

Tennessee Dedicates First Tree Farms

Tennessee became the 15th tree farm state when 18 tree farms were dedicated at Collinwood, Tenn., November 20. More than 400 farmers, loggers, sawmillers, wood-users, foresters and conservationists attended the extensive and colorful ceremonies at which owners of more than 115,000 acres of Tennessee timberlands were honored. First Tennessee tree farmers, who own from 75 to 70,000 acres each, are S. E. Martin, Sam Pulley, L. A. Glasgow, R. R. Haggard, Z. Cartter Patten, Willie Morris, Maynard Melson, W. P. Old, J. H. McGee, Elmer Barkley, John R. Board, E. K. Boyd, J. A. Brigham, Herman Baggenstoss, W. H. Lanahan and Ralph Hughes of Hassell and Hughes, W. E. Greeter of Greeter Bros., and J. P. Vestal of Vestal Lbr. & Mfg. Co.

Presentation of tree farm certificates was made by State Senator Mayfield of Tennessee following a varied program which explained and stressed the importance of tree growing to our forest future.

The Tennessee Conservation Department's interest in tree farms was explained by Sam Nickey, member of the state commission, and editor Stanley Horn of the Southern Lumberman spoke on the State Timber Growers' Association's attitude toward the program. C. Arthur Bruce represented the Tennessee hardwood lumbermen while James A. Pope, director of the TVA, addressed the gathering. Plans and hopes for the movement in Tennessee were outlined by state forester J. O. Hazard and the nationwide scope of tree farming was reported on by forester Charles A. Gillett of the American Forest Products Industries, Inc., national coordinators of the movement.

The meeting was keynoted by Pope, who stated, "This is the awakening of a consciousness toward our timberlands." He advised the gathering that statewide adherence to tree farm principles would triple the timber production per acre and increase by nine times the value of Tennessee's forest products. Expressing concern over U. S. Forest Service attempts to put private forest lands under federal regulation, editor Horn of the Southern Lumberman said, ".... Some members of the Forest Service believe that there should be a law that no man can cut a tree without permission... But the proper approach toward preserving our forests is through education."

Program sponsors are Tennessee Timber Growers Ass'n, Tennessee Conservation Commission, and Southern Hardwood Producers, Inc.



Representatives of sponsors of Tennessee Tree Farm Program: J. H. Nicholson, Tennessee Timber Growers' Ass'n; E. O. Butler, Southern Hardwood Producers, Inc.; S. M. Nickey, Jr., Tennessee Conservation Commission; J. O. Hazard, State Forester.