

# Maine Launches Tree Farm Program

The Pine Tree State of Maine in October became the 35th state in the nation—and the fourth in New England—to join the American Tree Farm System. More than 9,000 acres in four ownerships were certified in three separate dedications.

Samuel B. Condon, South Penobscot, and Prof. R. I. Ashman, Chelsea, who heads the University of Maine forestry department, received certificates at South Penobscot on Oct. 20.

Mr. Condon's 3,000 acres of timberland have been under management since 1904. This area yields regular harvests of pulpwood, sawlogs, fuelwood and lathes for nearby markets. Prof. Ashman's 105 acres bordering the Kennebec River provide a practical laboratory for experimentation and production of quality timber.

William Hilton, vice president of the Great Northern Paper Co. and trustee of American Forest Products Industries, representing Maine Forest Industries, told the group, "A constant supply of wood is needed to provide Maine's wood-using industries with raw materials. Mr. Condon is showing this can be done and done with profit. Maine forest industry is solidly behind good forest management and will work for the extension of the Tree Farm system in our state."

Oct. 22 marked the second dedication when the father and son team of Raymond and Carroll York, Windsor, Maine, were awarded a Tree Farm certificate. Since 1945 this 41-acre Tree Farm has produced 70 cords of firewood, 40,000 feet of lumber and 50 cords of pulpwood. In 1946 13,000 feet of white pine were harvested for the construction of the son's home. An additional 15,000 feet were harvested later for farm buildings, repairs and new construction. Some surplus logs have been sold to nearby farmers.

L. J. Freedman, woodlands manager of the Penobscot Development Co., of Old Town, representing Maine Forest Industries, stressed the continuing cash returns possible from properly managed woodlands and pointed to Tree Farms as on-the-ground evidence that private ownership is giving meaning to the expression, "timber is a crop."

The famous Leavitt Plantations at



Samuel B. Condon and R. I. Ashman were the first two tree farmers in Maine to be certified. The certification took place at the first of three ceremonies held in October, as Maine became the nation's 35th state to adopt the Tree Farm program. Left to right: L. C. Rawson, American Forest Products Industries; Mr. Condon; R. Leon Williams, lumberman and member of the governor's council; A. D. Nutting, Maine Forest Commissioner, who presented the awards; Edwin L. Gidding, chairman, Maine Tree Farm Committee; Mr. Ashman; William Hilton, Great Northern Paper Co.

The Tree Farm program is coordinated nationally by American Forest Products Industries, Washington, D. C. Official records show, as of Nov. 1, 1952, a total of 4,011 tree farmers enrolled under the American Tree Farm System. Together, these tree farmers in 35 states own 27,042,738 acres.

Parsonsfield were certified Oct. 24. Part of the Tree Farm area of 3,000 acres is the original grant of Aug. 5, 1771, to Thomas Parsons, for whom the town is named.

During the past 12 years over 12 million feet of lumber have been harvested from the area.

Kenneth M. Hancock of the M. S. Hancock Lumber Co., Casco, representing Maine Forest Industries, described how the tax paying forest industries are encouraging and participating in tree growing and forest management.



Joel Marsh (left), supervisor of the Maine Tree Farm program, helps new Tree Farmers Raymond York and his son, Carroll, erect a Tree Farm sign on the farm at Windsor.