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INDIANA, PENNSYLVANIA
MARCH 1930

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Forestry and Coal Mining

Part One

Between the mining of bituminous coal and the practice or science of forestry there is an apparent wide gulf. That gulf, however, is only apparent. As a matter of fact the two are closely related. Millions of years ago there flourished on the surface of the earth a dense vegetation which became responsible for the immense deposits of coal at various depths below the present surface, and now being mined in such great quantities. Coal mining and forestry, or coal and wood, are further closely related, due to the fact that today the production of one ton of bituminous coal, in accordance with best modern mining practice, means the consumption of 4 board feet of lumber. Every 50-ton railroad car leaving the mines loaded with coal may be imagined to carry with it 200 board feet of timber and lumber. This quantity of timber and lumber is used in the mining of coal in the form of props, ties, cross bars, and the various forms and shapes of manufactured lumber required to support the mine openings and the mine roof; or used in the manufacture of mine cars, the construction of mine tipples, and other mine structures, as well as miners' dwelling houses, mining community school buildings, churches, etc.

Obtaining this essential commodity 30 or 40 years ago was a rather trivial and inexpensive matter. In those days the hills and valleys of Pennsyl-

vania, in which the mines were located, were largely covered with virgin forests. The choice trees of such forests were cut down and prime logs manufactured into lumber on sawmills in the forests or floated in rafts down the rivers to lumber manufacturing centers. The by-products of such forests, in the form of tree-tops and small trees, were cut into mine timbers and delivered to the mines at about the labor cost involved. Now that situation is radically changed, especially in Pennsylvania. Although timber is not an exhaustable resource, as is coal, yet the dense forests of Pennsylvania no longer exist, and have not to any large degree been replaced, principally on account of man's failure to provide for the future. The present timber situation, although unappreciated by the average man, is no less acute, as the following facts clearly reveal:

In the United States the area where trees once grew, but where now nothing grows, is as large as the combined area of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland.

Deforestation greatly exceeds reforestation.

Within fifteen years we shall feel the pinch of forest exhaustion; not our grand-children but our children will suffer grave consequences.

Calvin Coolidge stated rather recently: "This country has in all about 745 billion cubic feet of standing timber. We are growing six billion feet annually and consuming twenty-five billion feet; therefore, depleting our stock of timber at the rate of nineteen billion feet each year. Our entire stock

of timber will, therefore, be depleted in less than forty years and ours will be a treeless and desert country. We have cut most of our timber not in the last 300 years, but in the last 75 years. We must grow wood from the soil like any other crop."

Honorable John Q. Tilson of the United States House of Representatives, stated: "If we would really have the world be better for our having lived in it and not materially worse, it is necessary that we enter not only upon a policy of conserving forests that have been left but of restoring as far as possible the forests to the condition in which they should have been maintained throughout the years that have passed."

While another authority, speaking from a national point of view, said: "We cannot adequately provide for our future forest requirements except by a great project conceived, adopted, and appropriated for, as was the Panama Canal."

When the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Company (immediate predecessor of the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation) began the mining of coal in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, in 1883, it owned in that field (known as the Peale field), in close proximity to its mines, about 15,000 acres of timber-covered surface, which had been purchased at a nominal cost in connection with coal lands. For many years its mines in that field were supplied with timber from this forest reserve at a cost not much in excess of the cost of cutting and delivering to the mines. That timber supply seemed so ample that as late as 1896 and 1897 the timber standing on a considerable acreage was sold at nominal prices to

lumber operators, who installed sawmills, cut the timber down in a most destructive manner, so far as future growth was concerned, and shipped by rail away from the mines vast quantities of high-grade manufactured lumber.

In 1885 the Clearfield Bituminous Coal **Company** acquired about 12,000 acres of coal land, known as the Gazzam field, located in the southern part of Clearfield County. Included in that field were about 1600 acres of timber-covered surface, which eventually shared the same fate as that of the timber in the Peale field.

In 1886 the Clearfield Bituminous Coal **Company** was succeeded by the Clearfield Bituminous Corporation organized under a charter granted by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, under which charter and under which corporate name the Corporation has since functioned.

Prior to 1900 the Clearfield Corporation did an active commercial business selling on the market the output of its own mines, as well as that of a number of other mines on the Beech Creek Railroad. At that time all of its Capital Stock had been acquired by the New York Central Railroad Company. It thus became an entirely controlled subsidiary of that Railroad Company and its product was no longer sold on the market. Since that year the entire output of its mines has been sold as locomotive fuel to the New York Central Railroad Company and used on its lines East of Buffalo.

In 1896 the Corporation acquired in Cambria County about 2000 acres of coal land known as the West Branch property. In 1900 it purchased about

5000 acres of coal lands in the northern part of Indiana County, known as the Rossiter field, and in 1905 it came into possession of approximately 10,000 acres of coal property located in the central part of Indiana County and known as the Clymer-Dixonville field. These several properties were promptly developed into large economical coal producing fields. Included in the last three fields were about 1500 acres of surface, a very small portion of which was timber-covered.

In 1911 the Corporation acquired roundly 90,000 acres of coal land, including about 15,000 acres of surface partially timber-covered. This was known as the Pennsylvania Coal & Coke Company property and was located in the Counties of Clearfield, Cambria, Blair and Indiana. A large portion of this acquisition (coal lands, developed mines, mining plants and towns, and timbered surface) was leased to the Pennsylvania Coal & Coke Corporation and several smaller lessees. In 1920 about 4,000 acres of this property, located in central Indiana County, was developed by the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation and is known as the Commodore field. At that time, with active mining operations located in the following fields: Peale, in Clearfield County; West Branch, in Cambria County; Rossiter, Clymer, Dixonville, and Commodore, in Indiana County (Gazzam field having been exhausted), the timber requirements of the Corporation were found to be costly and somewhat difficult to obtain. It was also found that there remained, after leasing portions of the properties above outlined, about 24,000 acres of surface, a portion of which was covered with fully matured timber, other portions with immature sec-

ond growth timber, and a considerable remaining portion barren, or partially barren, of trees.

For the purpose of properly utilizing the above described 24,000 acres of surface and supplying from that surface the necessary timber requirements of the several operating mines a Forestry Department was established in 1920, an experienced timberman was placed in charge and the following plan outlined:

- 1st. Adequate fire protection for the timber then on the property, because without such protection forestry is impracticable, if not impossible.
- 2nd. To remove from the forest and convert into suitable mine timber and lumber (a) undecayed fallen timber, and (b) fully matured standing timber, performing both operations with the least possible damage to growing timber.
- 3rd. Install suitable mills and facilities to economically convert into usable form the timber for proper use in and around the mines.
- 4th. Secure from the several State Tree Nurseries seedling trees of suitable species for the reforesting of the barren and partially barren acreage.

The work of practical fire protection was promptly started, a system of fire trails, lanes, and roads was established through the forest acreage, fire towers were constructed and patrolmen placed on the property during the fire seasons. This sys-

tem is connected by means of telephone to the State Fire Tower system.

In the same year 65,000 seedling trees were obtained from the State Tree Nurseries and planted on some of the barren acreage. One small sawmill was placed in the Peale field; a second mill, fully equipped and of large capacity, placed at Clymer, to which point saw logs were transported by rail from the Peale field, and by truck from several small tracts of timber scattered throughout the Indiana County field.

This program was satisfactorily followed out until 1924, when it was found impossible to secure from the several State Nurseries seedling trees in such quantities and of such species as were necessary to properly and promptly reforest the property. A tree nursery was then established near Clymer, Pa., where 7½ acres were set aside for that purpose. A technical forester, a graduate of the Pennsylvania State Forest School at Mont Alto, was placed in charge. The soil was properly prepared, an irrigation system provided, seed was sown and two years later more than a million seedling trees of suitable species were taken from that nursery and planted on the property of the Corporation. There have now (January, 1930) been planted upon the property about 4,000,000 seedling timber trees, and all of the 24,000 acres of surface are growing timber in all stages from 2 to 3 year old seedlings up to fully matured trees. It was further advantageous to install in connection with the Clymer sawmill a planing mill and a timber treating plant. The several mills and treating plant are electrically operated by

power generated in the central power plant of the Corporation. The timber and lumber requirements of the several mines have been, and are now being, advantageously taken from the property of the Corporation, manufactured as above described, and delivered to the several mines. As a matter of fact a considerable number of miners' dwelling houses have been constructed and all the lumber used in such construction work (with the exception of factory-made doors and window sash) taken from the property of the Corporation and manufactured on its own mills.

Until within comparatively recent years the prevailing practice in the lumber industry has been to organize an operation on a period basis; to construct a plant of a capacity to utilize the amount of timber within a specified period of years; and to finance the operation so that when the last tree is cut the total investment will be liquidated. The plant, then, and the cut-over land have only a salvage value. The land often must be abandoned. A Sustained Yield plan of operation recognizes the fact that timber grows; that with proper care in logging and protection the land will continuously produce successive new crops of timber indefinitely. The investment, then, in plant and land becomes permanent; it does not have to be written off at the end of a specified term of years; both plant and land continue to be productive and valuable.

The forestry department of the Corporation is operated on a Sustained Yield basis.

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania encourages forestry and reforestation, especially by means

of a recent Legislative Act providing for the classification as auxiliary forest reserves of certain timber bearing lands. Timber lands so classified are assessed at a nominal value of \$1.00 per acre, which reduces the annual tax burden to an amount not in excess of 5c. per acre. The law provides, however, that when timber so classified is cut the owner shall pay as deferred taxes an amount equal to 10% of the then stumpage value. 4337 acres of timber lands of the Corporation have been classified as auxiliary forest reserves.

Within the last two years a reliable fire insurance company has undertaken to cover with fire insurance reforested acreage at a premium rate of 2%. The principal plantations of the Corporation are so insured.

It is conservatively estimated that the 24,000 acres now growing timber in all stages has a present value of \$1,500,000.00. The continuation of the present forestry and reforestation program will result in that acreage being always so covered. Therefore, upon the exhaustion of the coal from the property of the Corporation this timbered acreage should then have a value of from \$5,000,000.00 to \$7,000,000.00. Unlike coal timber resource under this plan of forestry does not become exhausted, but is a perpetual resource constantly increasing in value.

An additional conservation matter is carried out in the chemical treatment of timbers which go into the mines where length of life of such timbers is of great importance. Timber inside of the mines is subject to damage and destruction by fungi, or parasitical growth, which feeds on the wooden sub-

stance. Such destructive fungi develop rapidly in the damp atmosphere inside the mines. This menace to mine timber has been overcome by impregnating such timbers with Wolman Salt, or other preservative such as Creosote, Zinc Chloride, etc. To accomplish such impregnation a treating plant has been provided. The timber is placed in a large cylinder and the chemical forced into the wood under high pressure. It has been found that timber so treated possesses a length of life of two or three times that of untreated timber. In one instance treated timber was placed in a mine and 18 years later, when the mine was abandoned, 74% of the treated timber was found sound, was removed and reused in another mine.

Chief Lambert, of the State Department of Mines of West Virginia, recently stated: "With the removal of such vast quantities of timber from our hillsides the mine operators could well afford to give serious study to necessary forestation, and also to the problem of chemical treatment of timber and mine ties, in the interests of both conservation and economy."

Railroad Data of February 14, 1930, issued by the Committee on Public Relations of the Eastern Railroads, carried the following item:

"Use of Treated Wood Saves \$145,000 Daily

'A saving of \$145,000 a day accrues to the railroads of the country through the present practice of using chemically treated timber for cross ties and other purposes,' said C. C. Cook, maintenance engineer of the Baltimore & Ohio, at a conference of

the public utility group of The National Association of Purchasing Agents, held recently at the Department of Commerce in Washington.

Mr. Cook addressed this meeting as a member of the National Committee on Wood Utilization of the Department of Commerce.

'Since 1909,' Mr. Cook said, 'the consumption of treated wood in this country has increased from 75 million to 336 million cubic feet. The railroads consume three-fourths of this quantity at the present time, largely for ties. The life of chemically treated ties is frequently treble that of untreated ties.'

The speaker predicted that the average life of ties will soon be more than 20 years. When this is true, he said, the railroads will save \$287,000 a day."

Tree Nursery, Showing Newly Planted Beds Covered With Shade Racks

Forestry and Coal Mining

Part Two

(Illustrated)

THE TREE NURSERY

Early in the spring the tree seeds are sown in prepared beds in the nursery and the beds then covered with shade racks. After the seeds germinate and the young tree plant appears above the surface of the bed the shade racks are elevated two or three feet above the level of the bed and the tender tree seedlings thus partially shaded during the first summer. The following winter the beds are covered with straw and the shade racks dropped on the straw. This prevents hard freezing of the ground and consequent damage to the roots of the tender young tree plants. The following spring the straw and racks are removed and thereafter the seedlings require no further protection, except in the case of Hemlock and similar species which require partial shading for the first two or three years.

The cut on the opposite page shows shade racks in place; also the irrigation system. The building here shown is the packing house and work shop.

The second summer one-year old seedlings in the beds in which the seeds were sown stand thick and compact, and the beds have the appearance of an exquisitely colored vivid-green rug.

After the trees have grown two or three years they are removed from the beds, carefully packed in small bundles, the roots protected with wet moss

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Two-Year Old Seedling Trees in Nursery Beds

and the seedlings sent to the location where they are permanently planted. Or, if better, more advanced hardy seedlings are wanted, they are removed from the original beds and transplanted in other beds in the nursery where they grow for another one or two years. The result is a sturdy seedling with a well developed root system known as a "transplant". Such transplants are designated "2-1" or "2-2", meaning two years' growth as a seedling in the original bed, and an additional one or two years' growth as a transplant. Transplants are desirable and demand a good price in the commercial market.

Certain species of transplants, white and red pine, Norway, white and blue spruce, Arborvitae, etc., are again transplanted and developed into from four to six-year-old ornamental trees which command a good price as such.

In this nursery are grown from seed the following varieties or species:

Hemlock	Scotch Pine	Douglass Fir
Norway Spruce	White Pine	Balsam Fir
Blue Spruce	Red Pine	Arborvitae
White Spruce	Banks Pine	Japanese Larch
White Ash	Pitch Pine	Wild Black Cherry

The output of this nursery, in excess of the requirements of the Corporation, for the past few years has been sold to many individuals, corporations, institutions, and states, among which have been the following:

T. Coleman DuPont	- Delaware
Clarence D. Bowman	- Camp Hill, Pa.

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Tree Nursery—Ornamental Trees

F. G. Rice	-	Monroetown, Pa.
Dr. W. B. Stewart	-	Bell Vernon, Pa.
Waddington Farm	-	Wheeling, W. Va.
Walter H. Sheffield, Architect	-	West Chester, Pa.
Victor Brown, Architect	-	Gainsville, Georgia
Dr. J. B. Coeser	-	Scranton, Pa.
Dr. J. Grant Webster	-	Wellsboro, Pa.
C. E. Sullivan	-	Cleveland, Ohio
Elbert Hubbard, II	-	East Aurora, N. Y.
John M. Eisler, Architect	-	Butler, Pa.
J. C. Stine	-	Tyrone, Pa.
F. W. Kelsey Nursery Co.	-	50 Church St., N. Y.
Piedmont Forestry Co.	-	Bound Brook, N. J.
Wm. H. Moon Co.	-	Morrisville, Pa.
Madilla Nurseries	-	Madilla, N. Y.
Farr Nursery Company	-	Womelsdorf, Pa.
Valley Forge Nursery	-	Wayne, Pa.
Harris Point Nursery	-	Cambridge, Md.
Andora Nurseries, Inc.	-	Philadelphia, Pa.
The Siebenthaler Co. (Nursery)	-	Dayton, Ohio
State Teachers College	-	Indiana, Pa.
Bureau of Waters	-	Reading, Pa.
Grove City Borough	-	Grove City, Pa.
City of Toledo	-	Toledo, Ohio
St. Bernard Catholic Church	-	Indiana, Pa.
Kiski School for Boys	-	Saltsburg, Pa.
Allegheny Forest Experiment Sta.	-	Philadelphia
Division of Forestry (State Dep't), Nashville, Tenn.		
Department of Forests & Waters of Pennsylvania		
		Harrisburg, Pa.
Department of Conservation	-	State of Indiana

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Department of Forests & Waters of Pennsylvania		Harrisburg, Pa.
Department of Conservation	-	State of Indiana

Six-Year Old Pitch Pine Near Commodore

Six-Year Old Scotch Pine Along the State Highway Near Clymer, Pa.

Six-Year Old Pitch Pine Near Commodore

Six-Year Old Scotch Pine Along the State Highway Near Clymer, Pa.

Commodore Reservation and Reforested Water Shed

Tree Plantations

As early in the spring as weather and soil conditions will permit the seedlings or transplants are taken to the plantation and there carefully and permanently planted. Trees are selected and planted with reference to location and soil condition. On high elevations where the soil is light and dry are planted Scotch, Banks, Pitch Pine, and similar varieties. Where more moisture and richer soil obtain are planted Hemlock, Larch, White and Red Pine, Spruce and White Ash.

Seedlings are planted at intervals of five feet, which is much too close for forest trees. Such planting, however, results in the planted trees crowding out grass, weeds and scrub growths, thus reducing the fire hazard. As the plantation develops the small, weak trees are crowded out. After twelve or fifteen years the plantation may be thinned by the removal of the smaller trees, the timber from which, in the form of ties and props, may be so used in the mines. Thus the trees which mature represent "The survival of the fittest".

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Clymer No. 1 Planted Water Shed

A Typical Plantation at Barr Mine

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A Typical Plantation at Barr Mine

Trees Surrounding the Mine Opening, Mine Plants and Tipples

The immediate surroundings of a coal mine are usually bleak, black, barren of trees or grass and generally unalluring and unattractive. In marked contrast the mine openings, tipples, mine plants and mining towns of this Corporation are surrounded with evergreen trees, which, in the course of a few years, will become veritable green forests which will be both utilitarian and esthetic.

The reservoirs and water sheds of water supply systems at the several plants and towns have all been reforested, and in the near future these improvements will be surrounded with shade and verdure. Thus the water supply will be conserved by reason of decreased evaporation during the hot summer seasons, and the danger of pollution and contamination of the several water sheds and sources of water supply will be materially reduced.

Although the Corporation has planted trees and is assiduously carrying out a practical forestry program for practical purposes the following quotation is apropos:

"He who plants a tree has added something of value and beauty to the world, has made life more worth while. He becomes a partner with the sun, the birds, the rain and the minstrel winds, for all of these are friends of the trees."

Virgin White Pine on the Peale Lands of the Corporation

"Stranger, if thou has learned a truth which needs
No school of long experience, that the world
Is full of guilt and misery, and hast seen
Enough of all its sorrows, crimes and cares,
To tire thee of it, enter this wild wood
And view the haunts of nature. The calm shade
Shall bring a kindred calm, and the sweet breeze
That makes the green leaves dance, shall waft a balm
To thy sick heart."

William Cullen Bryant

Trees Surrounding the Mine Opening, Mine Plants and Tipples

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William Cullen Bryant

A Log Train

Logging

Following the "Sustained Yield" practice in timber cutting, the Corporation removes from the forest only fully matured trees, carefully protects the younger growth and allows to stand one seed-bearing tree to each three acres. This, with the growth from the established root system, results in natural reforestation promptly following the cutting operation. Trees are selected and felled, cut into saw logs, and mine timbers, which are hauled from the forest to the mill or Railroad siding by gasoline-driven locomotives over a tram road which extends into the forest for a distance of four miles. Every precaution is taken to avoid forest fires on the part of the woodmen, both while at work and while in camp. Waste is reduced to a minimum. All portions of felled trees are utilized, from the trunks, which are cut into saw logs for the mills, down to the tops and limbs of the trees, from which mine ties and mine props are made.

When the present supply of fully matured timber is exhausted the present second growth will be available; and upon the exhaustion of the latter, the reforested acreage will be ready to utilize.

The continuation of such sustained yield system, planting cut-over areas, and protecting second growth, will allow this cycle of cutting timber to continue indefinitely and thus the 24,000 acres of timbered surface will be an inexhaustible resource.

A Log Train

Logging

Following the "Sustained Yield" practice in timber cutting, the Corporation removes from the forest only fully matured trees, carefully protects the younger growth and allows to stand one seed-bearing tree to each three acres. This, with the growth from the established root system, results in natural reforestation promptly following the cutting operation. Trees are selected and felled, cut into saw logs, and mine timbers, which are hauled from the forest to the mill or Railroad siding by gasoline-driven locomotives over a tram road which extends into the forest for a distance of four miles. Every precaution is taken to avoid forest fires on the part of the woodmen, both while at work and while in camp. Waste is reduced to a minimum. All portions of felled trees are utilized, from the trunks, which are cut into saw logs for the mills, down to the tops and limbs of the trees, from which mine ties and mine props are made.

When the present supply of fully matured timber is exhausted the present second growth will be available; and upon the exhaustion of the latter, the reforested acreage will be ready to utilize.

The continuation of such sustained yield system, planting cut-over areas, and protecting second growth, will allow this cycle of cutting timber to continue indefinitely and thus the 24,000 acres of timbered surface will be an inexhaustible resource.

Clymer Saw Mill

Lumber Manufacturing

Two sawmills are operated, one small mill located on a railroad siding in the Peale forests. On this mill only small timbers are sawed into ties, cross bars, etc. It is equipped with one circular saw and one small cut-off saw, and is economically operated by electric power from the mine power system.

At Clymer, which is the central location for the several large Indiana County operations of the Corporation, are centralized the principal sawmill, lumber yard, planing mill, and treating plant. This sawmill is well equipped with the various types of saws and machinery which goes to make up a complete mill. To this mill are transported by railroad and automobile truck saw logs from the forests of the Corporation. The logs so delivered are landed in a mill-pond, from where they are taken by electric power up an incline and delivered to the saws. The general practice is to manufacture such sizes of lumber as are necessary to meet the requirements of the mines, although certain standard sizes such as 1" boards, 2" x 4" studding, common 1" sheathing, etc., are sawed and stored in the lumber yard for general use, when and as required, in connection with the repairing of miners' dwelling houses and other structures, brattice boards to be used inside of mines, and various sizes of sawed lumber to meet the usual requirements around the mines.

When the sawed lumber leaves the sawmill it is loaded directly on railroad cars or automobile truck and delivered to the point where it is used; or it is delivered to the treating plant, where, after being chemically treated, it is similarly loaded and

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Clymer Lumber Yard

Saw Mill Pond

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Saw Mill Pond

delivered; or it may be stored in the yard for future use, while such lumber as requires surfacing and other planing mill treatment is delivered to the planing mill and there manufactured into surfaced and milled lumber for house-construction work or repair work. This lumber manufacturing plant, consisting of sawmill, treating plant, lumber yard and planing mill, is compact, well arranged, and economic and efficient as to operation.

The forestry and reforestation work of the Clearfield Corporation has attracted more than local attention, as is evidenced by the following from an address of the Chief Forester of West Virginia: "Pennsylvania can boast of at least one large private coal-land-company (Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation) which has developed private forestry to the point that not only the Company timber lands are under adequate protection, but all idle, otherwise waste, acreages have been planted with tree stock from this Company's own nursery, and the Company has now a large excess yearly from its own nursery, which it sells at market prices to all inquiring companies."

In an address delivered December 7, 1927 to the Railroad Protective Forest Conference at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Governor Fisher stated in part:

"In days of lumbering activity, great forest-stripped areas were created by the ruthless axe of the woodman without any thought for the future, much of it within the memory of men still living. For the time, thoughtlessness and greed seemed to hold complete sway. Although it ought to have

been perfectly clear that many millions of acres could never be used for agriculture, no seed bearers were left, and scarcely anything else above the size of a fishing pole. The harm may be undone only by reproduction and a reversal of our former follies. Tree growth is not the sole duty of the Commonwealth. It attaches to every owner of any considerable acreage of unused lands. While the railroads themselves may not directly own much surface lands, there are affiliated business concerns which do, such as lumber and mining companies. My suggestion is that pressure be brought to bear on such to induce them to engage actively in tree planting. I have in mind a coal company (Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation) which took over, more or less unwillingly, many thousands of acres of surface along with its mineral purchases. After years of unprofitable tax payments and neglect, its attention was directed to the wisdom of fortifying itself with a future lumber supply. Now it has a fine nursery, from which it is planting at the rate of a million a year and is making a nice profit besides in the sale of plantings. I merely mention this instance in illustration of what can and ought to be done by many companies similarly situated, in supplementing the public efforts that are being made to reclaim the five million acres of denuded forest lands in Pennsylvania."

"TREES"

By Joyce Kilmer

"I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as
a tree!

A tree whose hungry mouth is press'd against the
Earth's sweet, flowing breast;

A tree that looks at God all day and lifts her leafy
arms to pray;

A tree that may in summer wear a nest of robins
in her hair;

Upon whose bosom snow has lain, who intimately
lives with rain.

Poems are made by fools like me,

But only God can make a tree."

**End of
Title**