



FOREST OWNER

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

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Editorial Committee

Lloyd G. Strombeck, Chairman57 Main St., Owego, N. Y. 13827

Lucille Betts
David H. Hanaburgh

Helen Varian
William Lubinec

Merle Wilson, Editor24 Louisa St., Binghamton, N. Y. 13904

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN - William Lubinec

Spring is a time for renewal and resurgence of new life.

Your committee chairmen and board members have been busy pursuing their varied tasks with renewed vigor. The Spring Meeting is pretty much firmed up. New candidates for directors have been contacted. Our "Forest Owner" publication has taken on a more professional posture.

We will have to take a more effective role in building our organization. Let us all strive to bring in at least one new member into our organization this year. More participation is needed in our woods walks. This is an excellent way for all of us to learn from each other.

Let us not forget that in the past, our forests were a source of income, shelter, food and medicine. May it be even more so now and in the future.

CARTOONS FOR THE FOREST OWNER

Beginning with this issue of the Forest Owner we may present a number of cartoons in each or varying issues. These are by Lucille Betts, though it is possible others may also wish to contribute original work in this field.

We consider the cartoons of Lucille Betts as showing excellent artistry, intelligence and humor, plus striking to the heart of any matter which they illustrate. They can "liven up" the pages of the Forest Owner and make it possibly more of an interesting experience for the reader.

The editor must point out, however, that when cartoons or pictures are published that they always reduce the reading content of the paper. The paper, being limited to 14 pages, of which only about 12 1/2 pages are given to articles, and/or illustrations, may be cut to anywhere from eleven to twelve pages of reading material when pictures or cartoons are published. As material now being sent to the editor is of high order and from many contributors who are authorities in forestry, and as many members now send articles and letters for publication, it is possible that some of these may not be published at all, or delayed, if illustrations are used to the extent now considered.

It may also be necessary to advance the deadline date again in order to receive cartoons that are applicable to current items. It would be interesting to know what the members prefer, and this issue should give them a basis for thought in regards to this new development.



THE ANNUAL SPRING MEETING

Day and Date ... Saturday...April 6th, 1974.

Where... At the Northway Inn, at the junction of the 7th North St. Exit of Interstate 81 and the N. Y. State Thruway near Syracuse, N. Y.

Speakers...Prof. Fred E. Winch, Jr. ... David Taber ... James Briggs ... and others.

Themes ... Forests as Energy Resources...Wood: Its Value as a Fuel and How to Use It.

Wood Fuel: Its Safe Preparation and How to Market It....Human Energy from the Woods--

Wild Foods.

Starting Time... First educational feature at 11:15, preceded by Registration at 8:30. The Business Meeting will be in between Registration and the first Lecture.

Members of the Spring Meeting Committee: L. G. Strombeck, Owego, N. Y., Chairman; John Ridings, Syracuse; Emiel D. Palmer, Syracuse; Renee and Frances Doster, Syracuse; Dorothy Wertheimer, Syracuse; Paul M. Strombeck, Kingston; and Prof. Alex Dickson, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Charter Member Mike Sullivan writes - "My family and I own woodlots in the Champlain Valley around Peru, N. Y. Most of it is growing white pine, some fairly well timbered and others not as well as we would like.

We operate an automatic sawmill with debarkers and chippers about 8 to 9 months of the year, sawing 90% pine. We normally buy 75 to 90% of our logs and cut the rest on our lots. All cutting is done as recommended by the F. P. A. foresters, most is worked by the Conservation Dept. here.

To me, the most worthwhile thing in life, along with getting a bit of enjoyment from it, is leaving the land, meaning woods, in a bit better condition than I find it and encouraging others to do the same.

The sympathy of N.Y.F.O.A. is extended to Mrs. C. M. Suter on the death of her husband Dr. Chester M. Suter, of Chatham, N. Y.

Dr. Bernard Hartnett calls his forest FROZEN ACRES TREE FARM.

NYFOA WOODS WALK PROGRAM

I have concluded from last years experience that detailed plans, made at the top, cannot be depended upon. Three attempts were made: (1) Camden, where not even the previous year's walkers responded, (2) Enfield Park, where cancellations wiped out the initial sparse show of interest, and (3) Wilton, where Dr. Orra Phelps entertained one party of four persons.

Accordingly, I recommend that NYFOA members be invited, through the Forest Owner, to correspond directly with the hosts. I have received the following invitations, dates to be arranged at mutual convenience of host and walkers.

John Smigel
Medusa, N. Y. 12120

Betty Campbell
444 East 55th Street, Apt. 6E
New York, N. Y. 10022

Fred Najer
Chesterton, N. Y. 12817
(winter address - 620 Butternut Drive, Sarasota, Fla. 33577)

Archie W. Koon, Ch.
R. D. 1, Auburn, N. y. 13021

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Mr. Henry S. Kernan
College of Environmental Science & Forestry
Syracuse Campus, Syracuse, N. Y. 13210

Dear Mr. Kernan:

Thank you for your invitation. I am sending the copy, shown below, to Lloyd G. Strombeck-57 Main Street, Owego, N. Y. 13827, for editing and publishing in the Forest Owner.

COPY: "I would like to be the host of woods walkers on my property at South Worcester, n. Y. The date I can set is Saturday, June 1. The first NYFOA woods walk was held on my property, and I recall it as a pleasant occasion. The property is described in the October, 1973 issue of American Forests.

"My proposal is to meet at 10 AM, walk for 2 hours, have a picnic lunch, and break up the walk after discussion and questions. I will walk with as few or as many as care to come. I therefore do not need to know ahead how many there will be.

"What do you consider the next step to be?"

Very truly yours,
Archie W. Koon
RD 1 Auburn, N. Y. 13201

Potato chips - high energy fuel - save electricity, gas, coal, & wood.

Dear Mr. Strombeck;

Perhaps you should add to the notice about the woods walk on June 1, the enclosed instructions as to how to reach the trysting place. Also let it be known that I will send individual instructions to anyone who wants to write me asking directions and signifying an interest to participate.

Is there anything else I need do?

Sincerely,
Henry S. Kernan

PS Very best address is: South Worcester, N. Y. 12197.

A schematic map was enclosed which shows Route 13, between Oneonta and Stamford, and at Butts Corner one goes toward Fergusonville and Charlotteville. At or about at South Worcester one turns to the right, to the site of the woods walk. Mileage was not given.

CONDEMNATION - David H. Hanaburgh
From the February 1974 "Northern Logger"

The Hancock (N.Y.) Herald, in its December 20 issue published a petition, signed by about 500 voters in Southeastern New York State, collected by Victor Gardner, a farmer and sawmill owner at Long Eddy, N. Y., which read in part as follows:

"OUR CONCERN: In the creation of the Adirondack Park Agency early this year power was given to: The Adirondack Park Agency, the Department of Environmental Conservation and other commissions: To control, limit and diminish the human population upon the privately held lands within the Adirondack Park. Considering that members of the Park Agency are APPOINTED for seven years; and that members of the Department of Environmental Conservation are appointed; and considering that in no way are these

governing bodies subject to local voter approval: Therefore we believe a serious breach of Democratic Government has been committed.

"Upon close inspection we find that the proposed Catskill Park and the proposed Wild River on the Delaware are designed in the same manner to weaken and destroy our civil rights....

"Fearful of more dictatorial acts, growing corruption, suppression of free speech, and the complete collapse of democratic process throughout the State of New York: WE PETITION

"That all environmental controls (including zoning in rural areas) be made subject to referendum by the voters of the local government involved; including Village, Township and County. This is to include also all private land held within the newly created Adirondack Park."

This petition has been sent to the President and members of the Congress of the United States and to the Governor and members of the Legislature of New York State.

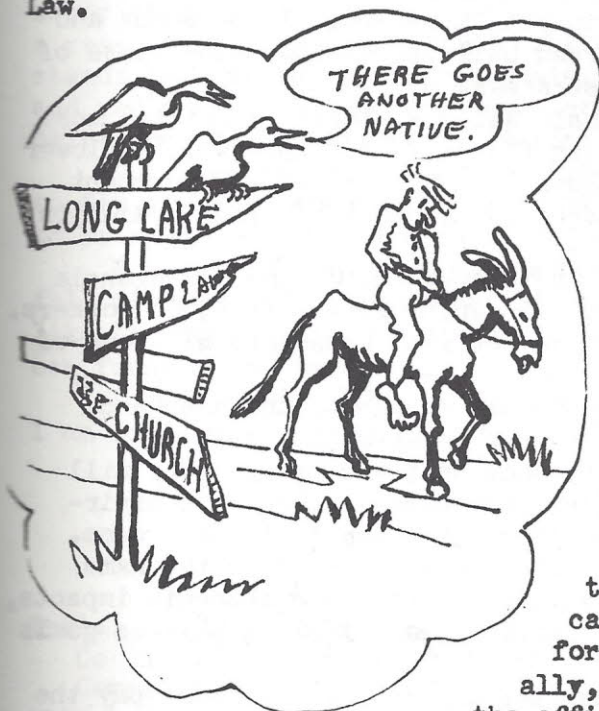
David H. Hanaburgh
Comma. on Condemnation & Trespass

CONDEMNATION

On 6 December 1973, Mr. F. E. Fisher, Box 163, Prospect, N. Y. 13435 wrote a letter to the Editor of the Hamilton County News asking: "Is it possible that an official in Albany can point to a spot on the map and tell his understudy to take that piece of land and the rightful owner can do nothing about it except fight the big State of New York or to take whatever they wish to give him?"

Here is the answer, in part, from the Hamilton County News of 13 December 1973:

"The procedures are prescribed in Section 3-0305 of the Environmental Conservation Law.



Here is the way expropriation, under the name of appropriation, is taking place today under the authority of the Commissioner of Environmental Conservation.

-EnCon, having chosen a particular parcel of land, draws up a map of that parcel and compiles available background information on it.

-EnCon then sends an order to the Attorney General and requests that an abstract of title for the land be prepared.

-The Department of Law prepares the abstract, certifies any persons having an interest in the land, and returns this information to EnCon.

-EnCon next files the map of the land, in the concerned County Clerk's office. It is at this point that land is appropriated.

-A notice of appropriation is then served on the former owner of the land. (We say "former" because by this time that is what the owner is - a former owner). This notice may either be served personally, or in the case of an absentee owner, by filing in the office of the appropriate county clerk.

EnCon may go to the owner with an offer of remuneration, but the law does not require this. (However, the exercise of eminent domain requires just compensation.)

The former owner, that is, the person served, has two years from the date of service to go to the Court of Claims for just remuneration.

The Environmental Conservation Law authorizes the Commissioner to remove the owner from the property thirty days after the service of the notice of appropriation."

David H. Hanaburgh

IMPORTANT CASE FROM WEST VIRGINIA
When a Victory Isn't

Preservationists, who like to call themselves environmentalists, are claiming a victory in West Virginia with a recent court decision halting timber harvesting in the Monongahela National Forest.

But the ruling, coming in the midst of the energy and fuel shortage, isn't a victory at all for the American people. It will cost them far more in fuel consumption, revenues lost to local counties, and environmental disturbance.

The greatest impact is to timber growing and forest management. The decision restricts the forest manager in selecting the best silvicultural method of harvest to obtain regeneration of a new forest. And all National Forests throughout the country could be affected by the precedent set in the Monongahela case.

The finding of the Federal District Court for Northern West Virginia against the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service goes to the heart of the agency's authority to sell timber from the National Forests--authority it has had since passage of the Organic Act of 1897, which created and defined the purpose of the National Forest System.

The Izaak Walton League, Sierra Club and Natural Resources Defense Council initiated the suit against the Secretary of Agriculture early this year. Timber sales in the Monongahela were halted in June when the Court issued a temporary restraining order. The sale of 30.6 million board feet of timber may be held up, at least until an appeals court rules on the lower court decision.

By effectively eliminating patch and clearcut timber harvesting, any future harvesting must be done by selective cutting -- even though the species may require clearcut harvest methods to regenerate a new forest. Periodic commercial thinnings of timber stands, essential to obtain full growth, also are effectively banned. It means a more elaborate system of roads and more fuel consumption to get timber out of the woods and to the mills. And Forest Service studies show that road building is the major cause of soil erosion and stream turbidity in commercial forest areas.

Revenues to West Virginia counties from Monongahela National Forest receipts, most of it from timber sales, amounted to nearly \$114,000 in fiscal 1973. They will be lower in future years, perhaps by as much as 75 percent. Local counties receive 25 percent of the revenue from National Forest receipts. In fiscal 1973, nationwide, \$114 million was returned to local counties.

The decision is creating hardships for local mills that depend on the Monongahela for all or a portion of their timber supply. These mills employ more than 5,000 workers. Their contribution in local payrolls, taxes and business activity runs into millions of dollars annually.

If the decision is a victory, it is a costly one to the people of the area and their environment. It will not improve the level of timber management. Rather, forestry experts claim, the decision will set forestry back half a century. Nor will it increase the nation's supply of timber, add to county revenues, protect the environment or reduce the consumption of fuel. It will do just the opposite in each case.

This brings home the fact that actions initiated and decisions made in the name of "the environment" are counter-productive when they ignore social and economic impacts, especially at this time of alarming energy and fuel shortages, and fail to balance goals with reality in arriving at solutions.

When a special-interest few score such victories, the majority of citizens pay the price, in this and future generations, and something is askew with our democratic system.

IMPORTANT LETTERS AND ARTICLE - Hardy L. Shirley

14 Centennial Drive
Syracuse, N. Y. 13207

Mr. Merle Wilson, Editor
25 Louisa Street
Binghamton, N. Y. 13904

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I am submitting for the April issue of the Forest Owner some comments on the "Reports from Washington" that appeared in the February 1 issue. I have been dismayed by the many press reports that blast the Panel report based on their declaration that the Panel recommended increasing the harvest from the national forests by 50 to 100 percent. They use this one misreading to brush aside the report as a whole. I feel that the members of the New York State Forest Owners Association are entitled to a fairer evaluation of the Panel's work, for it does deal in a factual way with most of the forestry questions that trouble the public mind.

Two other items appeared in the February 1 issue that may mislead the unwary reader. Ed Moot's column on page 8 quotes an Environmental Protection Agency release of land misuse items: "One million acres of forest CLEARCUT annually." This may or may not be land misuse depending on whether a new forest promptly results. If it does, to clearcut but 0.2 percent of our 500 million acres of forest annually can scarcely be considered irresponsible action or bad stewardship.

On Page 14 Allen Knight says this about Sweden's forest law: "For example, the Silvicultural Act of 1948 states that a 'forest capable of development may not be felled except by thinning.' In other words no clearcutting. After a stand is felled, the owner is obliged to take such action that will ensure satisfactory regeneration after a reasonable period of time." What the law does prohibit is clearcutting of immature stands that are growing vigorously. Mature stands are generally clearcut in Sweden and replanted, or regenerated by other means. The point is that they are required to be regenerated, whatever the method of final harvest.

Our New York Forest Owners Association is too important and useful an organization to fly a banner entitled "BAN CLEARCUTTING". Forest care and use is far too intricate to be helped by such slogans.

I may be commenting again on other aspects of the Panel's report. It contains a full discussion of the pro's and con's of clearcutting and other issues. If you would like to have a copy one can be had from the Forest Service in Washington, D. C., or I can furnish you one myself.

I am pleased with the way the Forest Owner has grown, and wish you well with it. I am sorry not to have been more helpful myself.

Sincerely,
Hardy L. Shirley
Dean Emeritus
State University of New York
College of Environmental Science & Forestry

Incl:

Cc ltr. to Congressman Jones
Comments

HLS/jl

cc: Congressman Ed Jones
7th District of Tennessee
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

MANAGING OLD GROWTH RESERVES, A NATIONAL FOREST POLICY ISSUE

Congressman Ed Jones of Tennessee concludes his "Reports from Washington" in the February 1st issue of the Forest Owner with a request for reader opinion on certain public forest issues. Unfortunately, he, as have many other commentators on the report of The President's Advisory Panel on Timber and the Environment, confused statements of fact and opinion in major recommendation 8 with the recommendation itself. To clarify the issue I quote the recommendation in full below with the section calling for action underlined.

8. The annual harvest on lands available for commercial timber production on western national forests can be increased substantially. Analyses based upon nationwide forest inventory data indicate possibilities for increasing the old growth cutting rate in the range of 50 to 100 percent. The Panel's consultant believes that on four forests analyzed in his report, the annual harvest rate should average 39 percent more, than is now proposed in recently prepared Forest Service plans. The Panel recommends that the Forest Service promptly review and revise policies for allowable cut determinations including rotation period determinations, stocking objectives, and old growth management policies for the western national forests. The precise revised level of harvest must be worked out for appropriate geographical areas and must consider, for each area, condition of existing timber stands, road accessibility, market demands, impact on non-Federal forests and future timber supplies and do so within the limits of sustained yield. The Panel recognizes that an accelerated harvest of old growth timber in national forests should be undertaken only provided adequate provision is made for financing whatever intensified timber management is needed to support the new level of harvest. If harvest on national forests during the 1970's is accelerated, it will tend to reduce the pressure for harvest of timber from private forests, thereby tending to increase their growth of timber in this and later decades."

In making this recommendation the Panel had in mind the disparity in timber growth rate between national forest and other forest lands. The table below, arranged from Table 10 on page 17 of The Outlook for Timber in the United States, Forest Service, 1973, will enable the reader to grasp some of the rationale behind the Panel's recommendation.

Average Net Annual Growth per Acre, Potential Growth, and Percent of Potential Growth Realized by Forest Ownership
Class, 1970

| | National Forests | Other Public | Forest Industry | Other Private |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Current Growth (cubic feet) | 30 | 39 | 52 | 36 |
| Potential Growth (cubic feet) | 73 | 68 | 83 | 72 |
| Potential realized (percent) | 41 | 57 | 63 | 50 |

The national forests are far behind industry lands in approaching their potential contribution to the Nation's timber supply. This is no criticism of the Forest Service; in the South national forests achieved 73 percent of potential growth, forest industry lands 56 percent. What the above table does highlight is the very low net growth rate that occurs on the uncut western national forests, and the fact that those in the South that have been cutover and now are growing rapidly. Western national forest timber was held off the market, and action the forest industries urged while they were reducing

their own inventories that invited heavy taxes and interest charges while producing little if any net growth.

A few more facts may allay fears that the Panel made irresponsible suggestions. As of January 1, 1970, the national forests had 992 billion board feet of softwood inventory, 51 percent of the national total. (See page 32 of the above cited report.) Annual growth and harvest were respectively 8.6 and 12.7 billion board feet, causing a net reduction of inventory of 4.1 billion. (Page 275 of above cited report.) At this rate of draw-down the inventory would theoretically last 239 years. Were the Harvest rate increased by 50 percent to 18.05 billion board feet annually it would take the 9.55 yearly deficit 103 years to exhaust the old growth reserve, ample time to complete a full forest rotation. Assuming that by that time the level of growth on the national forests attained 63 percent of potential they would be producing 26.5 billion board feet per year in perpetuity. The fact that the public needs to grasp is that mature old growth timber produces little or no net growth, nor can it be hoarded for an indefinite time period.

The need for timber for housing and other essential uses is now acute and seem likely to remain so. What the Nation should do is to increase the growth rate on all its forest lands by adopting measures such as the Panel recommended.

Hardy L. Shirley, Study Director
The President's Advisory Panel on
Timber and the Environment

Congressman Ed Jones
7th District of Tennessee
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman Jones:

I was pleased to learn of your concern for the Nation's forest policy as quoted under "Reports from Washington" in the February 1, 1974, New York Forest Owner. I am enclosing a copy of my comments on this which is being submitted to the Forest Owner for the April issue.

As members of the Congress are well aware, our people feel the need for new housing. Since 1969 we have embarked on a vast housing program that immediately ran into timber shortages. This program is still far behind the goal of 26 million new units by 1978 set by the Congress, even though new construction remains far above previous levels. Concern for environment also has been aroused and few would wish to see it ignored. Unfortunately the public in general has been led to associate timber harvesting with environmental abuse. Cases of such abuse, of course, can be cited.

What the public has not done is to weigh the consequences of alternatives. Housing needs could be neglected; or steel, aluminum and concrete could be used for house construction and farm-grown fibers for pulp and paper products. Neglect of housing is scarcely to be countenanced; mining ore and limestone renders the land unsuitable for growing crops for centuries, and processing ore and cement requires vastly more energy than harvesting timber and sawing lumber. Cultivated land is far less efficient than forests for fiber production, and the end product is less useful. Moreover such production would be soil-exhausting unless fertilizers were used. Harvest of wood from forests, on the other hand, whatever the method of cutting used, has rarely been found to remove more plant nutrients than would be replaced within a decade of less from mineral decomposition, additions from dust and rainfall, and that restored by biotic action.

The environmental effect from timber harvesting that is real and most offensive is the appearance of a recently cutover forest, especially one cut by logger's choice method. It may take ten years or more for slash to become masked by new growth

and derelict trees to die and fall. Still nature does restore such areas and provides much food for ground dwelling wildlife. She can do both faster if aided by man. Nationwide, the amount of soil erosion that results from logging is small compared with that due to cultivation of farm crops or from road and other construction.

The above and much else is carefully documented in the report and appendices of the President's Advisory Panel on Timber and the Environment. It is hoped that the people and their representatives will use such well considered facts in arriving at a national forestry program.

Sincerely,
Hardy L. Shirley
Dean Emeritus
State University of New York
College of Environmental Science and Forestry

Incl.

Comments to Forest Owner

cc: Mr. Merle Wilson, Editor
25 Louisa Street
Binghamton, N. Y. 13904

PILE O' CHIPS - Ed Moot

Have you fellows, and ladies seen the article in February issue of American Legion Magazine? Editorial page 6 entitled Valuable Dead Wood. Wonder if they have been stealing our thoughts. What do you think about the import of that news item in a national and perhaps world wide magazine - a very good magazine by the way. Write Editor Wilson re your opinions.

Write to YOUR congressman NOW and ask for a copy of bill H. R. 10294 - What do you think of the bill - write the NYFOA editor on your opinion? We have ours but do not want to fill up the pages with OUR opinion.

The Southern Forest Assn. from Louisiana sends us this dope to get us interested - are we interested - we should be.

If you want more dope write: The Southern Forest Products Assn, Post Office Box 52468, New Orleans, Louisiana 70152.

Hurrah, we are going OFF Set. What a wonderful thing. When the late wonderful MRS Palmer, with the aid of Prof. Carlson, used to put out the Forest Owner we were really going places. Now you fellows and gals, who own private forests set down to your own "bean threshers", like my cheap one, and send in material for Editor Wilson's use. Pictures can go in NOW. Have you a GOOD picture of a farmer's cord wood pile for sale at your forest? Send it in. What price, per farmers cord, will you charge?

The question of stealing of wood is a big issue now. Imagine? Did you ever expect to see the time when scroungers would steal wood? GOSH, it takes some nerve. Of course stealing is part of our society culture today. One of my friends is a town justice. 90% of his cases are of stealing in big market set ups. How do we stop that? It all goes back to why we have failed to stick with teaching moral judgement, integrity and HONESTY. Who put the monkey wrench in that machinery? The point I make, folks, is that our position as private forest owners is all tied up with our econo, socio and philosophical structure, TODAY.

I am so glad Prof. Robert R. Morrow took me to task for my version of foreign export. He and I have not met, as yet, but if I can scrounge gas for one day in April to get to the meeting at Syracuse maybe we can meet. You good folks MUST not think your "Pile o' Chips" scribe is ANGRY at anyone but I firmly feel we need a catalyst to help create reactions, whether they produce fruitful chemical reactions or NOT. You surmise that I am firmly against most of this foreign trade business in which we have been involved, promoted by the economists, now in control in FOGGY BOTTOM.

The grain deal is an example and we as forest owners can not separate ourselves from the grain deal because in this "war of commodities" timber is as big an issue as cotton or grain. Those who wanted Russia to THRIVE and SURVIVE with our grain now have an example of what happens. Our beef men have to BUY BACK grain from Russia and more from Canada at a price more than 350% higher than what was FIRST received for the initial shipments to Russia. Thus I feel ALL of the timber from virgin forests in Alaska and surplus gleaned from our national and state forests should enter our own lumber trade. The reason for this is simple - our own newly married young folks can not even dream of starting their own home in the present situation. I would even advocate that government loans at no more than 4% be approved for all newly married folks so they can build a small home to start on plans which allow expansion by their own labor as their family grows. Come on, Lets get America strong, NOT by just hiking our trade balance in the black. Look at the stale money now being banked by the Arab oil moguls - that money probably in Swiss banks - doing no one any good but filching the life blood out of our economy. Transistors can be BUILT by American labor here - why not?

Believe me, a very large majority of the "man on the street" in America is firmly AGAINST what is happening to our own resources. This issue will never be resolved until whole new economic policy emerges down on the Potomac.

Difference in opinion in these pages does not mean we are mad at each other - we need opinions from our own NYFOA private owners. Get in the swing and write Editor Wilson.

Special items for contractors in any development - WHY not leave all chimneys in all new houses Open, not encrust them as hidden evils inside the house structures. Chimneys can be FIRST, excellent auxillary heating units. Thus contractors can use some old brick in some architectural form as extending small shelves for plants, collectors items - why the chimney can become the most beautiful household structure in the house. Then too an auxillary flue for each floor to allow inclusion of the new type open fireplace can help warm rooms on ALL floors. This idea is being considered by a few builders around here. I am beating the drums for it. Why? Because I have an idea for auxillary heating extensions, made of ceramic tile, to project in each room with material included in its structure to prevent dust entering any room. Dreamers, you say - we need dreamers!

Woods walk plans for 1974? Boy do we need to augment that part of our 1974 program. Why not some small woods walks all over the state on farms whose owners may not be members of NYFOA. We should have 3-5 thousand more members than we do - our going OFFSET will help do that - get your cameras set up and send in some pictures - they may not all be used by Editor Wilson but he will be sure glad to get them.

One of my pet projects is to convince older farm owners they SHOULD NOT sell out on this high price bait. Those who do, move to some small city, get lost in the socio, econo, politco set up in new surroundings, sit and watch T.V., take small white pills for every pain and even lose all the reserves they may have accumulated. This happens OFTEN these days. Why not stay on the farm, start planting a thousand trees a year, raise a few pigs, have a BIG garden, build a root cellar, fatten a couple beef cattle, have a couple of cows for milk and butter, build a three room addition to your home, limit the work your wonderful wife has done all her life, get a son or daughter to take over the work of the main farm or, if you have no children get a GOOD young couple to rent your main house, be responsible for care of your farm on a limited basis and ENJOY yourself and NOT get lost in the "change trauma" which follows "selling out".

What is your idea on this international give away of our commodities? I need cotton under wear as I am allergic to this wooden fiber stuff, made in England and sold here by mail order. I was a sucker for a pair of those thermal underwear made of synthetic fiber in England. The static from them, when I would undress at night, made enough light to light up a whole bedroom. Cotton is the farmer's staple fiber - ours went to China in foreign trade, - thermal underwear, made in America of cotton fiber is excellent. More ammunition AGAINST all this foreign trade mania. Our forests are involved in this deal That timber which goes to countries which can produce GOOD furniture better than what we produce, may be exempted.

Well, sound off - not all of us are RIGHT all the time. But if we give vent to ideas we can come up with some sound conclusions. One idea which makes our moral fiber rot is the idea that government can do all things for all people. Do we have to learn this is NOT true, over and over?

Take care, research your own farm back to colonial days and you will find some very happy surprises for your own edification.

See you in April at Syracuse if I have to walk!

CONVERTED FIREPLACE CUTS OIL USAGE TO ZERO

By Janice Brophy, Reporter Dispatch, Westchester Rockland Newspapers

North Castle -

Some people are warming their hads by the fire this winter. Gene Feeney is warming his whole house.

While his boiler cools its heels in his cellar, Feeney has set up a heating system for his house from his fireplace.

"I used to sit, looking at all that heat and energy going up the chimney," he explains.

Also, the grates in his fireplace that hold the firewood burned out every couple of months, and he was tired of replacing them.

Last February, Feeney and two neighbors, all heating experts of varying kinds, began experimenting with ways to utilize the fireplace heat.

The result turned Feeney's average sized fireplace into a simulated boiler. A grate of cast iron pipes was placed about four inches from the bottom of the fireplace and a cast iron radiator in the back of the fireplace. The radiator was hooked into the baseboard hot water heating system that heats the Feeney's house. Then they turned off the boiler and put logs in the fireplace.

Instead of depending on oil to heat the water that flows though the pipes in the seven room house, the water is heated by the wood burning in the fireplace.

It works.

Feeney has taken several precautions with his system. He has a pressure relief valve in his cellar should the water pressure get too high, and real boiler goes on automatically if the thermostat goes below 62 degrees.

Feeney has his own supply of wood estimated he usually spent about \$150 every three months to fill his 550 gal. oil tank.

Feeney says the fireplace heating method would be expensive for homes with warm air heating systems and he "hasn't ever figured out" how it could be done with steam heating systems.

In his own house, he spent about \$30 putting in the system, and plans to add to it his indoor water supply, which now runs on a separate boiler.

In line with the "Converted Fireplace" you may want to know sources of wood burning heating units. The following is a partial list. Suggest you write them, if interested, for names of local dealers.

Atlantic Stoves and Furnaces
Portland Stove Foundry Co.
Portland, Maine 04100

Findlay Stoves and Furnaces
Carleton Pl., Ontario, Canada

Riteway Products Co.
Box 6B, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801

Sam Daniels Manuf. Co., Inc.
Hardwick, Vt. 05843

The above manuf. central hot air
systems.

Brooder Stoves

Shenandoah Equipment Co.
Harrisonburg, Va. 22801

Non-central heaters

Ashley Wood Heaters
Ashley Automatic Wood Stove Co.
Columbia, So. Carolina 29200

Riteway Wood Heaters
Riteway Products Co.
Box 6B, Harrisonburg, Va. 22801

Hot Water Systems

Riteway Products Co.

Cook Stoves

Findlay Stove Co.

Split, seasoned hardwood fireplace wood is selling for \$145.00 per cord, delivered, in N. Y. C.

Many County Weights and Measures people have brought action on behalf of customers who have not received the cord of wood they purchased. No matter what the length be sure you sell and deliver a full cord! W & M people don't look kindly on "truck loads" and etc.

A member, owning 420 acres in Otsego County, has has an unfortunate experience. Over the past 20 years he has planted 640,000 fir trees, planting 40,000 a year, 8 feet apart. None have been cut or sold. Some boys fishing on a small lake on the property, lit a fire to cook their fish. The fire spread and burnt about 30,000 of his 6 to 7 year old trees before the fire was controlled.

Hints on making your voice known in Albany are available in "State Legislation: Information and Advice" available from the Office for Local Government, 155 Washington Avenue, Albany, N. Y. 12210

LETTER FROM WALTER W. OMAN

Dear Mr. Wilson:

In response to your request for letters from members stating their views, experiences, etc. I hereby submit this letter.

My interest in trees, shrubs and flowers began during my younger years while employed by the Bristol Nurseries, Inc. of Bristol, Conn. During my seven years there I was active in all phases of Landscaping, Nursery, and Greenhouse work.

It was only in 1960 that I realized a lifelong dream of owning a few acres in the country with of course - a stand of trees. My hardwood stand is very small - some ten acres all told so this gave me the opportunity to really concentrate on improving my woodlot which it needed very badly. With no previous experience, I began by reading and absorbing every pamphlet on the subject that I could obtain from Cornell Ext. Service. Some of it written by our good friend - "Fred Winch".

Being a thrifty Scandinavian, I couldn't bring myself to using poison to cull out unwanted trees. It seemed such a waste, so I invested in a chain saw and cut the trees into fireplace wood. (one advantage of having a small woodlot!)

I applied the knowledge I had gained through reading by taking one acre per winter

cutting out all diseased trees first, then culls, and finally release thinning -ever watchful of the "roof opening".

I have now improved all ten acres and in working these past winters in my woods, I have learned much - such as, how to handle a chain saw, how to fell a tree, how not to fell a tree!, (I'm glad an experienced logger wasn't around to see some of my antics!) how to buck limbs and bodywood, how to discover muscles I never knew I had! But above all how to know the satisfaction of seeing a job well done - well enough to be a certified "Tree Farm" which gave me a tremendous lift considering that I had no professional counseling. For what it is worth, I kept an account of the fireplace wood I sold over a period of eight years and selling no more than 12 face cords (18") in any one year. I averaged a net return of \$78.50/yr. which included purchase of 3 chain saws, splitting maul, gas, oil, etc. My labor of course was not counted but only in the dollar sense because health-wise, the exercise involved has untold benefits. Incidentally, as of this writing, a face cord of 18" seasoned hardwood is now selling for \$30.00 and \$35.00 delivered in this locality as compared to \$15 two years ago. In metropolitan areas such as N. Y. City, Boston, Los Angeles, etc. it sells for up to \$90.00 and more per face cord. Our Energy Crisis is responsible as everyone knows.

Along with my woodlot work I found time each year to hand plant a thousand or more conifer seedlings and now have a total of 7500 Spruce, Pine, Fir, and Larch in various stages of growth.

I am located in the Southern part of Oneida County which is primarily dairy farm country. All of these farms have woodlots varying in size from ten to fifty acres. I am deeply concerned about the general attitude of the farmers towards their woods. Perhaps not all of them, but it seems as though the majority either do not know or care about woodlot management. I realize that to a farmer - an annual cash crop is important, also that most of his time is taken up producing this cash crop. It does seem though that during the winter months, some time could be spent improving his woods. How often have I seen woodlots being grazed by cattle! After years of this practice and complete neglect, the few remaining trees that would make saw-logs are sold to the first logger that knocks on the door, and quite often are sold for far less than their true worth.

Since NYFOA was first organized, I have attended Annual Spring meetings and have listened to professional foresters, lumber producers, wood product salesmen, etc. and one can sum up a hard fact brought out by all these men that here in N. Y. S. we have little or no first grade hardwood left, not to mention softwood.

Bringing about a reversal of this trend in some way - perhaps through better education, or through a woods service is a real challenge for our organization and is one we should not turn our back upon.

I know that this "Farm Woodlot neglect" is a problem that the professional men and agencies on all levels have known about for many years. It is my fervent hope that the NYFOA will be a means of finding a way to make New York State once again a leading producer of first grade hardwood.

Thank you Mr. Wilson for this opportunity to express myself on a subject very dear to my heart.

Sincerely,
Walter W. Oman

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