syracuse, N. Y. 13205

Editor-Secretary: Floyd E. Carlson
College of Forestry
Syracuse, N. Y. 13210



F. FRANKLIN MOON
LIBRARY

MAY 29 1968

SUNY COLLEGE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
AND FORESTRY

