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**New York**

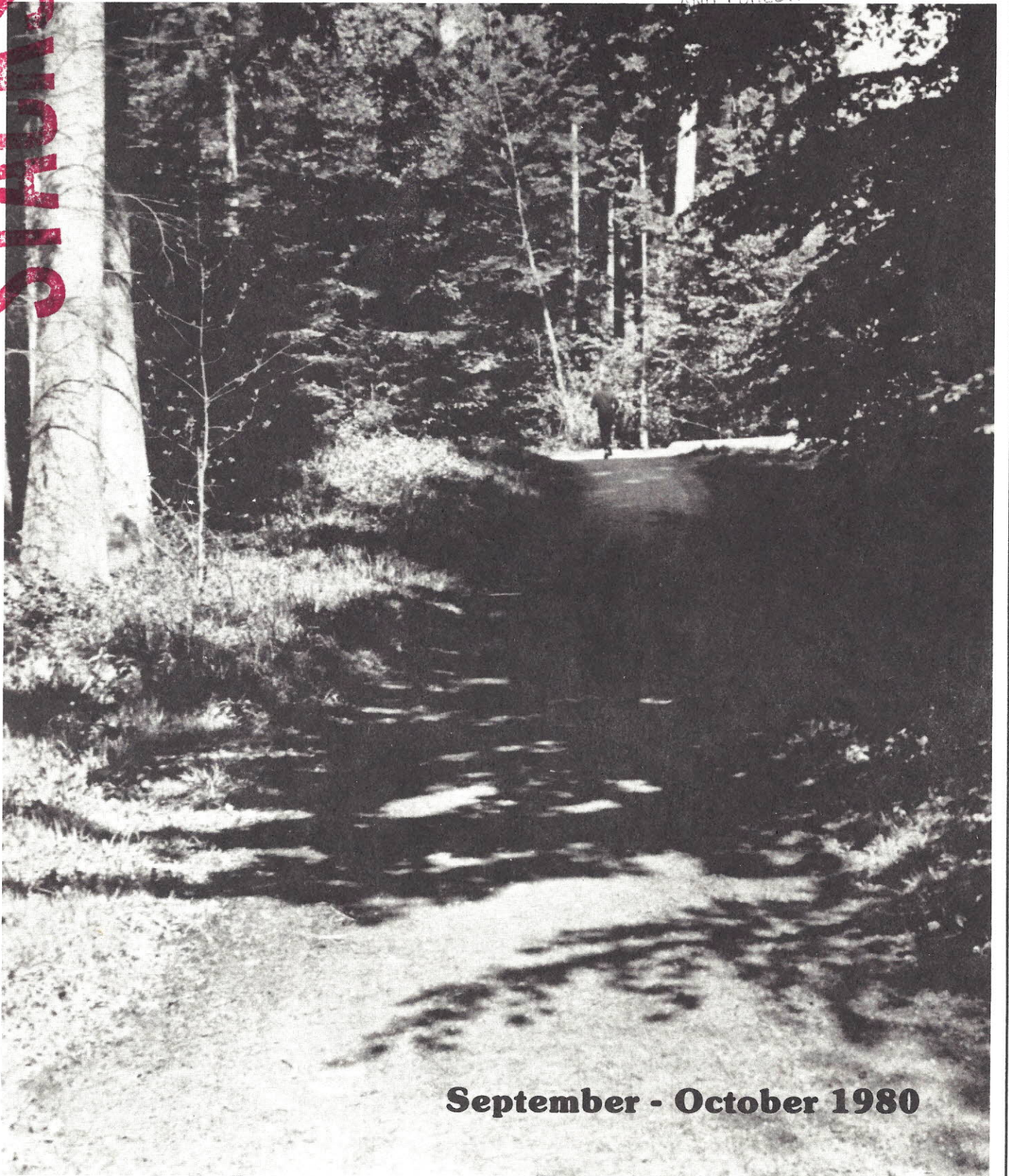
# Forest Owner

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**September - October 1980**

# THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION



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## FRONT COVER

Jogger in the Gutschwald Forest, Luzern, Switzerland

## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

**EDWARD LANG**  
Cooperative Extension  
Tioga County  
56 Main St.  
Owego, NY 13827

**WILLIAM SANFORD**  
219 Kensington Rd.  
Syracuse, NY 13210

**RAYMOND J. RICHARDSON**  
Asst. Deputy Commissioner  
NYS Dept. of Commerce  
99 Washing Ave.  
Albany, NY 12245

**BARBARA L. BRENT**  
79 Grandview Ave.  
Nanuet, NY 10954

**CARL P. WIEDEMANN**  
1342 Dean St.  
Schenectady, NY 12309



### A Tree

*I am the heat of your hearth  
on the cold winter nights,  
The friendly shade screening  
you from the summer sun  
and my fruits are refreshing  
quenching your thirst  
as you journey on.  
I am the beam that holds your house  
The board of your table.*

*The bed on which you lie  
and the parchment from which  
your mind is nourished.  
I am the handle of your hoe,  
The door of your home,  
The strength of your cradle  
and the shell of your coffin.  
You who pass by, listen  
and harm me not.*

Lee Brummer



Published by the  
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Peekskill, NY 10566



## COMING!

A DIRECTORY; The complete list of names and addresses of all members of the New York Forest Owner's Association, as well as other helpful information, will make up the November, December issue of this magazine.



## ***The View From the President's Chair***

In our last issue my view was of a blank brick wall from a hospital bed. Two days after the woods walk at Ward Tree Farm on July 12, 1980, I was looking at that same brick wall again, this time because of blood clots in my right leg. I left the hospital ten days later and am at home but going to work half days. Apparently, I needed the rest to more fully recuperate from the pneumonia that put me in the hospital the first time, for now I feel better than I have for two months.

While a tree farm isn't as demanding as a dairy farm, there are things which must be done within a fairly broad time frame. I've had to contract with NYFOA Director Dale Weston to shear my Christmas trees, even though I enjoy doing it myself. I don't want a third trip to the hospital.

The local state forester marked 10 acres of our hardwoods for thinning and I'm unable to help

my son and son-in-law do it. They got a good start on it yesterday, July 26, 1980, but had worked less than an hour today when my son fell backward and cut his right leg above the knee with the chain saw. Fortunately, it wasn't deep but it took a total of 16 stitches to close the wound.

It is for reasons such as this that we work our woods in pairs. We also wear safety helmets—"hard hats."

I was immensely pleased with the turn-out for the woods walk on July 12. I want to thank Alan & Nancy Knight, Bob & Nancy Riggs, and Ed Lang of Tioga Co. Coop. Extension for serving as guides for the walk. Bob Sand for the afternoon show and discussion of logging, and Lloyd Strombeck for being "official photographer."

I believe woods walks are one of the best educational means we have. I've always enjoyed and

learned something on every walk I've attended, including my own. This brings up the point I'm most concerned about — how to get more people to join NYFOA, that we may share mutually in each other's knowledge of how best to manage New York State private woodlands toward the ends desired by the owners.

Gift memberships have brought some people in, but that's not enough. I think we have to talk it up with everyone we meet. For example, six people attended my woods walk because of personal invitations I gave while in the hospital. Should we have a contest with prizes for those who bring in the most members? The Board is open to all ideas. Let us have yours.

Howard O. Ward  
President  
New York Forest Owners  
Association

# Forest Management

## Current Events

**A**t this time there seems to be considerable good news to report. Despite the drop off in building and construction, stumpage sales here in Central New York and around New York State seem to be going quite well. This is not to say that sawtimber markets have not achieved their pre-recession highs but the market strength is surprising. Apparently buyers are feeling that the recession is about over and the demand for lumber will be on the increase.

Especially good news comes to us from Dave Taber's newsletter. The Workmen's Compensation rate for loggers and timber harvesters has dropped approximately \$7 from \$28 per \$100 of salary paid down to approximately \$21 per \$100. As you can see the compensation rates for wood workers is still tremendously high but apparently safety campaigns, safety equipment, and more careful work in the woods are paying off and reducing the compensation rates. Lets hope this trend continues, because it means that loggers are working more safely, which results in less loss of time, less injury, and less human suffering. From the landowner's point of view, these reduced logging costs should in part flow through in the form of better harvesting conditions and a moderate improvement in stumpage prices.

More good news is that there seems to be a red pine telephone pole market surfacing in New York State. The telephone poles will not be for local use but will be shipped to Canada. The minimum specifications for telephone poles are 29" in circumference or larger and 36' in height, straight and sound with a regular branching pattern. Such trees are bringing \$6 - \$15 per tree standing in the woods. Please note that this market is not well established as yet. I don't want to raise any false hopes for red pine owners but as the saying goes, "Where there's smoke, there's fire."

Be sure to read the information on the Directory and consider advertising in it.

R.L. Demeree  
4 Northway Drive  
Cortland, New York 13045

### The Directory

If you read your last issue of the Forester you saw a brief notice in there stating that the November-December issue would consist of a directory, with complete lists of names and their addresses of the forest owners and other appropriate information. It has been decided that to help defray printing this directory advertising will be solicited. The following are the advertising rates:

1/2 Page	— \$80.00
1/3 Page	— 50.00
1/6 Page	— 30.00
1/12 Page	— 17.50

The magazine is published on 8½ x 11 paper so you can see that the ads will be large. Patronage ads from members for additional support will be welcome. Also it has been decided that due to cost we will be unable to list the landowners by county in which their land is owned, but only by county of residence. If any of you wish to have the county that your land is owned to be recognized, that can be done in ad form. Also, of course, if any member wishes to advertise a product or service, feel free. More importantly, if you know some one individual, company, or group that you think would like to place an ad in the directory, have them contact me at their earliest convenience. This Directory issue will be kept and used by our members or forest owners for several years and advertisement in the Directory should have long lasting effect. All interested parties should contact me at their earliest convenience with the ad of your choice (your business card can be used as an ad) and your check or just your check and I will personally submit your ad. Looking forward to hearing from you.

R.L. Demeree  
4 Northway Drive  
Cortland, New York 13045



• **Write or call your own Congressman, urging him to convey his views directly to members of the Ways and Means Committee.**

### REFORESTATION TAX INCENTIVES

The two most widely-discussed reforestation tax incentive proposals have been introduced by Senator Packwood (R.-Ore.) and Congressman Weaver (D.-Ore.).

**Packwood Proposal:** Senator Packwood's reforestation tax incentive, S. 100, would permit a 10 percent investment tax credit and 7-year amortization on the first \$10,000 of capitalized reforestation expenditures made each year. This would mean, for example, that if a timber owner spent \$10,000 for reforestation (for example, site preparation, seeds of seedlings, labor and tools, including depreciation of equipment used in planting or seeding), he would receive a \$1,000 credit (\$10,000 x 10 percent) against the taxes otherwise owed in the year of the investment, plus an amortization deduction of one-fourteenth of \$10,000 (\$714) in the year of the investment, one-seventh of \$10,000 (\$1,428) in each of the succeeding six years, and one-fourteenth of \$10,000 in the last year. 1/ Note that the amount of the total deduction (\$10,000) is not reduced by the \$1,000 credit.

**Weaver Proposal:** Congressman Weaver's reforestation tax incentive, H.R. 4498, would provide for a 25 percent investment tax credit on the first \$50,000 of capitalized reforestation expenditures and a 10 percent credit on amounts over \$50,000. It does not include the 7-year amortization contained in S. 100.

### Justifications for Reforestation Incentives

The following are the principal reasons why we consider it vital that a meaningful reforestation incentive be enacted this year.

1. Even with the incentive of capital gains treatment of timber income, which has resulted in great strides in reforestation, there is, nonetheless, an immense need for increased investment in forestry. The Forest Service projects that the demand for paper and wood products will reach 28.3 billion cubic feet in the year 2030, up from 13.3 billion cubic feet in 1976. Without increased forestry investments now, we will face a serious shortfall in our nation's timber supply.

2. Although timber capital gains provides the major incentive for timber growing, nonetheless, timber owners also need investment capital at the beginning of the growing cycle. This is particularly true where the

**Continued on Page 8**

# MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE FALL MEETING OF THE NYFOA

## GUTCHESS LUMBER COMPANY HOSTS FALL MEETING      OCTOBER 11, 1980

**AGENDA:** This year's Fall Meeting promises to be an interesting event for Forest Owners. Our theme is "Lands of Many Uses." We will meet at Gutchess Lumber Company, Cortland, N.Y. Between 9:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. Saturday, October 11. Registration, coffee and donuts will be followed by a sawmill tours which end by 10:00 A.M. The group will drive a short distance to visit a federally operated fish nutrition laboratory. In the immediate area is Lime Hollow, an ecologically unique area now being planned for a preserve and educational park.

We will have lunch and a chair lift ride at a large ski area, which will provide insight into a highly developed forest land use.

After lunch, we will be stopping at the Hoxie Gorge Wildlife Area of the SUNY College of Cortland. A different slant on land management for educational purposes will be presented.

As you can see, we have a real mix of wood utilization, wildlife, preservation, highly developed land use and an educational forest use is in store for the forest owners who are in attendance. Invite your friends and acquaintances.

**DIRECTIONS:** Gutchess Lumber Company is located on the west side of Cortland, N.Y. on McLean Road.

\* Coming from the north on Route 81, exit at Homer (Exit 12). Turn left on Route 281 (South). Travel 3.5 miles to McLean Road. Pall Trinity Micro Corp. (a white factory building) is on your right at the intersection. Turn right and you will see the lumber piles.

\* Coming from the south on Route I-81, Exit at McGraw (Exit 10) and turn left onto Route 11 (North). When you get into Cortland, follow Route 13 signs to McLean Road. Footie's Freeze Ice Cream stand is on the corner. Turn right, go straight through the next light and you will see lumber piles.

\* From Ithaca, follow route 13 North to where it joins Route 281 near the A&W. Turn left on McLean Road just past the Friendly Ice Cream.

**REGISTRATION:** \$8.50 per person will cover registration, coffee and donuts, luncheon at Greek Peak Ski Area and a chair lift ride. Please make out and send in the form by September 26, 1980 below to let us know you are coming.

It is the only way we can guarantee you a lunch at Greek Peak.

The following persons will attend the NYFOA Meeting in Cortland on October 11, 1980  
(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

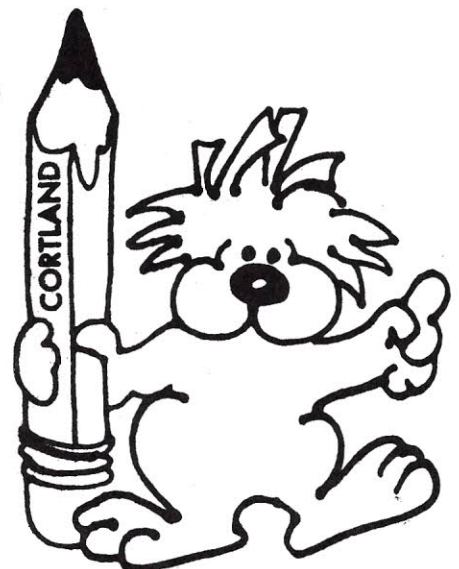
\_\_\_\_\_

A check (payable to "New York Forest Owners Assoc.") is enclosed to cover \_\_\_\_\_ persons @ \$8.50 per person, in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please reserve lunches for \_\_\_\_\_ persons, I will pay when I register.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Mail To: NYFOA Meeting, Gutchess Lumber Company,  
P.O. Box 192, Cortland, N.Y. 13045



## Early Show of Color Signifies Maple Decline

As fall settles over the Northeast, crisp, clear days entice us to go out and view the spectacular array of colors Mother Nature displays across the hills and valleys of New York State. The shades of gold and crimson, orange and yellow can be breathtaking.

Some of the maples, particularly the sugar maple, began to put on their fall colors in August and early September, far ahead of the rest. Although this could be thought of as a sneak preview of things to come, it is, in fact, an indication that these trees are ailing. Early fall coloring is one of the symptoms of a condition known as **Maple Decline**.

The term **Maple Decline** refers to the general deterioration of the health and vigor of maple trees. In addition to early coloration, other symptoms include scorched or brown leaf edges, thin crowns, and dead limbs. Although these symptoms can be signs of other problems, when found in combination they indicate that the tree is being subjected to stress factors it cannot deal with effectively.

Maple Decline can usually be attributed to factors which impede root function. Road salt, compacted soil, low fertility, and inadequate ground water are frequently the culprits. Improperly functioning roots cannot support a normal complement of leaves and thus the tree's ability to produce food for health



and growth is diminished. Such a tree becomes more vulnerable when attacked by insects and diseases and eventually becomes an unsightly landscape specimen.

Maple Decline has been with us for sometime. It has become more important recently, however, as maples have increased in numbers on our streets and lawns as replacements for the American Elm. Now, dead and dying trees again mean dollars for repair, removal, and replacement as well as the loss of beauty to communities throughout the state. Although maple losses aren't as abrupt or dramatic as was the case with Dutch elm disease, we will see the loss of

many trees over the next several years.

The source of the problem is **primarily the poor growing conditions** we subject trees to. **Road salt, which leaches into the soil, creates havoc within root systems.** Soil compacted by traffic, construction, or asphalt over the root zone hampers air and water flow to the roots. A tree thus weakened then falls prey to insect and disease infestation and soon cannot recover.

What can be done? Older trees showing extensive signs of decline along roadways will most likely never fully recover. Pruning out unsightly dead limbs and reduction of salt application may, however, prolong their lives. Promoting a healthy tree is the best defense; periodic fertilization, watering during drought, and attention to dying and damaged limbs will ensure a healthy tree able to maintain good growth.

When choosing new plantings evaluate the site carefully. Consider environmental factors such as soil fertility and structure, access to ground water, exposure to pollutants (including road salt), and available growing space. Each of these factors is crucial in the selection of a species or variety to be planted. For help and advice contact your local Cooperative Extension office.

Trees are natural resources and for optimum performance they must be managed carefully. A little time, concern, and effort will ensure continuing shade, beauty, and color for years to come.

- There are several general rules you can use in evaluating the quality of solid fuel heating equipment. One of the quickest ways is to compare weights. This can be difficult as well as misleading unless you know what to watch out for. Make sure you know if you're comparing shipping weights or weights without crates. Are you comparing the weight of a heater with a cabinet to a heater without a cabinet? Be certain you're making a valid comparison. Generally, the heavier the unit, the better the quality. This is only one of many indicators, and it can be a deceptive one unless you "compare apples with apples!"

- What kind of material is used on the body of the unit? Don't forget that the thickness of steel is measured by "gauge." The lower the number of the gauge, the thicker the steel. For example, 14 gauge steel is far heavier than 18 gauge steel.

## try comparing apples with apples. . . . .

- **Always be certain you know what the price includes. Particularly on furnaces, some manufacturers will call things like heat blowers and thermostats "accessories" when they are necessary to make your furnace operate.** By the time you add on the prices of the so-called "accessories," you're talking about a whole new ball game!

- What kind of welding does the manufacturer use on parts subjected to the most wear? Particularly on the body and interior parts like the grates, you must avoid spot welding! Spot welding is fine for lighter-duty parts—but that's all.

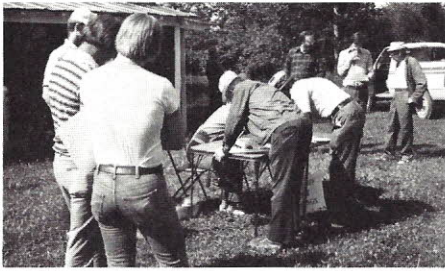
- Who are you buying the product from? If it's from a dealer, how much do they know about that particular prod-

uct; what's their reputation for service? Think about the manufacturer too. In case any problems develop that your dealer can't handle, will you have access to factory engineers?

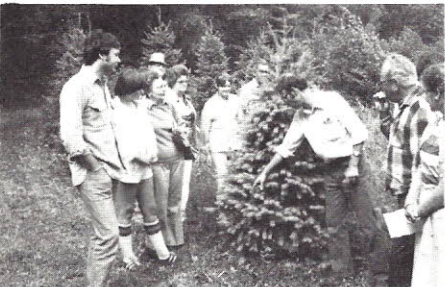
- When you're ready to make a purchase, think a little bit ahead. Many new companies are appearing with the advent of the energy crisis. Someday you'll need replacement parts, no matter whose product you buy. A lot of these companies will be fading away just as quickly as they sprang up. Be sure that the manufacturer will still be around when you need them most!

- Your purchase will probably involve a substantial amount of money. Talk with people who already have that product in use. They'll be able to give you a first-hand account, particularly if they've used competitive products in the past and can make actual comparisons. It's a wise way of being more certain about your investment.

## Howard Ward — Woods Walk



For the more than 60 people who assembled on the forest property of **Howard Ward** on the morning of July 12, the woods walk program that had been arranged proved to be both interesting and stimulating. The weather was perfect and the assembly site, with beautiful pond and attractive cabin, combined to put everyone in a very agreeable mood. Howard spoke briefly to describe his property and the schedule he had worked out with **Bob Sand**. We learned we would spend the morning mostly in the central and southern portions of Howard's property and in the afternoon we would be conducted by Bob Sand to a small logging operation



are of **Cotton Hanlon Co.**, with a walking trip through the north west portions of Howard's forest.

Due to recent illness, Howard was not able to walk with us to the woods, however, he had arranged for several guides to show us Christmas tree plantations and an excellent hardwood stand that had been given timber stand improvement treatments. Two points were particularly striking.

Howard's property has not been recently used for pasture,

while just over the property line the area is currently grazed. The difference in amount, size, and quality of hardwood reproduction is very evident.

For most of us, the opportunity to see and discuss the excellent quality hardwood stand in the southern portion of the property was particularly appreciated.



Timber stand improvement treatment has been applied to all of the area and the results, in spacing, diameter growth, quality of trees and distribution of diameter classes, is impressive. If a case to justify the benefit of such treatment is needed, this area provides an excellent demonstration. It is now approaching the time when additional treatment can further enhance its quality.

We were told that Howard's grandfather bought the 150 acre farm in the 20's and cut the



timber. With the exception of the hardwood area mentioned above, much of the farm was grazed by cattle for perhaps 20 years prior to 1947. Howard and **Lloyd Strombeck** (also a long time member of NYFOA) bought the farm in 1954 and planted Christmas trees on areas not stocked with acceptable hard-

woods. They also harvested timber as was deemed desirable.

A system of logging roads has been recently constructed to improve accessibility, both for logging and for removing firewood. Lloyd is no longer part owner of the forest, but he is a very interested observer.

By the time we returned to the cabin area for lunch, we had been given an insight into the satisfactions and benefits of long-time ownership of a forest property. Howard and his family obviously enjoy the many kinds of activities the property provides.

After lunch, we walked with Bob Sand to an adjacent ownership where Bob explained many aspects of timber harvesting. Logging and hauling equipment were available for us to observe in action, and Bob did an outstanding job of both explain-



ing the practices of his company and answering the many questions directed to him.

We returned to our cars through an area of Howard's property that had been marked for cutting, with a short detour into New York State Forest land to visit a plantation of Norway spruce and red pine.

The arrangements for the woods walk were well planned. The visits to the forest areas and the logging demonstration were most instructive. All-in-all it illustrated what a woods walk should be.

**Eugene Farnsworth**

## REFORESTATION TAX INCENTIVES

### Continued from Page 4

planting does not follow a harvest but rather where it occurs on land not recently harvested. The need is particularly great since planting cost investment is illiquid, subject to high risk, and must be held over the long periods between planting and harvest. Reforestation tax incentives—aimed at the start of the growing cycle—would be effective in moving toward the desired response.

1/ This schedule of amortization deductions results from the mandatory half-year convention which is provided under the bill.

3. The Forest Industries Council's "Forest Productivity Report" found that in 25 states studied (containing 83 percent of U.S. commercial forestland), only approximately five million acres were being harvested annually using various cutting methods. At the same time, only 2.2 million acres were being purposefully regenerated. The major gap between harvest and regeneration was for the private nonindustrial ownership, where approximately one in nine harvested acres were being purposefully regenerated.

4. A tax incentive which combines a tax credit with 7-year amortization would equate the tax treatment of timber investments with the treatment provided for investments in machinery and equipment. Planting expenditures are to timber as plant and equipment are to other industries and a credit plus amortization recognizes this similarity for tax purposes.

## FURNACES MUST BE EFFICIENT

To help further reduce energy costs there are a number of factors one should consider. We have listed several of these and suggest using this information because by following these guidelines, up to 15-20% savings can be had. Properly size heating units with the heating requirements of the home or place to be heated.

Check all thermometers and thermostats for accuracy. Calibration of the thermometers is best made in cracked ice and water.

Keep heating pipes and surfaces clean. Clean furnaces annually.

Adjust burners so they are burning efficiently.

Main heat distribution pipes should be insulated in areas where heat is not needed.

More accurate sensing of temperatures will be achieved and better response from your furnace by using aspirated thermostats.

Check all automatic and modulating temperature controls.

## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS 96TH CONGRESS

### DEMOCRATS

Al Ullman, Oregon  
Dan Rostenkowski, Illinois  
Charles A. Vanik, Ohio  
James C. Corman, California  
Sam M. Gibbons, Florida  
J.J. Pickle, Texas  
\*Charles B. Rangel, New York  
William R. Cotter, Connecticut  
Fortney H. Stark, California  
James R. Jones, Oklahoma  
Andrew Jacobs, Indiana  
Joseph L. Fisher, Virginia  
Harold Ford, Tennessee  
Kenneth Holland, South Carolina  
William M. Brodhead, Michigan  
Edgar L. Jenkins, Georgia  
Richard A. Gephardt, Missouri  
Raymond F. Lederer, Pennsylvania  
\*Tom Downey, New York  
Cecil Heftel, Hawaii  
Wyche Fowler, Georgia  
Frank Guarini, New Jersey  
James Shannon, Massachusetts  
Martin A. Russo, Illinois

**5. In all free nations which we have studied, laws have been enacted to give private owners incentives to plant forests and to keep them productive. Brazil provides an excellent example of the results of a significant tax incentive. Beginning in 1967, a law providing for a generous tax credit for reforestation encouraged the planting of four and a half million acres of new forests in eight years. This one act has made Brazil a contender in the future pulp and paper markets of the world. Their example proves that reforestation incentives can work.**

### REPUBLICANS

\*Barber B. Conable, New York  
John J. Duncan, Tennessee  
William R. Archer, Texas  
Guy Vander Jagt, Michigan  
Philip M. Crane, Illinois  
Bill Frenzel, Minnesota  
James G. Martin, North Carolina  
Louis A. Bafalis, Florida  
Richard T. Schulze, Pennsylvania  
Willis D. Gradison, Ohio  
John Roussetot, California  
W. Henson Moore, Louisiana

**Each member may be contacted at the following address:**

**U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515**

June 30, 1980



## HOW DOES WOOD BURN?

Wood is composed of several basic elements: carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and small quantities of miscellaneous minerals. These elements combine to form cellulose, lignin and water, which together make a tree trunk. It's the cellulose and lignin that are combustible and form the source of energy in wood. The water in wood is undesirable and must be heated and evaporated before wood can burn with any degree of efficiency.

The cell walls in wood are comprised of cellulose. Because of its long strands, cellulose forms the grain. Lignin is a plastic-like substance that cements the cells together to give the wood its strength. In order for wood to burn properly, the following processes must take place:

(1) Most of the water must be heated and evaporated.

(2) Heat must be provided to break down the lignin and cellulose into a gas.

(3) The gas must be mixed with air (oxygen) in the proper amount for burning.

(4) The gas/air mixture must be heated to the minimum ignition temperature.

(5) The gas/air mixture burns, giving off the heat necessary to sustain the fire.

Normally, a wood fire progresses in stages. First, tinder or kindling is ignited to provide initial heat. As soon as enough moisture is driven off from the fuel wood, the lignin and cellulose begin to break down. When the major portion of volatile materials have been burned off, charcoal is left to slowly burn down into a bed of coals.

Conventional wood heating equipment loses a lot of potential energy through gases only partially burned. For these gases to burn thoroughly, they must pass back through the fire where they can be reheated. With the addition of pre-heated fresh air (oxygen) at that point, the gases will burn.

## WATCH OUT FOR CREOSOTE!

Creosote is a tar-like liquid or solid resulting from the distillation of wood during the combustion process. Highly combustible in its solid or semiliquid states, creosote is present in the gases given off by wood when it burns. Creosote condenses from the gases when the stack temperature drops below 250°F. Creosote can be virtually eliminated if these gases are burned off before going up the chimney. Riteway products can do just this! Read about our unique design, and find out how each model accomplishes this very important task!



**MINUTES**  
**New York Forest Owners**  
**Association**  
**Board of Directors' Meeting**

**June 21, 1980**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by **Robert L. Edmonds**, First Vice President.

Those present were: **Bob Demeree**, **Ken Eberley**, **Bob Edmonds**, **Art Eschner**, **Gene Farnsworth**, **Bob Morrow**, **Emiel Palmer**, **Al Roberts**, **Bob Sands**, **Evelyn Stock**, **Fred Umholtz** and **Dale Weston**. Absent but excused were **Mary McCarty**, **Dick Lea** and **Jim Lassoie**.

The minutes of the May 24 meeting were read by **Bob Sands** and accepted.

**Old Business**

**Bob Demeree** discussed the flyer on the Association in which a separate listing of the officers and members of the Board of Directors was to be included. A list was made up of the members present.

The Committee assignments proposed by **Howard Ward** were discussed and alternate recommendations were made. These are to be suggested to Howard.

After much discussion it was recognized that the Program Committee duties are a function of the Education Committee and hence satisfy the requirements of the Bylaws which mandate such a committee.

The July/August issue of the New York Forest Owner is ready to be pasted up and should be in the mail by July 1. **Bob Demeree** is to continue to investigate the possibility of other printing arrangements, being certain candidate printers can meet deadlines. We will continue with the present printing and mailing arrangements. Any change in mailing will be made about January 1, 1981.

The question of mailing issues of the New York Forest Owner to junior members was referred to the Bylaws Committee whose members are to determine the number of junior members and their characteristics and status. The Bylaws Committee is to make a recommendation to the Board, based on their findings. Copies of these minutes are to be sent to the Bylaws Committee.

**Bob Demeree** reported on his attempt at getting stationery. He received some plain stationery but no envelopes.

He has ordered colored stationery and envelopes and was looking into the publication of a brochure and insert.

It was moved by **E. Palmer** and seconded by **Bob Morrow** that the December issue of the New York Forest Owner be a directory of the membership. The motion was passed unanimously. The Editorial Committee is to make arrangements for that issue and report at the next Board Meeting.

**Bob Edmonds** described in detail the program he has tentatively set up for the fall meeting on October 11, 1980 in the Cortland area.

**New Business**

**Ken Eberley** suggested including stumpage information in the Forest Owner. After much discussion **Bob Demeree** indicated he would include the information in the DEC's twice yearly stumpage report in his column in the Forest Owner.

There was discussion of the other types of articles suitable for the New York Forest Owner.

**Ken Eberley** reported there are 664 members at present.

The Treasurer's report was given by **Emiel Palmer** and was accepted. There was discussion of appropriate investments for the \$3000.00 account at 11% interest which will be available for reinvestment in 2 weeks.

The next meeting is to be held September 13.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Submitted,  
 A.R. Eschner



**A Forester Needs:**

*from the Forestry Chronicle*

*The dignity of an archbishop,  
 The tact of a diplomat,  
 The experience of a company manager,  
 The geniality of a nobel prize winner,  
 The fastidiousness of a revenue officer,  
 The speech ability of a clergyman,  
 The shrewdness of a lawyer,  
 The elastic conscience of a politician,  
 The health of an Olympic sportsman,  
 The optimism of a shipwreck survivor,  
 The zeal of a missionary,  
 The smile of a movie star,  
 And the skin of a hippopotamas.*

*Great people are just ordinary people with  
 an extra ordinary amount of determination.*

*When you fail to plan,  
 You plan to fail.*

**COME WATCH WHALES WITH US!**  
**SEPTEMBER 19-21, 1980**

**DESCRIPTION**

By special arrangement with Science Education Afield, Inc., the College is offering this outstanding opportunity for Central New Yorkers to experience up-close the majesty of the largest creatures to live on earth, the whales. This short-course includes a guided cruise off of Provincetown, Massachusetts to view the whales of the North Atlantic in their feeding grounds. In addition, naturalist-guided tours of the Cape Cod National Seashore and of Plymouth, Massachusetts will instruct on the relationships between man, the ecology of the coast and the life of whales.

**REGISTRATION**

Registration is limited and is on a first-come first-served basis. No registrations can be accepted after September 12, 1980. Registration fee of \$109.00 includes:

Bus transportation to and from Provincetown, Mass.

Motel accommodations for two nights.

Continental breakfast two mornings.

Guided tour of seashore ecology and time on Cape Cod's beaches.

Guided tour of Plymouth historical sites and Plymouth Plantation.

Space aboard the Dolphin III for four-hour Whale Watch.

**ITINERARY**

Friday, September 18, 1980

12:00 Noon Depart College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

7:00 PM Arrive Provincetown. Eastwood Motor Lodge. Evening free.

Saturday, September 20, 1980

7:30 AM Breakfast (provided)

8:30 AM Bus trip to Cape Cod National Seashore-guided ecology tour

12:00 Noon Lunch in Provincetown (not included)

1:15 PM Board Dolphin III for Whale Watching Tour

6:00 PM Dinner in Provincetown (not included). Evening free.

Sunday, September 21, 1980

8:00 AM Breakfast (provided)

8:30 AM Bus trip to Plymouth and Plymouth Plantation

12:00 Noon Lunch in Plymouth (not included)

1:00 PM Return to Syracuse

7:00 PM Arrive College of Environmental Science & Forestry

-----Detach and mail promptly-----

**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**WHALE WATCHING AND**  
**SEASHORE ECOLOGY**  
**September 19-21, 1980**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$109 MUST BE RECEIVED BY SEPTEMBER 12, 1980.

Make checks payable to:

SUNY-RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Mail to:

Dean, School of Continuing Education

SUNY College of Environmental Science and

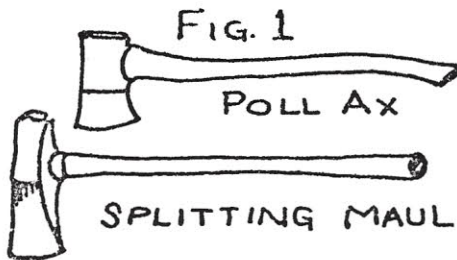
Forestry

Syracuse, New York 13210

Phone: (315) 473-8755

# ALL ABOUT AXES

By Ed Lang  
Tioga Co. Coop. Ext. Agent



Men have used axes since prehistoric times. Over the years a large variety of types of axes have been developed. A poll (or pole) ax and a splitting maul are the basic tools required for preparing firewood. A poll ax head is flattened on one side to add weight and balance. A splitting maul resembles a cross between an ax and a sledge hammer (Figure 1).

An ax splits small pieces of wood readily, but for larger pieces or logs the maul is called for.

## Selecting an Ax

When selecting an ax for home use, consider the weight of the head. Either a 2½ or 3 pound poll head will do, depending on individual preference. Avoid double-bitted axes which are used for professional felling and are extremely hazardous in the hands of a novice.

The head should be secured to the handle with wooden or steel wedges. It is almost impossible to replace a broken handle if the head is attached with plastic welding.

Ax handles should generally be 28 or 30 inches long, a length equivalent to the distance from your armpit to your fingertips. They are available in other lengths, and heads come in heavier weights, but the above combination is suitable for most people and makes the ax well-balanced.

Ash handles are preferred to hickory handles, as they are less likely to shatter and are not as abrasive on the hands. Be sure the handle is not warped or cracked, watch for knots, and choose a handle in which the grain runs the length of the handle.

## Using the Ax

Wood should be split only on a splitting block, not on the ground, to avoid damaging the ax and because you are less apt to hit yourself with the ax if you strike a glancing blow.

Be sure of your footing. Avoid splitting into knots which may cause the handle to split. On a very cold day, warm the ax by taking it into the house for a little while before using, so the bit and handle will not become brittle and shatter.

## Care and Sharpening of Axes

To work efficiently and safely, an ax must be kept sharp. For splitting wood and general use, an ax may be sharpened with a mill file. Secure the head, preferably by plac-

ing it in a vise, and file with a down stroke, moving from the heel of the bit to the toe. Don't drag the file back across the edge. Alternate from one side to the other with every three or four strokes of the file (Figure 2).

If the file is held at the correct angle, approximately 1/8 inch of the bit will be shiny. It is not necessary to use a sharpening stone. In fact, a stone may produce too fine an edge for chopping wood.

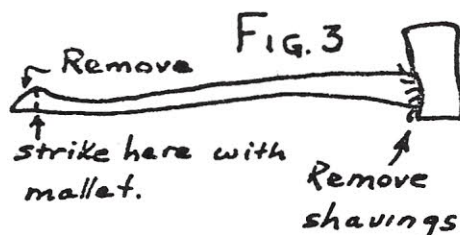
If the ax head comes loose, soaking it in a bucket of water overnight and driving another wedge into the handle will generally remedy the situation. If you store the ax outdoors by standing it on its head in a damp corner of the woodshed, it will help keep the handle tight. Wrapping several turns of friction tape below the head will help prevent the handle from shattering if it strikes the chunk or log.



## To Replace the Handle

If a handle splinters or splits, or becomes too loose and can't be refitted, replace it for safety's sake. Remove the old handle by sawing it off next to the bit, and then pounding the remaining piece out of the slot. If it won't pound out, try drilling down on both sides of the metal wedge until you can grab it with pliers and pull it out. Then you will be able to push the rest of the old handle out quite easily.

To prevent splitting the new handle when seating it with a mallet, remove the wedge shaped portion of the heel. This will leave a flat surface to strike with the mallet (see Figure 3). To hang an ax handle, tap the head onto the handle with a wooden mallet, then reverse the ax and strike the base of the handle with the mallet. As the head gets tighter it will peel wood shavings from the handle. These shavings should be removed with a wood rasp or knife. Seat the head until the top of the handle is flush with the top of the head. Then drive in a hardwood wedge and two iron wedges beside it, to secure the head to the handle.



by Tom Chamblee, Chimney Sweep

## WHAT'S IT LIKE TO HAVE A CHIMNEY FIRE?

It's no fun. If it doesn't burn the house down, it will probably wreck your chimney and scare you half to death. Here's how it happens.

Begin with one dirty chimney—let's say a fireplace not cleaned for a couple of years. The soot lining the chimney flue is saturated with flammable stuff called creosote. (More detail on creosote is available in any dictionary.) It doesn't take much to ignite creosote—a newspaper fire sending flames up to the damper is enough.

Once kindled, creosote burns with joyous abandon. In a matter of seconds the fire spreads up through the flue creating a draft that only helps things along. At this point your average chimney fire begins to roar and howl, sending the occupants of the house running for cover.

If you run, you'll be treated to a real fireworks show. As the creosote fire builds and intensifies the heat melts the mortar between the brick. The red-hot mortar actually drips into the flue, only to be caught up in the tremendous updraft, and these little fire balls shoot out the chimney and onto the roof. If you're lucky, the chimney will fall apart destroying one end of the building—if you're not, this miniature volcano can bring the whole house down.

However, if you stand your ground, a chimney fire can be controlled. Put out the fire in the fireplace with an extinguisher or sand. Cover the opening with a wet blanket, call the fire department, and hope for the best. But it should be pointed out that having your chimney cleaned is a lot easier on the nerves than the sand and wet blanket method.

## Publications You Should Know About

### New Publication - of interest to Forest Owners Reviewed by Richard V. Lea

**Woodlands and Wildlife** — by J. Hassinger et al. available for \$2.00 from Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802 is a helpful reference for landowners interested in "making your property attractive to wildlife." This 68-page booklet leads the reader from the planning stage and definition of objectives to practical suggestions for things the owner can and should do to reach desired goals. It then discusses major forest habitats and graduations from one to another. The last half of the booklet gives data on particular species and species groups of wildlife as to their needs and habitat treatment which should attract and retain them.

This reviewer feels the booklet gives good coverage of wildlife needs and many practical solutions for the woodland owner to enhance wildlife values. The emphasis is understandably on manipulating the forest cover to benefit wildlife. There could have been a bit more discussion of the cost of this manipulation for the benefit to be obtained. In many cases the owner will seek to compromise through selling the material to be manipulated (trees to be cut) to offset the cost of the treatment. The trade-offs to be considered will vary with each situation and must be understood by the owner.

Forestry consultants can assist in determining the alternative costs and benefits and offer judgements as to recommended action. The bottom line of course, is the cost in dollars (and/or sweat) that the owner is willing to invest, versus the benefits in dollars received, enjoyment of wildlife, or woodland improvement. The impression is gained that these are easy decisions which may not always be the case.

The booklet assumes the owner has already decided to work for wildlife values. It would have been helpful to include a discussion of the role of wildlife in the forest to point out why it is a value to be considered. The lack is not

serious, however, as the authors have covered a wide variety of species and habitats in limited space.

Thus it is recommended for forest owners as an interesting reference with a wealth of information whether your woodlot is large or small.

### Wood Burning Bulletin

If you are heating with wood this winter, authorities at Cornell University advise considering safety first before lighting the wood - burning stove, furnace, or fireplace.

Several publications written by members of the New York State College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell are available which are full of information on safety and the economics of using wood as a fuel.

**"Burning Wood"** (NE191 - \$1) covers all the aspects including obtaining a supply, quality of commonly burned woods, seasoning, storing, the heating value of various woods, creosote formation, chimney fires and cleaning, fireplaces, wood - burning stoves, furnaces, and installation specifications for the safe installations of wood - burning units.

**"The Warmth of Woodfires"** (IB150 - \$1.25) gives tips on living with a wood stove, selection and storage of woods, care and use of stoves and cooking on them. This publication is for those making a wood - burning stove an integral part of their environment. **"Power Chain Saws, Their Care and Use"** (PA228-60¢) covers the important points to know before and when using a chain saw. If you cut your own wood supply, you should know about the working parts of the saw and how to care for them. Knowing the various types and gauges of chains is important in selecting the one that best suits your needs. Saw chain tension, lubrication, cleaning and general maintenance will not only prolong the life of the saw, but makes cutting easier and the task safer. Tips on felling, cutting the wood, and hazards to watch for are covered.

Even if you aren't using wood to heat or cook with, perhaps you know of someone who would appreciate receiving these publications as a gift. Knowing how to install and use wood - burning units safely may save a home from disaster.

**To order the publications, write to: Distribution Center, 7 Research Park, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850. Make checks payable to Cornell University. County Cooperative Extension offices in New York State also have copies of these publications.**



## Hypothermia and the elderly

To Your Health  
by Dr. Paul Donohue

Hypothermia is defined as a drop in body temperature to less than 95 degrees. This can have serious consequences, especially, as you note, in the elderly. Recently in Britain it was found that almost 4 percent of elderly patients admitted to hospitals had temperatures below 95 degrees.

Hypothermia is especially dangerous in the elderly because their bodies have less ability to produce heat. This is easily explained. When the body surface becomes cold, the blood vessels of the skin clamp down as more and more blood is retained in the warmer interior to protect vital organs. This keeps the internal body temperature from dropping too low. But there is another little-realized fact; as we cool, muscles shiver, and this muscular activity actually generates heat. The elderly have smaller muscle mass and hence cannot make up for heat loss by shivering as easily as can younger persons.

The first telltale sign of hypothermia may be fatigue, incoordination and confusion. If the body temperature continues to drop, coma may result. An unconscious person is subject to hypothermia, and for this reason they are covered with a blanket to preserve body heat.

Hypothermic patients should be cared for promptly. Besides warming with blankets and warm packs, some advocate placing the person in a tub of water at a temperature between 90 and 106 degrees fahrenheit. If the symptoms are severe the warming should be done in a hospital. However, too rapid warming can lead to a drop in blood pressure, so it is best to take the simple (blanket and warm packs) approach and seek professional help promptly. There may be abnormal heart rhythms in the hypothermic person.

Hypothermia is often an unrecognized problem. It was one reason so much concern was expressed during the recent fuel oil crunch. The elderly should plan now to be adequately clothed when cool weather arrives. If they are living alone, friends and relatives should check to see that their living conditions are such that they are getting enough warmth.



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## ASK A FORESTER

By Al Roberts

**Question:** I have ten acres of open land that came with the woodlot I bought. What are the possibilities of growing Christmas trees on this?

**Answer:** Without more information about the land involved, all I can say is, the size is right. However, here are some general ideas concerning the growing of Christmas trees for today's market.

The number of growers seems to again be on the upswing. At present there is a sellers market; but with many new growers starting up, I believe that to compete successfully you will have to grow a very high quality tree. Current prices for a good Douglas fir are up to \$10.00, or more, wholesale, on the stump. The retail buyer can expect to pay \$20.00 for that tree, and he has a right to expect a pretty nice tree. In order to produce that tree you will have to do everything right.

The firs are the currently popular tree, and these are the most demanding as to site. They must have good soil drainage, good air drainage, a nearly neutral pH and high fertility. Large quantities of lime and fertilizer may be required (depending on the results of a soil test) to produce a high percentage of good quality trees. In addition it is very important to have seedlings from the right seed source.

Don't expect to plant them and forget them till harvest. Weeds must be controlled annually with herbicides or mowing or both, and they must be sheared annually. Also there are many potential insects and diseases to be watched for.

I would suggest planting 1000 trees annually (if I haven't already discouraged you) and in six to eight years you should be able to start harvesting, and eventually expect about \$3000 per year gross income.

## Third Woods Walk Held in Shirley Forests August 16, 1980

The New York Forest Owners Association sponsored its third woods walk on Shirley Forests Inc. Saturday, August 16, 1980. A total of 16 people participated. One group, lead by Mrs. Shirley featured the invasion of forests into abandoned fields, and the changes in timber types caused as streams cut across the abandoned land. The longer walk, lead by Hardy Shirley assisted by his son Frank lead up Gilligan Mountain to well towards the summit. The timber types varied from pine, on fields abandoned some 20 or more years ago, to white cedar and mixed hardwoods on lower slopes that were well watered, and on the higher and steeper lands hemlock. In fact, hemlock seemed to be the dominant tree of the upper slopes of the mountain. Such land must have been pastured when the land was divided into some 5 or more separate farms. There is also evidence of repeated timber harvest.

After the lunch hour the group as a whole was lead to a pine plantation on land given up for farm crops. Here the action was passed from the leaders to the followers who were handed diameter tapes and ask to determine how much the trees on a permanent sample plot had been growing. Thereby each participant could judge for himself the growth rate of individual trees.

There followed a question and answer period on individual holdings of owners. Interest was high and both leaders and woods walkers felt that the day had been well spent.

Hardy L. Shirley Pres. Shirley Forest Inc.



A GOOD SUPERVISOR, they say, is someone who can step on your toes without messing up your shine.