

Land Ownership
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FOREST OWNER

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

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FLOYD E. CARLSON RETIRES

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FLOYD E. CARLSON

THE REJUVENATION OF A FOREST

Part I

by

Luella B. and Emiel D. Palmer

This is the tale of a forest that has been used for about 40 years as a Girl Scout camp site known as Camp Hoover, in the Kettle Lakes district near Tully in Onondaga County. During much of that time every plant, twig and tree was considered sacred and inviolable. No tree was removed until after it had been blown down in a storm.

We became members of the Girl Scout camp committee in 1958 after having served on the staff of a coed camp with Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Campfire Girls at Camp Askenonta on an island in Lake Placid. We took a special interest in Camp Hoover as our home was within a few miles of it.

The trees on this camp property consisted of hard and soft maple, basswood, beech, black cherry, hemlock, ash and elm, to list them approximately in the order of their predominance. Many trees were of relatively small size, a few quite large and overaged and thousands of small trees struggling for their place in the sun. This forest was dying! The soil had become compacted from overuse and the trees grew very slowly or died from lack of sunlight. There were hundreds of dead trees from 2 to 6 inches in diameter.

The camp committee recommended a light thinning to remove:

(a) Hazardous trees, especially in areas of greater usage

and

(b) wolf trees; that is those that take up too much space and light

Opposition was immediate, negative and vociferous. However, we managed to have a few of the most hazardous trees removed each year.

We repeatedly fought without success for permission to save this potentially lovely forest. Finally, The Girl Scout Council was persuaded to become a conservation cooperator under the Forest Practice Act. Dave Riordan, a forester from the District 3 office, marked trees for an improvement thinning. This was done with three objectives in mind:

- (1) the removal of hazardous trees
- (2) the opening of dark areas for future use as campsites
- (3) the improvement of the forest by cutting for timber enough of the larger trees to restore a rapid growth rate.

These were our convictions:

- (a) a timber harvest was necessary!
- (b) the cutting and removal of logs must take place as aesthetically as possible under controlled conditions.
- (c) the cost of the extra care and extra work must come from the gross price paid for the timber.

We had never heard of a timber sale contract for an aesthetic timber harvest. Dr. Allen Horn, Associate Professor of Forest Management, and Walter Cook, a graduate student on a fellowship, both from the State University College of Forestry, were asked for assistance. Professor Horn is a specialist on the legal aspects of forestry as a business. Mr. Cook has written a paper on "The Use of Special Clauses in Timber Contracts for the Protection of Aesthetic Values". The title of the thesis which he is writing as part of his master's degree program is "Timber Harvesting and Aesthetics - A Critical Review of the Literature".

So far in this story we have obtained permission to try to save the forest. Will we be able to write a suitable contract? Will it be possible to find a timber buyer that will attempt an aesthetic cutting? The answers will be found in your Forest Owner next month.



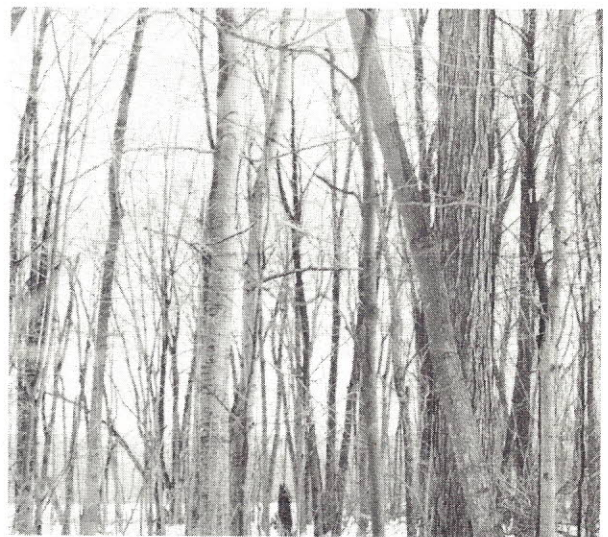
STUMP AND LOG THAT WERE APPARENTLY SOUND



TREE THAT CRUMBLED WHEN IT HIT THE GROUND



GROWING SPACE LEFT AFTER REMOVING A TREE



TULLY LAKE VISIBLE AFTER THINNING

FLOYD E. CARLSON RETIRES

Floyd E. Carlson, a pioneer in natural resources communications and public education, and for 39 years a member of the faculty of the State University College of Forestry at Syracuse University, retired on August 31st.

An active member of the New York Forest Owners Association, Prof. Carlson served as the organization's secretary, later as executive vice-president, during its crucial formative years from 1963 to 1969, and as editor for five years of the monthly Forest Owner. In April, 1966, he received the Heiberg Award "for an outstanding contribution to the fields of forestry and conservation in New York State," at the NYFOA's sixth Annual Meeting.

Born in the State of Washington, Carlson received his bachelor's and master's degrees in forestry from the University of Washington. His first professional forestry job was to help conduct the first extensive timber reconnaissance survey in Alaska. Subsequently he carried out a forestry educational campaign in southwestern Washington, where later the nation-wide Tree Farm program began.

Professor Carlson was appointed to the College of Forestry in 1930 to lecture and exhibit work initiating reforestation projects. He specialized in illustrated lectures, radio and television, and produced the first forestry and conservation TV series in the country. Beginning in 1946, at station WRGB in Schenectady, the College's first TV program was entitled "Poison Ivy -- Don't Get Rash!"

After two years of telecasting on WRGB, a series of 60 Tree Time programs was presented on WHEN-TV in Syracuse starting late in 1948. When the FCC held hearings on reserving channels for educational television, Professor Carlson was able to demonstrate that educators could effectively use TV by listing 72 programs already telecast, one of the strongest briefs presented. His radio broadcasts have been heard around New York State for thirty-one years, eighteen of which he produced a weekly show for the Empire State FM School of the Air broadcast directly into grade school classrooms across the state.

In 1960, Carlson was granted a leave from the College to serve for two years as Visiting Professor of Forestry Information at the University of the Philippines College of Forestry. Here he laid the foundation for a nationwide public education program in forestry. His round-the-world trip took him to forests of Japan, Taiwan, India, Lebanon, Israel, Switzerland and Scotland.

The New York Conservation Council honored him with the "Forester of the Year" Award in 1967. This year, Prof. Carlson was honored at the Annual Alumni Convocation of the Television and Radio Center of Syracuse University for long and effective work in forestry communications.

He is a Senior Member of the Society of American Foresters, and is a former Chairman of the New York Section during which time New York's Forest Practice Act was drafted and moved toward enactment. He is a founder of the Society's Division of Public Relations, and now serves on the National Committee on Information and Communication. He is a charter member of the Soil Conservation Society of America, and a member of the Empire State Chapter's Council. Carlson is a former advisor to the New York State Conservation Department, a former secretary and chairman of the Natural Resources Council of Onondaga County, and has participated in many community and Syracuse University projects and programs.

Prof. and Mrs. Carlson have two children and four grandchildren. His plans for the future include travel, lecturing and writing on forestry and natural resources issues and topics.

A NEW FOREST OWNER ASSOCIATION SERVICE

New York Forest Owners Association is now offering a new service to its members.

In the past, there has been much written, said and proposed to provide assistance, protection and forestry advice to forest land owners. The New York State Conservation Department, Extension Service, wood-using industries and others have been providing free forestry advice for years. Also, consulting foresters have long filled the gap for those who desired more intensive services in this field. Yet, in spite of these efforts ... witness: the past proposal to license Timber Harvester -- and now the new concept of Timber Agents ... it is evident that a communications gap does exist.

At a recent NYFOA Board of Directors Meeting, it was suggested that immediate steps be taken by our Association to fill this communications gap. In general, there are several basic rules that can serve as a guide to all forest owners. They are:

1. Know the species, quality and quantity of timber on your forest.
2. Seek professional forestry advice on what you have, the value of the products, how to manage your lands, and when to harvest them.
3. Know where the local markets are, who the buyers are, and what they pay. Ask for price lists and specifications.
4. When harvesting a forest property, never cut or contract to cut any forest products without a written sale agreement.
5. Finally, insist on good forest management, avoid over-cutting, and enjoy the beauty of a well-managed forest property.

As a service, and, effective immediately, any member of the New York Forest Owners Association who does not know where or how to obtain professional help or who needs the names of loggers and market sources may write to the Secretary of the Association, Mr. J. Lewis DuMond, 9 Grand St., Cobleskill, N. Y. 12043. Please give your name, location and size of your forest land, and the information you seek. Enclose a self-addressed envelope with postage affixed, and every effort will be made to provide you with the proper information.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 3 and 4 - 7th Fall Meeting at Hamilton College, Clinton, N. Y.
If you are planning to attend, make your reservation
at the Treadway Inn, New Hartford, N. Y. 13413

October 25- - - - Woods Walk at Camp Sharparoon, Dover Furnace near Dover
Plains, Dutchess County. Send your reservation to:
H. W. van Loon
120 Campus Road
Clinton, N. Y. 13323