

F647



FOREST OWNER

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

A NEW YEAR AND A NEW LOOK

The products and services of the Forest have never been more indispensable than they are today.

Our standard of living, in thousands of ways, is wrapped about and surrounded with products of the Forest.

In the search for quality of living and environment, the Forest stands out for both beauty and utility of the utmost importance.

Vol. 6

January 1968

No. 1

RE: GORDON DE ANGELO'S LETTER IN DECEMBER FOREST OWNER

Dear Floyd:

I was very impressed by Gordon De Angelo's letter in the last issue of the Forest Owner. He did an excellent job of pointing up certain concepts of the public land management controversy. I think the proponents of both sides are inclined to see everything as "blacks and whites, with little regard for the greys."

Many of the people who like true wilderness camping have little sympathy for the 100,000 individuals who were turned away from the more sophisticated public campsites because there was no room. They fail to consider that these campers may not have the knowledge, equipment or desire to camp without facilities. On the other hand the campsite users cannot see why they should have to wait all night in their car for a vacancy to occur, while all around them they can see vast areas apparently unused.

The hundreds of thousands of deer hunters, who see more and more private land being leased to small groups, wonder why something can't be done to improve the hunting on the State land, on which they help pay the taxes. Deer hunters, especially in large numbers, are not very compatible with hikers. A program of game management that would produce more deer would not be welcomed by the hikers.

The forest manager who sees unmanaged woodlands as a cellulose cemetery is seeing only the blacks and whites. He doesn't take into consideration the feelings of the people



Forest products in an average year provide United States railroads with 100 million tons of freight.

who like to go into areas where they can see conditions that might have existed forever. These conditions are not found where there is management.

How to resolve these divergent points of view is our real problem. How to satisfy Mr. De Angelo who is happy on a sand spit on the shore of Cranberry Lake, and at the same time pay attention to the campers who want to "rough it" with hot showers, flush toilets, and "dig up" the change for the lady who delivers the fresh baked bread every morning.

The public forest must be all things to all people, and this is difficult.

John Stock

FORMER VICE PRESIDENT NYFOA MADE PRESIDENT HOUSEHOLD FINANCE CORPORATION

Dear Dave:

Effective December first, I am joining Household Finance Corporation in Chicago as president. This will entail my moving to Chicago, and, although my interests in forestry in New York State will continue to be as active as before, and I hope continue to expand, the move will make it impossible for me to attend NYFOA board meetings, except at best, on rare occasions.

In view of the resolution recently enacted regarding board member attendance, and, even apart from this, since I feel that board members should take their duties seriously and attend meetings with great regularity, I hereby tender my resignation as a director of NYFOA, with great reluctance and regret.

I will continue to follow NYFOA's affairs with great interest and concern, even though from afar.

Our association continues to have, in my opinion, a vital role to play in the constructive development of the State's forest resources and forest product markets.

I have thoroughly enjoyed the associations and friendships I have made during my brief tenure on the NYFOA board, and regret that I must bring my participation in the Association's affairs to a premature close, at least from the standpoint of board activity.

Best wishes.

Most sincerely,

(signed) A. E. Rasmussen

"ARCHITECTURAL USES OF OUR NATIVE WOODS"

Talk by Frederick S. Webster,
Professional Architect,
At 5th Annual Meeting, NYFOA
April 15, 1967

Last summer (1966) I made a sort of pilgrimage to visit a house in Wyoming County that had been built by my great grandfather about 1835. I enhanced my wife's regard for my bump of directing, by finding it without asking directions, after not having been there since about the age of ten. I had only a dim recollection of being met at the railway station and driven by horse and buggy up a long easy grade out of the village. We found it with only one wrong turn.

Great grandfather had been a Rhode Island farmer living on the shores of Narragansett Bay. He joined the trek to western New York, lured by the Holland Land Company's offerings of cheap land, and partly it was said, to remove his son from the lure of the sea. After a few years of rather primitive living he built a fine house, typical of the era, with side-lighted front entrance, center hall with graceful stairway, three chimneys, several fireplaces et cetera.

The present owners were pleased to have us visit. They knew the history of the place, and although it had changed hands several times before their purchase, they spoke almost affectionately of "Miss Nettie," the maiden aunt who was the last Webster owner. The others of my father's generation had all left the area, and soon after my childhood visit, Aunt Nettie left too, weary of trying to manage a farm with only tenants to help.

This is of course just a preamble to the hackneyed observation, whether referring to automobiles or buildings, "They just don't build them like they used to." We all say this nostalgically, but actually we wouldn't if we could. True we won't again have floor boards 24 and 30 inches wide, we won't have oak timbers to build barn framed houses with 8 x 8 columns and 8 x 12 girders. But we have more efficient ways to build and more economical uses of the resources we have. Narrow floor boards are better than wide ones anyway, narrower and deeper joists make a more rigid floor than the same amount of board feet in widely spaced heavier ones.

Great grandfather was somewhat of a forester but only incidentally to being a farmer. He cleared the big

and little trees indiscriminately to create fields for crop farming. With the help of his own or a local sawmill he used the lumber effectively for his own needs and disposed of the surplus. Unfortunately, the commercial lumber producers of his day were just as indiscriminate in their cutting methods but without as valid a reason.

It is hard to believe it now but in 1850 New York ranked first among the states in lumber production, accounting for 30 per cent of the lumber cut in the United States. The Albany-Glens Falls area, for example, became one of the great lumber processing centers of the country, with timber moving out of the Adirondack area by way of the Hudson River and the Black River and Erie Canals. For about 40 years the state remained among the first ten in production, rapidly declining thereafter until 1915 and since then producing scarcely one per cent of the nation's lumber.

However most of the forests of New York State are in some stage of recovery from man's impact. Marginal farm lands, when abandoned, are taken over by scrubby cover like hawthorn and locust and eventually by real forest trees. But organizations such as yours realize what a waste of time and land it is to wait for nature's slow process. Proper management can short cut the development of valuable forest growth, and evidences are all around that this is being done.

My task here today is to outline the uses of the more important of our regional species that have been, are, or can again be significant in the construction industry.

When I first started to write specifications we frequently required that all exterior trim, such as cornices, windows, doors and frames should be made of Northern White Pine. For emphasis we parenthesized its Latin name, *Pinus Strobus*. As it became more difficult and costly to obtain we would specify as optional, Idaho White Pine or Ponderosa Pine, with the added requirement of toxic treatment because we still felt that *Pinus Strobus* was unequalled for weathering situations. White Pine is also an excellent wood for interior trim. It is dimensionally stable, easily worked, and takes finish well, especially painted finishes.

The other conifers are not as highly regarded by architects. When plentiful, hemlock and spruce were widely used as structural lumber for rough
(continued on next page)

HARVESTING FORESTS IN A NEW ERA

The United States today is well along in the vast transition from the initial harvest of our forests into the new era of scientific tree farming. We are growing wood faster than we are removing it by harvest and losing it to fire and natural enemies. Yet far more wood will be needed in the future to supply our expanding population, and there will be less land on which to grow it.

(Source: Forest Industries Council)

THE TRUTH OF TREES

When we would know the truth of trees, particularly of the hardwoods of our Northeastern hills, we go to the woodlands in winter. In summer they are a vastness of green and an ocean of shade with islands of grassy sunlight. They are woods in which the trees are too seldom seen. Now it is the other way round. Now, reduced to fundamentals and revealed in the cold clarity of winter sunlight or snowlight, they are trees adding up to woodland.

At no other season of the year is the uniqueness of a tree so evident. Now the thick-boled indomitability of an oak is unmistakable. There is no doubt about the corded trunk of a sugar maple. The elms stand like plumes against the sky. On the hillside the birches are lithe as dancers, and in the valleys are the tall, slim javelins of ash and poplar. Now even the texture and color of the bark are unmistakable.

Trees, not a forest or a woodland. Trees rooted in earth, reaching for sun and stars, each in its own way. And each with its own symmetry, its own pattern. Trees that have known ice and snow. Trees waiting, as only trees can wait, for spring and summer when they will be a woodland again, a vastness of green and an ocean of shade.

(Source: New York Times Magazine Section Jan. 22, 1967)

Maryland's Chesapeake Bay is the continent's major canvasback wintering ground. The birds funnel in all the way from Alaska and the Northwest Territories, and canvasbacks and Chesapeake Bay have practically the same meaning during the gunning season.

(Source: Outdoor News Bulletin Sept. 1, 1967)

Continued from page 2)

carpentry: studs, joists, rafters, bridging, etc. But they are inclined to warp and twist which makes the carpenters grumble. They will probably not be a threat to Douglas fir for framing lumber in the foreseeable future. However, they should always have a ready market in expendable uses such as scaffolding and form work for concrete.

Similarly our white cedar has been pretty much displaced by its Western cousin red cedar. Nearby Canadian provinces still market quantities of white cedar shingles and maybe this use could be revitalized in New York State. The white are just as weather resistant as the Western red and to some viewers are more attractive. Most of the weathered gray shingles we associate with Cape Cod and the New England coast are white cedar.

Looking at the state as a whole the hard woods dominate our forest areas, rather than soft woods. Even in the higher Adirondacks where the conifers are most numerous, we find intermixes of hard woods. Chief individual specie is of course the sugar maple. Its use in buildings is second only to its use in furniture. It has all the desirable characteristics: heavy, hard, strong, close grained, uniform texture with excellent resistance to abrasion and indentation. There is nothing better for a gymnasium floor and hence for any wood floor requirement. Fine interior cabinetry, doors, trim and panelling for natural finishes are beautifully served by maple veneers and lumber.

Closely following maple and for similar uses are beech and birch. They have the same good characteristics and a choice among the three would usually be made on availability or a specific preference for color or grain pattern. We have even used floors of all three intermixed, second grade, making a very colorful floor. At present we seem to find birch more plentiful and more moderate in cost except for flooring which is generally maple from out of state.

Opposite to the maple-birch-beech trio we usually think of oak as being equally important to construction. Red oak and white oak are very similar even in color as well as characteristics. Oak has the same desirable characteristics previously mentioned for maple, but it is open grained rather than close grained. Because of the large pores oak takes a great variety of fine filled or textured finishes, and



BOB MORROW TALKS ABOUT TALL TIMBER in Ced Guise Grove of Cornell's Arnot Forest to NYFOA members on 5th Fall Meeting Tour.

is widely used for doors, trim, and cabinetry. Once widely used structurally, oak is now too valuable for such uses where we can adequately substitute other species.

Less available and hence sometimes more highly prized because one desires particular grain or color characteristics, are a number of other hardwoods native to New York State, and to my mind worthy of exploitation. One could find, even recently built, beautiful interior uses of Black Ash, White Ash, Black Cherry and Butternut. These would usually be small in scope and the wood only finally selected after learning that some lumber yard had a sufficient quantity for the job at hand. American Walnut should be grouped with these as far as New York State origin is concerned. Walnut is currently one of the "IN" woods, so to speak, for both furniture and interior panelling but virtually all of it is produced elsewhere.

One of my partners asked me to inquire if the New York Forest Owners Association might be interested in sponsoring a research project. Our firm designs a great many schools and we are continually searching for ways to reduce costs of school construction. Many schools of wood framing are built in the west and, except in cities, our codes do not forbid it in one story schools, but it is rarely acceptable to a school board or the taxpayers of a school district.

Dr. William Haessig, Director of the Division of Educational Facilities Planning of the State Education Department has indicated that his office would like to assist in a research project on

wood school construction, its costs, insurance, safety, and prospects for fireproofed lumber. He thinks funds would be available for such a project either from federal sources or a foundation. If you think you have the interest and a little seed money to get it started we would be happy to initiate contact with Dr. Haessig.

In conclusion I would like to state a personal belief and issue a promise. I am sure that wood will continue to be an important segment of our building designs; its warmth and texture will not be supplanted by masonry, metals, or plastics. Manufacturing methods will help as much as forestry methods in making New York State woods commercially profitable. The plywood industry has made it possible to use valuable woods more efficiently. New glues for laminating and new methods of installation have made it possible to use smaller pieces resulting in less waste.

The promise is equally obvious: If New York State forests can furnish the materials competitively, the architects and the construction industry will find ways to consume them.

Frederick S. Webster

PAPER IS EVERYWHERE

Few people outside the industry itself realize the importance, variety and magnitude of the nation's ninth largest industry.

Paper is everywhere. It is man's essential mechanism of communication. Civilization itself is dependent upon the ability of people to transmit knowledge to succeeding generations as well as among themselves. Modern man stands in awe of his dependence upon electricity and the automobile. In like manner when he considers his birth certificate, marriage license, newspaper, magazines, food packaging, construction blueprints, textbooks and the many thousands of other uses for paper products, he realizes that no other commodity is actually more important to his accustomed mode of living.

INTENSIVE CULTURE INCREASES LOBLOLLY PINE GROWTH

At L.S.U. sample plots were given different combinations of treatments - irrigation, mowing, fertilization, tip-moth control and brush control. At the end of four years the average size of trees that had the full treatment was 3.4 inches in diameter and 20.5 feet in height as compared to 1.3 inches in diameter and 10.3 feet in height on the control plot. (Source: Forest Farmer 11/67)

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION LOANS FOR FORESTRY PURPOSES

The Farmers Home Administration makes loans to farmers and owners of forest tracts for forestry purposes. These loans are especially designed to help make farm forests a full producing part of the farm and to make needed adjustments in forests and land use. The agency makes three types of loans for forestry purposes--farm ownership loans, operating loans, and soil and water loans.

Farm ownership and operating loans may be made to farm operators, including part-time farmers. The applicant must have a farm background and farm experience or training needed to be successful in the proposed farming operation.

Farm ownership loans may be used to buy forest land, develop forest land, and refinance debts on land to be used for forestry purposes, to establish forest plantings, and to pay initial costs for carrying out approved forestry practices.

Farm operating loans may be used to clear and prepare land for tree planting, to purchase and plant forest trees, pay harvesting costs where necessary, and to pay other annual operating expenses of producing trees, including the carrying out of improved forestry practices such as fencing, pest control, thinning and fire protection.

Soil and water loans may be made to eligible farmers, members of a partnership owning and operating a farm, and domestic corporations engaged in farming. They may use loan funds to clear and prepare land for tree planting, purchase and plant forest seed or trees, and pay other costs of producing trees, including the carrying out of approved forestry practices.

Soil and water loans may also be made to non-profit associations of farmers and landowners to shift land into forestry.

To be eligible for a forestry loan, the applicant must:

1. Be a citizen of the United States.
2. Possess the character, industry, and ability to carry out the proposed operations.
3. Agree to develop and carry out an acceptable forestry plan.
4. Be unable to obtain sufficient credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms.
5. Possess legal capacity to contract for the loan.
6. In the case of farm ownership and operating loans, be the owner operator after the loan is made of a farm that is not larger than family size.
7. Farm ownership and soil and water loans to individuals may not exceed the normal value of the farm, as determined by an appraiser. Also, the Farmers Home Administration loan, plus other debts against the property, may not exceed \$60,000. The total principal indebtedness for operating loans may not exceed \$35,000.

The local County FHA Advisory Committee determines the eligibility of applicants.

The interest rate is 3 percent per year on the unpaid principal for loans made in connection with forestry purposes. Funds that are advanced for purposes other than forestry will bear 5 percent interest. The maximum repayment period on operating loans is 7 years.

Applicants are required to provide and to agree to follow an approved forestry plan covering the entire forest tract prepared by a qualified professional forester. Installments on FHA forestry loans may be made payable to coincide with the harvesting of forest products when justified in accordance with the forestry plan. Where needed, the initial repayment may be deferred as long as 15 years. Additional payments may coincide with future forest harvests. These repayment factors make it possible for the loan to be repaid from forest income, thus enabling borrowers to retain and properly manage forests.

Forestry loans are available in all states. Lending by Farmers Home Administration for forestry purposes has been most active in the Southeast. States in which the largest number of forestry loans have been made by FHA include Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Alabama, and Tennessee.

Applications for loans are made at the county Farmers Home Administration office which serves the county in which the applicant expects to carry out his forestry operations. Anyone unable to locate the local FHA office may write to the Farmers Home Administration, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20250.

(Source: Forest Farmer November 1967)

FORESTRY MOVES AHEAD!

John Smigel of Preston Hollow has completed 25 acres of woodland improvement for the year 1967.

This was a thinning project in a pole stand of native white pine and hard maple. It was marked by State Forester Jack Senecbau of the District Forester's Office at Catskill.

GEORGIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION DOES IT IN A BIG WAY

In its membership bulletin the Georgia Forestry Association, Inc. founded in 1907 has the following item:

Television program Monday July 24, 7:00 p.m. on all Georgia educational TV stations on statewide network hookup. The GFA Wood Use Committee, Harold O. Baxter, Chairman, has arranged the program. Get your local school people and governmental leaders to watch it. The program is "Use of Wood in Georgia School Construction."

And here is another item going out to membership.

1967 Annual Meeting success. The largest and finest annual meeting ever held by your Association was successful in all respects. Over 700 people attended...

CONSERVATION DEFINED

"Conservation can be defined as the wise use of our natural environment: it is, in the final analysis, the highest form of national thrift--the prevention of waste and despoilment while preserving, improving and renewing the quality and usefulness of all our resources."

(Source: a bulletin on Conservation Education Winter 1967)

SOUTHERN PULPWOOD CONSERVATIONIST ASSOCIATION REPORTS ON PLANTING

Southern pulp and paper companies and pulpwood suppliers accounted for the planting of 325,000,000 tree seedlings during the 1966-67 planting season, according to H. J. Malsberger, General Manager, SPCA, Atlanta, Georgia. Total acreage reforested in 1966-67 was 461,849 acres.

More and more of the seedlings planted each season, Mr. Malsberger said, are those which have been developed in special tree nurseries under controlled conditions, to have superior characteristics.

The super trees grow faster, are more resistant to forest pests and have a fiber structure from which better paper and paper board products, as well as other forest products, can be manufactured.



NYFOA MEMBERS ON TOUR CORNELL'S ARNOT FOREST

(Left) Fred Winch, Jr. by headstone of rural cemetery marking location of former farming community on Irish Hill--now returned to forest. (Right) Bob Morrow points out marked differences in height growth among conifers planted the same year on former cultivated land--during 5th Fall Meeting, September 22-23, 1967. All photographs this issue courtesy of Douglas M. Payne, Dept. of Conservation, NYS College of Agriculture, Cornell.

EARTH SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

(Editor's Note: The Question - Are we learning too?)

Do you recall this scene from Thornton Wilder's Our Town? George Gibbs, age sixteen, and his eleven-year-old sister are talking:

Rebecca: I never told you about that letter Jane Crofut got from her minister when she was sick. He wrote Jane a letter and on the envelope the address was like this: It said: Jane Crofut: The Crofut Farms; Grover's Corners; Sutton County; New Hampshire; United States of America.

George: What's funny about that?

Rebecca: But listen, it's not finished: The United States of America; Western Hemisphere; the Earth; the Solar System; the Universe; the Mind of God--that's what it said on the envelope.

George: What do you know!

Rebecca: And the postman brought it just the same.

George: What do you know!

This conversation aptly describes one of the dimensions of the Earth Sciences. We start in space from where we are and expand our horizons in ever-widening arcs until we find our place in the universe.

The other dimension is that of time--geologic time. And for this we look to the earth itself, to its rocks and fossils. Through them we begin to decipher our planet's history, and its incessant process of change, biologi-

cal as well as physical. We gain glimpses of a primary fact, that all forms of life are kin, and are dependent on each other and on their environment for very existence.

Earth sciences inevitably deal with the "stuff" of earth's environment--its soils and minerals, its air and water. And immediately we find ourselves in the realm of conservation, with its concern for the wise use of these priceless and too often misused resources.

Just as educators in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, and Biology have taken good hard looks at outdated curriculums and have swung into action, so, too, have educators teaching the Earth Sciences. Their endeavor is called the EARTH SCIENCE CURRICULUM PROJECT, with headquarters in Boulder, Colorado.

A new Earth Science course has been developed for Ninth Grade, along with a text and other teaching materials. Two basic objectives characterize the EXCP philosophy and are reflected in all of its materials. First, to teach science as inquiry, and second, to stress the interdisciplinary, unified nature of the earth sciences.

Instead of listening to and watching a series of lecture demonstrations, the students become involved in the "discovery" of science principles and concepts through laboratory and field investigations. In other words, students "do" earth science rather than talk about it.

"Happy New Year To All!"

And in this doing lies the hope that young people may learn to feel such identity with their environment--their planetary home--that they will of their own accord become involved in its care and protection.

These young people--these students of ours--are faced with a hard, ongoing task. In their hands, and later in their children's hands, rests the fateful decision: Is our planet Earth to be maintained as an environment "fit for life and fit for living"?

(Source: a bulletin on Conservation Education Winter 1967)

WHY PEOPLE FISH

Why people fish is something that scientists as well as recreation planners ought to think about as they go about their work. The main reason why people fish is simply that people like to catch fish. Good statistics from various sources indicate that fishing is one of the most popular forms of outdoor recreation. It turns out also, according to an increasing number of medical authorities, that it apparently is good for people to go fishing. There seems to be a high therapeutic value from recreational fishing in the nerve-racking technological society that America has developed. If we take the long-range view, it appears that fishery scientists and conservationists can proceed on the assumption that recreational fishing is a wise use of the resource.

(Source: Sport Fishing Institute Bulletin Nov. Dec. 1967)



ALEX DICKSON, CORNELL EXTENSION FORESTER, WELCOMES NYFOA MEMBERS TO RECKNAGAL MEMORIAL FOREST DURING FALL MEETING TOUR OF ARNOT FOREST. Shelter protects well designed panels on planting and plantation management.

FORMER FOREST PRODUCTS COOPERATIVE

The Otsego Forest Products Cooperative Association, Inc., now dissolved, was founded in Cooperstown, New York in 1935, under sponsorship, then, of employees of U.S. Forest Service. The purpose was to help establish, among farm woodlot owners of Central New York State, the principle of using and caring for forest lands of Association members in accordance with "Methods of Forest Practice adopted as standard by the Association."

The Association operated, from 1935 until 1962, with a maximum of 1395 "woodlot owner" members.

The Cooperative bought logs, cut in accordance with standard good forest practice. Logs were cut by members themselves or, if such a service was desired by a member, by Association employees. In such a case, a "Standard Delivery Contract" was ar-

ranged by the Association Forester. It specified what service, whether cutting, skidding and/or hauling, was desired by the member.

Logs were brought to the Cooperators' mill near Cooperstown by log trucks, operated by the Cooperative or other owners.

The logs were processed at the sawmill and the lumber, slabwood, etc., sold to farmer Cooperative members and to the lumber industry in general throughout the country.

The Association was dissolved in 1962. From your writer's viewpoint the Otsego Forest Products Cooperative Association, Inc. failed because of an inadequate supply of logs. And the scarcity of log supply was due to farmer owners overcutting their woodlots to secure funds for use in operation of their farms.

Marshall E. Green
Former Sec. -O.F.P.C.A.

Dear Floyd:

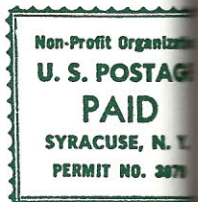
I believe that there is a definite need for a directory with both the names and addresses of members of NYFOA, a directory revised perhaps annually. From time to time in our monthly publication, mention is made of new members, but the new members would seem to have no simple and/or sure way to learn of old members in the same general area. For example, how would a new, or even old, member in my area know that I am a member of NYFOA? A situation showing the need for such a directory occurred only recently when through another organization I met Mr. Harry Ecklund of Jamestown and Gerry and then quite by accident learned that he is a member of NYFOA.

Yours truly,
(signed) Miles R. Jacobs

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