

# Grey Towers

National Historic Landmark

Home of



*Gifford Pinchot*

## Grey Towers

**The home of Gifford Pinchot is one of the most significant cultural resources administered by the Forest Service of The U.S. Department of Agriculture.**

Nestled among the Pocono mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania, Grey Towers commands a magnificent view of Milford and the Delaware River Valley. The French chateausque summer home was designed by Richard Morris Hunt for the James Pinchot family in 1885. Hunt, a family friend and leading American architect, combined his French schooling with the desires of his client to produce a design which symbolized the French heritage of the Pinchots while incorporating local materials.

For the two decades surrounding the turn of the century, the elder Pinchots and their children spent many enjoyable summers at Grey Towers entertaining numerous guests for afternoon teas, dinner parties and outdoor activities. It was on this country estate that Gifford Pinchot, with encouragement from his father James, developed the desire to pursue professional forestry.

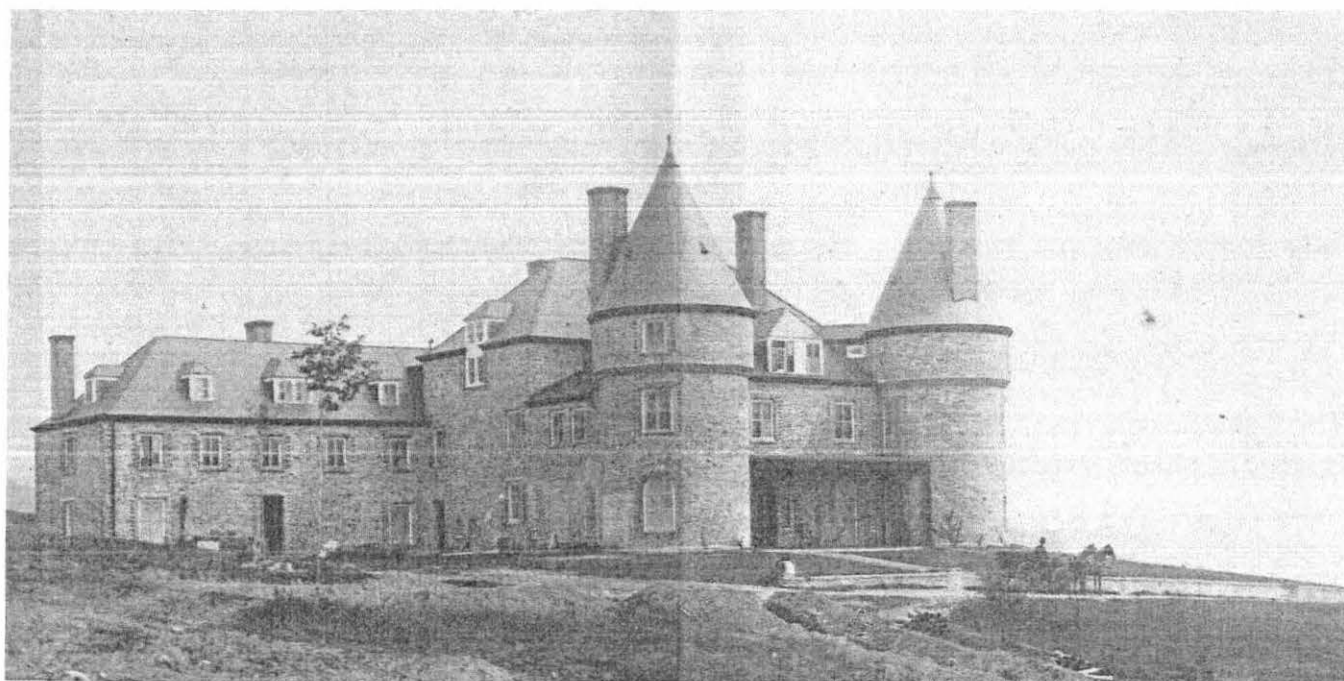
Grey Towers served as another important career link for Gifford, when after devoting twenty years to

scientific forestry, he turned his attention toward Pennsylvania politics. Grey Towers became his legal residence, and shortly thereafter he married Cornelia Bryce, an energetic lady from Long Island, New York.

Gifford's longstanding fondness of Grey Towers was complimented by his wife's desire to modernize and improve the home's interior and surrounding landscape. Cornelia transformed the 1880's mansion into a modern home more suited to their active lifestyle. This transformation enlarged the library, created a sitting room, and moved the dining room outdoors.

The Pinchots strongly believed in a blending of structure and landscape. They initiated a design theme to create numerous walkways, patios, gardens and water areas that surrounded the home and two other outbuildings which were constructed between 1920 and 1930. These buildings were appropriately named the Letter Box and Bait Box. The Letter Box served as a political office for Gifford Pinchot, while the Bait Box was used as a playhouse for their son.

Grey Towers and its surroundings are a window to the Pinchot's world.



*American Institute of Architects*

## A Family Portrait



James Pinchot, the son of a Frenchman, was born and raised in the Pennsylvania hamlet of Milford. His career began as a clerk in a New York City dry goods store; within six years he was a partner in a lucrative wallpaper firm. James became wealthy and took pride in the fact that his means of gaining wealth had created no slums, fouled no rivers, and wasted no valuable resources. Universally admired and respected, he helped establish the American Museum of Natural History, the executive committee for the Statue of Liberty, and the first Model Tenement Association. James was also a mainstay in the American Forestry Association and together with his sons founded and endowed the Yale Forest School. Through this venture a forestry summer camp and field study area was established on the family's Grey Towers estate.

After retiring from business at age 44, James and his wife Mary provided a constant and influential presence in the lives of their three children. Gifford, Antoinette and Amos received all of the benefits wealthy children of the Victorian age were accustomed to. In addition to travels abroad, private tutors and outings in the countryside, the children of James and Mary were surrounded by prominent relatives and associates of the family. As a result of this attention, the young Pinchots developed strong moral and intellectual beliefs.



Antoinette, as the wife of a British diplomat, centered her energies on the social causes of Europe. During World War I she organized and managed the American hospital in Ris Orange, France.



Trained as a lawyer, Amos served as a trustee for the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor and founder and member of the Executive Board of the American Civil Liberties Union.

## Current Ownership and Administration

The Forest Service now administers and maintains Grey Towers and 102 acres of grounds that includes formal gardens, expansive lawns and woodlands. The present holdings were conveyed to the Forest Service by Pinchot's heirs in 1963.

Dedication ceremonies for the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies which marked a new era in Pinchot conservation were held on the grounds on September 24, 1963. President John F. Kennedy was the principal speaker. For Kennedy it was the first stop on a conservation tour of America. He referred to this trip as a "journey to save America's natural heritage—a journey to preserve the past and protect the future."

The journey continues. In 1983 the National Friends of Grey Towers, a private non-profit educational foundation, was established to assist the Forest Service in its mission to preserve, protect, restore and interpret the historic estate and to promote public understanding of conservation through programs of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies.





## Gifford Pinchot: Forester, Conservationist

For half a century Gifford Pinchot was America's leading advocate of environmental conservation. Born to wealth and endowed with imagination and a love of nature, he shared his possessions and his intellect with his fellow citizens in order to make America a better place to live.

It was at Grey Towers that James Pinchot encouraged his son to explore the profession of forestry. After graduation from Yale University, Gifford went abroad to study at L'Ecole Nationale Forestiere in Nancy, France, as formal training in forestry did not yet exist in the United States.

"When I got home at the end of 1890 . . . the nation was obsessed by a fury of development. The American Colossus was fiercely intent on appropriating and exploiting the riches of the richest of all continents." With equal fervor Pinchot set to work. In the next two decades he would raise forestry and conservation of all our natural resources from an unknown experiment to a nationwide movement.

Gifford Pinchot became head of the Division of Forestry in 1898 and under President Theodore Roosevelt was named Chief Forester of the redefined U.S. Forest Service. National forest management was guided by Pinchot's principle, "the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run." His magnetic personal leadership inspired a rare esprit de corps in the new organization. During his tenure of service to the government, the number of national forests increased from 32 in 1898 to 149 in 1910 for a total of 193 million acres.

Pinchot and Roosevelt together made conservation public issue and national policy. Roosevelt considered the enactment of a conservation program his greatest contribution to American domestic policy. In speaking of Gifford Pinchot's role:

*" . . . among the many, many public officials who under my administration rendered literally invaluable service to the people of the United States, Gifford Pinchot on the whole, stood first."*

Theodore Roosevelt

## Pinchots in Politics

Pinchot was elected to his first term as Governor of Pennsylvania in 1923 and is widely regarded as one of Pennsylvania's most progressive, popular, and effective chief executives. Within two years of his first term, the \$30 million deficit that had existed at the outset of Pinchot's governorship was eliminated.

In 1931 he began his second term as Pennsylvania's governor. During this administration Pinchot battled for the regulation of public utilities, relief for the unemployed, and construction of paved roads to "get the farmers out of the mud."

### EVERYBODY KNOWS



**GIFFORD PINCHOT**  
REPUBLICAN CANDIDATE  
**MADE A GOOD GOVERNOR**  
HELP HIM FINISH HIS WORK  
PRIMARY ELECTION MAY 16, 1930

**CORNELIA BRYCE PINCHOT**  
Will Really Represent the People  
of This District



Republican Candidate for Representative in Congress  
DRY AND PROGRESSIVE  
Primary Election April 24, 1928

Cornelia Bryce was married to Gifford Pinchot in 1914. The daughter of journalist and politician Lloyd Bryce, Cornelia grew to maturity in the shadow of Theodore Roosevelt's political circle. It was during the Bull Moose campaign of 1912 that she was introduced to Gifford by Theodore Roosevelt.

During the 1920's Cornelia ran for the House of Representatives on three occasions and in 1930 entered the gubernatorial primaries for Pennsylvania. During these campaigns she focused considerable attention on the labor rights of women and children. One commented that Cornelia "was equally at home on a picket line with striking workers as she was a gracious hostess at a formal reception."



## Current Ownership and Administration

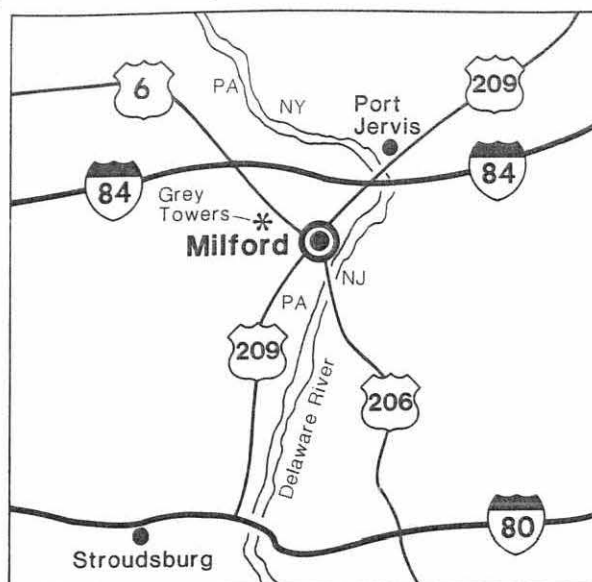
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Grey Towers is located on U.S. Route 6, 2 miles east of I-84, Exit 10, in Milford, PA.



### Tour Schedule:

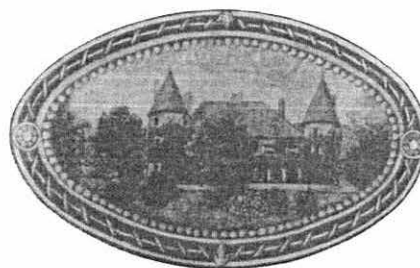
Memorial Day weekend - Labor Day, daily, 10-4.

### House and garden tours on the hour.

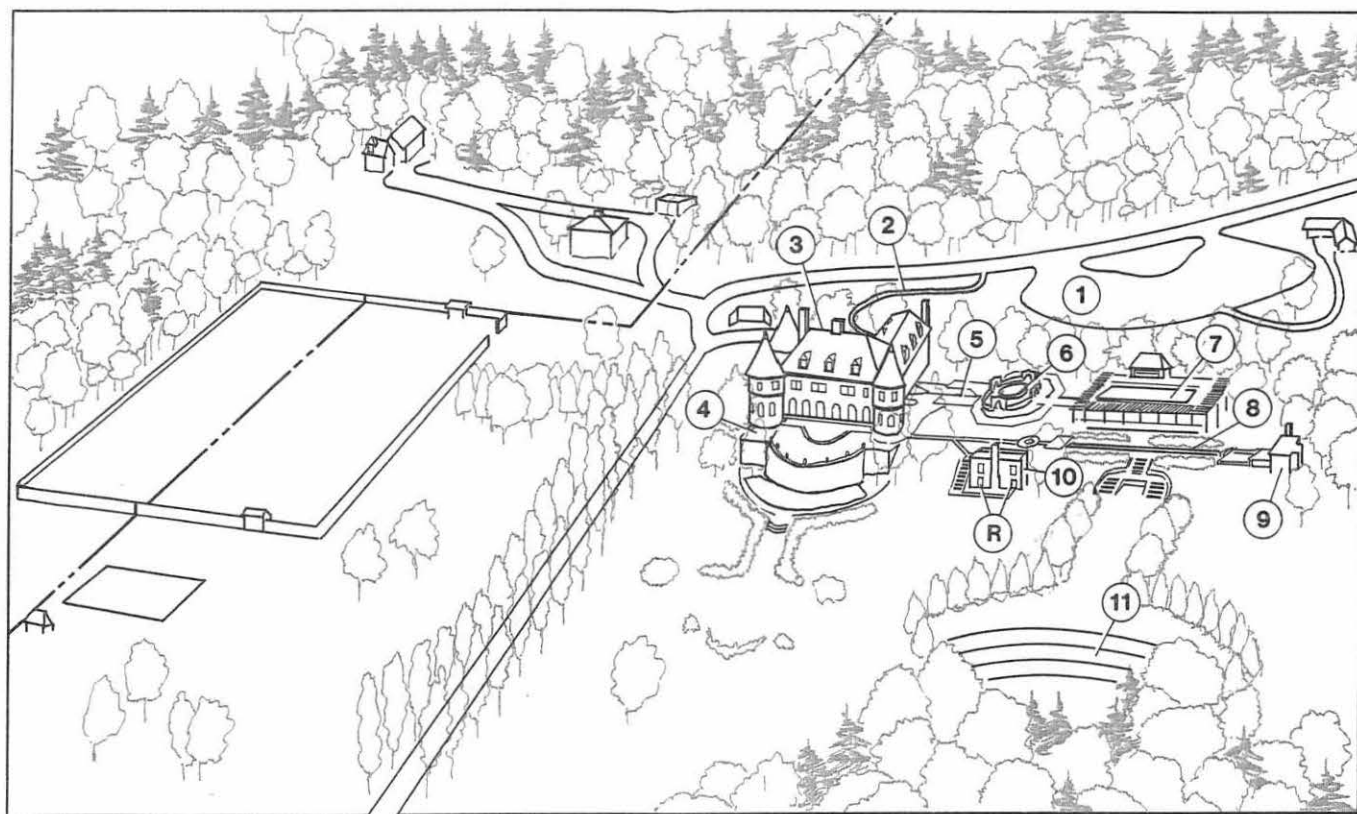
During the off season and for groups of 20 or more, please write or call for current schedule.

The site is subject to closure for special events and conferences. Please call to verify schedule.

Gates close after the 4:00 tour. All vehicles must be off the site by 5:00 P.M.



Grey Towers National Historic Landmark  
Forest Service  
P.O. Box 188  
Milford, PA 18337  
Telephone: (717) 296-6401



#### LEGEND

- 1 Parking lot
- 2 Steps to parking lot
- 3 Main House
- 4 Tour begins here
- 5 Patio
- 6 Finger Bowl
- 7 Pool
- 8 Reflecting Pool
- 9 Bait Box
- 10 Letter Box
- 11 Amphitheater
- R Restrooms

#### For Your Safety

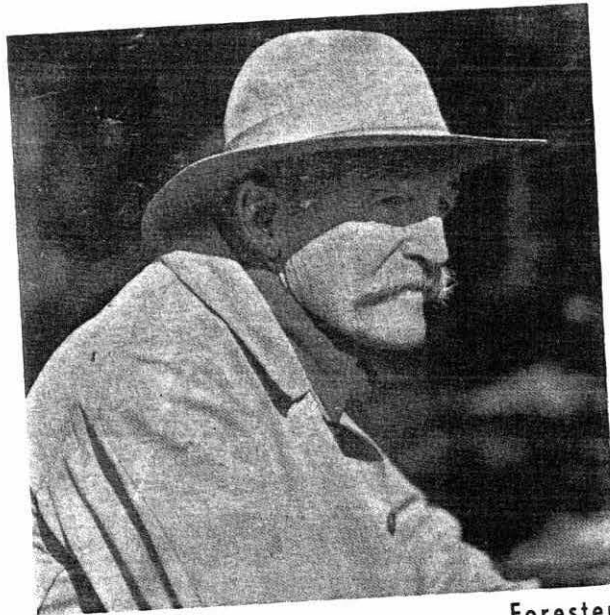
Efforts have been made to provide for your safety. Stone walkways, however, are historic and therefore may be unsteady. Comfortable footwear is suggested. Please take care to have a safe and enjoyable visit.

#### Donation

Restoration work at Grey Towers depends on monies donated by the visiting public. The National Friends of Grey Towers seeks your support in this effort and requests a modest donation for the tour of the house and gardens. Tickets can be obtained in the gallery, gift shop, or from a Tour Guide. Children under 12 are free.

Groups of twenty or more are requested to call ahead for special reservations.

*Jeffrey P. Richter*



Forester

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August, 1965



# GIFFORD PINCHOT—

## FORESTER

Samuel T. Dana

"I MAY have been a governor at odd moments, but I have been a forester all the time." So spoke Gifford Pinchot at the 1940 annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters where he was awarded the Sir William Schlich Memorial Medal. At seventy-five, the man whose prominence in politics, at the national as well as the state level, had long been conspicuous, affirmed his lasting devotion to his first love—the profession of forestry, to which he had contributed so much.

### Neophyte

In October 1889, having decided at the suggestion of his father to become a forester, young Pinchot sailed for Europe, where he spent the next thirteen months studying the theory and practice of forestry at educational institutions and in the woods. Impatient to put his acquired knowledge to work, he returned to the United States and within a few weeks of his arrival presented his first formal paper on forestry, "Government Forestry Abroad," at a joint meeting of the American Economic Association and The American Forestry Association. The next year was largely one of orientation.

THE AUTHOR is dean emeritus, School of Natural Resources, The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

In February 1892, with his appointment as forester for the Biltmore Estate, came the opportunity to realize the most profound ambition of his life—to practice forestry *in the woods*. Finding his work there not sufficiently pressing to keep him fully occupied, Pinchot hung out his shingle as a "consulting forester" in New York City in December 1893. He was soon joined by Henry S. Graves, a former college mate at Yale whom he had persuaded to study forestry abroad. Their varied activities led to preparation of a number of forest management plans, the best known of which is that for Ne-Ha-Sa-Ne Park in New York.

Keenly interested as Pinchot was in the intelligent management of forest lands in private ownership, he was almost even more concerned about the handling of millions of acres of forest land in the public domain.

He consequently joined with others in persuading Hoke Smith, Secretary of the Interior, to request that the National Academy of Sciences appoint a commission to study the current situation in the few forest reserves then in existence and make recommendations for improvement. The commission was appointed on March 2, 1896, with Charles S. Sargent of Harvard as chairman and Pinchot as secretary. On the recommendation

the commission, President Cleveland celebrated Washington's birthday, 1897, by more than doubling the existing area of forest reserves. The resulting avalanche of protests to Cleveland's action led to passage of the Act of June 4, 1897, specifying the purposes for which forest reserves might be created and providing for their administration.

The new Secretary of the Interior, Cornelius N. Bliss, immediately asked Pinchot, as a "special forest agent," to study the forest reserves which had been suspended by that Act, to recommend modifications of their boundaries, and to submit a proposal for the organization of a forest service. His report made no recommendation as to the creation of the proposed forest service, but his biographer (M. Nelson McGarry in *Gifford Pinchot: Forester-Politician*) feels that, if it had been offered the opportunity to take charge of it as a unit of the Department of the Interior, it would probably have accepted.

### "Forester"

Instead, on July 1, 1898, at the insistence of Secretary James Wilson, he succeeded Fernow as head of the Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture, with the proud title of "Forester"—an appellation in which he took much satisfaction. "In Washington chiefs of divisions were thick as leaves in Lombrosa," but there was only one man with the official designation of "Forester."

G.P. (as he was familiarly and affectionately known to his colleagues) promptly proceeded to

further his ambition to get forestry from the books into the woods by offering practical assistance in the management of their lands to farmers, lumbermen, and other owners of forest areas. Applications for help were numerous, but results in terms of area placed under conservative management were disappointing.

Recognizing fully the importance of research and education as the foundations for intelligent forest management, G.P. pushed the establishment of regional forest and range experiment stations and of the Forest Products Laboratory, and was instrumental in effectuating an initial grant of \$150,000 from members of the Pinchot family for the establishment of the Yale School of Forestry.

His main interest, however, lay in management of the federal forest reserves. Their administration by the General Land Office he regarded as riddled by "incompetence and corruption" and altogether "awful." He was convinced that the only remedy for the situation was to transfer the forest reserves from the jurisdiction of the Department of the Interior, which he characterized as a real estate agent, to the Department of Agriculture, which was in charge of other federal activities relating to crops and which was the employer of practically all of the foresters currently in government service. This point of view received powerful support from President Theodore Roosevelt, The American Forestry Association, and others.

The meeting of minds of the President and the Forester on this

issue was prophetic of the warm personal and official relations that marked their future careers. Physically, spiritually, and politically T.R. and G.P. were kindred souls who together enjoyed the strenuous life, whether in play in the out-of-doors or in fighting for the public good. Their efforts finally achieved success with Congressional approval of the transfer on February 1, 1905, following strong recommendation on the subject by the American Forest Congress.

### Administrator

Overnight the hitherto landless Bureau of Forestry assumed responsibility for the administration of 75 million acres of forest land. Pinchot was ready for the change. On the very day of the transfer he received from Secretary Wilson a letter of instructions, written by the recipient, which stated succinctly but forcefully the principles to be followed in the management of the reserves. The basic objective remains as valid today as it was fifty years ago:

"All land is to be devoted to its most productive use for the permanent good of the whole people, and not for the temporary benefit of individuals or companies. All of the resources of the reserves are for use, and this use must be brought about in a thoroughly prompt and businesslike manner, under such restrictions only as will insure the permanence of these resources."

G.P.'s clear grasp of the principle of multiple use and a foreshadowing of his later emphasis on "conservation" are shown in the

admonition to "see to it that the water, wood, and forage of the reserves are conserved and wisely used." Common sense, efficiency, and integrity were the outstanding characteristics of wise use of the national forests (the reserves were renamed in 1907) as administered by the Forest Service—the more appropriate name by which the Bureau of Forestry was known after July 1, 1905. Administration was largely decentralized, red tape was reduced, business was speeded up, technical activities were handled by men with technical training, appointments and promotions were based on merit—not on pull; above all, the public interest always took precedence over private interests.

The new policies and practices naturally aroused opposition from those whose toes were stepped on and their friends in Congress and elsewhere. As G.P. put it, the Forest Service had to "fight, fight, fight" for its very life. A serious attempt to cripple its effectiveness came in 1907, when Congress forbade further creation or enlargement of national forests by the President in the six western states with the largest areas of federal forest land. At G.P.'s suggestion, T.R. largely removed the sting from this action by establishing some 16 million acres of new national forests in the few days between passage of the bill by Congress and its signature by the President. Preparing the necessary proclamations under such heavy pressure was lots of work but also lots of fun; not often did the opportunity arise to play such a bully joke on Congress.

G.P.'s activities as a close adviser to the President, a member of several national commissions, and an expert in the broad field of public relations did not prevent his exercising firm direction over the policies of the Forest Service. It left him little time for the details of administering the national forests. This task was left largely to the associate forester, Overton L. Price, a man of fine personality and outstanding administrative ability. Looking backward in 1940, G.P. told the Society of American Foresters that:

"Price has never had anything like the credit he deserves for the part he played in establishing the organization and morale of the Forest Service and in promoting the conservation movement. As I have said over and over again, he was more responsible than I for the efficiency of the Forest Service in its early days and for setting it on the path of great accomplishment that has followed ever since."

### Conservationist

Although G.P. had recognized the great diversity of natural resources in the United States and the need for dealing with them all in an administrative area such as a national forest, he had not fully appreciated the intimacy of the relations between them until one day in February 1907, when he was riding in Rock Creek Park near Washington. Then it suddenly occurred to him that current attempts to manage these resources as if they were independent of each other would lead only to confusion and conflict; that their perpetuation for

the good of mankind was a single problem which could be solved only by a unified policy; and that maintenance of a constant and sufficient supply of all natural resources is the basic human problem. Conservation of natural resources, as this philosophy of permanence and plenty through wise and coordinated management was soon named, was thus "the key to the safety and prosperity of the American people, and of all the people of the world, for all time to come."

More specifically, Pinchot later enumerated what he regarded as the three basic principles of conservation. First, is the development of natural resources for the benefit of the people who live here now; second, is the prevention of waste; third, is the development and preservation of natural resources for the benefit of the many, and not merely the profit of the few. Conservation thus proposes to secure a continuous and abundant supply of the necessities of life, together with fairness in the distribution of the benefits which flow from the natural resources. It is the application of common sense to common problems for the common good. "It is a moral issue because it involves the rights and the duties of our people."

T.R. gave emphatic approval to the new philosophy by calling a Conference of Governors (the first ever to be held) to consider the entire question of conservation of natural resources. The Conference, which met at the White House May 13-15, 1908, adopted unanimously a forceful declaration of views and recommendations. It as-

serted that natural resources, which "supply the material basis on which our civilization must continue to depend," are threatened with exhaustion, that their conservation is "a subject of transcendent importance," and that "monopoly thereof should not be tolerated." The goal was summarized in the exhortation: "Let us preserve the foundations of our prosperity."

The most immediate, and one of the most useful, results of the Conference, was the prompt appointment by the President of a National Conservation Commission, headed by Pinchot, to advise him as to the condition of the country's resources and to cooperate with similar state bodies. The Commission's exhaustive, three-volume report was submitted to Congress by the President on January 22, 1909. The Commission viewed with alarm the existing situation with respect to waters, forests, lands, and minerals, and made many recommendations for improvement. Rather surprisingly, it dealt lightly with wildlife and parks.

Pinchot's last service to the President in the field of conservation was to preside over the meeting of the North American Conservation Conference at the White House on February 18, 1909. He had expected to be active in connection with a World Conservation Conference which Roosevelt had called to meet at The Hague the following September; but President Taft failed to follow through, and the Conference never materialized.

### Warrior

Taft's dismissal of Pinchot on

January 7, 1910, ended permanently his career as a federal official. It speeded up rather than slowed down his fights for the public good in general and forestry and conservation in particular. The most famous of these is his attack on Richard A. Ballinger, begun soon after the installation of the new Secretary of Interior, whom he accused of infidelity to the cause of conservation—a charge that he soon extended to include Taft. Although the controversy ranged over a wide field, its public aspects centered largely on Ballinger's attitude toward the patenting of certain allegedly fraudulent coal claims in Alaska.

The Republican majority on the committee appointed by Congress to investigate the controversy found Secretary Ballinger to be "a competent and honorable gentleman, honestly and faithfully performing the duties of his high office with an eye single to the public interest." The Democratic minority concluded that Ballinger had "not been true to the trust reposed in him as Secretary of the Interior; that he is not deserving of public confidence, and that he should be requested to resign." Pinchot was praised as "a man of high character, of fine honor, of stainless integrity, and of patriotic purpose." Ballinger resigned voluntarily in March 1911; the Alaskan coal claims were canceled the following June by the Department of the Interior; and in 1914 Congress stopped the sale of coal lands in Alaska, authorized the reservation of certain lands, and provided for the leasing of unreserved coal lands.

Pinchot was jubilant. He had



... before the committee; thanks in part to skillful publicity, he had won it before the country. Even more important, he sensed a growing belief that the general tendency of the Taft administration was "away from the Roosevelt policies and the people, and in favor of the special interests and the few." Mounting dissatisfaction with Taft because of what many regarded as his reactionary stand on conservation, the tariff, regulation of big business, and other issues led to organization of the Progressive ("Bull Moose") Party, in which Pinchot played a prominent part, to Roosevelt's candidacy for the presidency, and to Woodrow Wilson's election. His activities in his new role as politician, including two terms as Governor of Pennsylvania, are covered in another article in this issue of the *Journal of Forestry*. It is, however, relevant to note here that his interest in forestry and conservation continued unabated. Among other things, the fight to control industrial use of water-power sites on federal lands, which he had started on national forests in 1905 and later extended to other lands, reached a successful conclusion in 1920 with passage of the Federal Water Power Act.

As Commissioner of Forestry in Pennsylvania from 1920 to 1922, Pinchot did much to strengthen the state's work in that field. But his major activities in forestry centered around his persistent efforts to obtain federal control of cutting on privately owned forest lands. Such action was vigorously advocated in November 1919 by a Society of American Foresters Committee for the Application of For-

estry, of which he was chairman. In a militant article in the *Journal of Forestry* which contained the committee's report, he took an uncompromising position that he never abandoned. After citing the fact that the fight to conserve the forest resources of the public domain had been won, he continued:

"Another and a bigger fight has now begun, with a far greater issue at stake. I use the word fight, because I mean precisely that. Forest devastation will not be stopped through persuasion, a method that has been thoroughly tried out for the last twenty years and has failed utterly. . . The field is cleared for action and the lines are plainly drawn. He who is not for forestry is against it."

For once the foresters of the country failed to follow their revered leader's dictum; the majority opposed the panacea of federal control without any feeling of guilt in doing so.

G.P.'s keen disappointment found vigorous expression in 1940 at the annual meeting of the Society of American Foresters, where he accompanied high praise of foresters with strong criticism.

"No one can deny that foresters as a body have done great work for this country of ours. Against all the innumerable credits which American foresters deserve there is, to my thinking, but one important black mark. I mean the fact that the devastation of privately owned forest lands is still going on all over America. . . We have every reason, but one, to be proud of the contribution American forestry has made and will make to

everything we hold dear in America."

Pinchot's other perennial fight—to prevent the transfer of the national forests, or even of the entire Forest Service, to the Department of the Interior—proved more successful. His opposition to the transfer was based chiefly on his distrust of the Department of the Interior and his confidence in the Department of Agriculture. In 1937, he wrote that "the Department of the Interior has regularly mishandled every public natural resource of which it has had charge, with the possible exception of the National Parks, the forest in which is not treated as a crop." Forestry, he asserted, "belongs by its very nature in that Department which deals with production from the soil." And there it still is.

### Leader

Gifford Pinchot was a remarkable man. Tall, handsome, graceful, and athletic, he was a striking figure in any company. A devotee of the strenuous life, he was adept at football, tennis, boxing, wrestling, hunting, fishing, hiking, camping, and mountain climbing. An example of his joy in roughing it is his ascent of New York's highest peak, Mount Marcy, during the famous blizzard of February 1899, with the temperature far below zero and the snow many feet deep.

Eldest son of a well-to-do and socially prominent family, he was equally at home with rich and poor, with presidents and lumberjacks; but his vigorous efforts to make forestry and conservation realities were due largely to his interest in the welfare of the common man.

A born leader of men, he was dominant but not domineering, self-confident but not arrogant. Like many other leaders, he aroused strong loyalties and strong antagonisms. Almost worshipped by his associates in the Forest Service, he was disliked and even hated by those who disagreed with his policies and practices, particularly if their own toes were stepped on. At the same time, he had an extraordinary personal charm that it was difficult to resist when in his presence.

High strung, he seldom lost his head or his temper; always in breathless haste to reach his goal, he could nevertheless bide his time when occasion demanded. Persistence and optimism were striking characteristics. He never gave up, "never doubted clouds would break," never lost hope that somehow, sometime things would turn out right. "The most powerful thing in human affairs," he once told the Society of American Foresters, "is continuity of purpose, and what you can't get this year or next year you will get in the end if you stay with it."

These qualities were fortified by confidence in the soundness of his judgment and the rightness of his goals. This assurance sometimes bordered on a stubbornness that made him a bit difficult to work with.

He appreciated and thrived on commendation, but criticism and opposition spurred him to greater efforts. This bit of advice that he once offered to students at Yale showed his realization of the ease with which one can get into trouble without looking for it: "Don't make

enemies unnecessarily and for trivial reasons. If you are good you will make plenty of them on matters of straight honesty and public policy and will need all the support you can get."

Always direct, forthright, and decisive, he could be generous in awarding praise where praise was due, and equally critical where criticism was due. On occasion, his comments could be caustic. Ordinarily the soul of kindness and consideration, a puritanical conscience could, if he felt it necessary, lead him to sacrifice his friends as well as himself in a just cause.

Disagreements with others, particularly on matters of policy, were likely to produce estrangements. Like many crusaders, he was unable quickly to forgive and forget. His idol, Theodore Roosevelt, and his lifelong friend, Henry S. Graves, are among the few with whom differences of opinion failed to cause a break.

His early work, first as a consulting forester and then as head of the federal Division of Forestry, was centered largely on attempts to realize his cherished and lifelong ambition of getting forestry into the woods. In spite of much apparent interest, the results in terms of acres actually placed under forest management were disappointing. Greatly disturbed by the lack of progress, he became a modern Jeremiah, denouncing forest devastation and prophesying coming doom in the form of eroded hillsides, floods, and timber famine.

His chief efforts during conservation's first decade of the twentieth century were dedicated to ex-

pansion and administration of the national forests. In this difficult task, he had the unlimited and invaluable cooperation of a popular and aggressive President of the United States. So closely did the two members of this team work together that it was often difficult, not only in forestry but in other fields, to tell which was calling the signals. Probably no other mere bureau chief was ever so influential at the highest level of government.

In terms of concrete accomplishment, the high tide of G.P.'s service to forestry came during the Roosevelt administration. He created a Forest Service that was generally recognized as without a peer in efficiency and esprit de corps. He introduced honesty and technical competence in the handling of the national forests. He placed the management of all their resources on a high plane, with emphasis on their use for the benefit of local people and communities, but with due regard for the national interest. He furthered research in the Forest Service; he raised the status of the profession as a cofounder and for many years president of the Society of American Foresters; and he strengthened education in forestry by being instrumental in the creation of the Yale School of Forestry. A master of publicity, he made "forestry" a household word, and its application the duty of all good citizens, although with less success in bringing about popular understanding of all that this implies.

One of his greatest services to the nation was his leadership, from 1907 on, in extending the philosophy and principles of forestry to

the "conservation" of all natural resources, and even to the conduct of public affairs. "The conservation point of view is valuable in the education of our people as well as in forestry; it applies to the body politic as well as to the earth and its minerals." Again, people in all walks of life embraced on a broader scale the basic principles of perpetuation, avoidance of waste, and fair distribution, and with considerable vagueness and lack of agreement as to what it was all about, but with no doubt as to the desirability of the goal.

G.P.'s little book *The Fight for Conservation* (1910) had a strong influence in the realm of politics as well as in the world of public opinion. It showed, in his words, "the rapid, virile evolution of the campaign for conservation of the Nation's resources." Written in his usual crisp and vivid style, in language that every one could understand, it served in effect as the bible for the new movement.

Although his activities after leaving the Forest Service lay largely in the field of politics, he never lost his interest in or his contact with forestry, which he always regarded as having provided the inspiration for his efforts on a broader scale to promote prosperity, world peace, and the good life for all. Noteworthy are his success in keeping the Forest Service in the Department of Agriculture and his vigorous but unsuccessful campaign to bring about federal control of cutting on privately owned forest lands.

One of G.P.'s major assets was

his constant emphasis on the human element, on the people who implement policies. Without depreciating the importance of technical and administrative know-how, he respected even more the old-fashioned virtues that make a man a man. "The first condition of success in any job," he asserted, "is not brains but character. Over and over again I have seen men of moderate intelligence come to the front because they had courage, integrity, self-respect, steadiness, perseverance, and confidence in themselves, their cause, and their work." In his last formal meeting with his fellow members in the Society of American Foresters, he reminded them that every forester is a public servant, no matter what job he holds, and stated it as one of the strong convictions of his life that no man can be a good forester who is not a good citizen.

On this hundredth anniversary of his birth, foresters can gladly and proudly join in T.R.'s tribute to G.P. as "the man to whom the Nation owes most for what has been accomplished as regards the preservation of the natural resources of our country." A magnetic leader, with the rare ability to turn visions into actualities, his contributions to a better world were on a spiritual as well as a material level. The philosophy that inspired his lasting and fervent devotion to forestry and its offspring (conservation) is well expressed in two of his favorite aphorisms:

"Conservation is a moral issue."

"The public good comes first."



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

1965

GPO 897-302



WHAT  
GIFFORD PINCHOT  
STANDS FOR

PLATFORM OF GIFFORD PINCHOT

Issued April 14, 1914

Washington Party Candidate  
for United States Senator

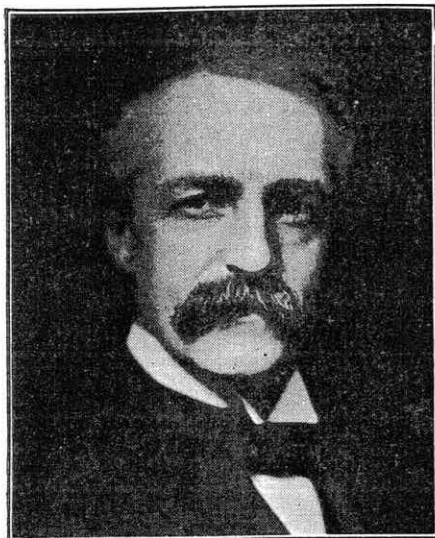
AND SOME FACTS ABOUT HIM

*This is my personal pledge  
to stand by my platform  
after election*

*Gifford Pinchot*

WASHINGTON PARTY STATE COMMITTEE





*This is our year. We are  
going to drive Penrose out.  
Lifford Pinchot*

### The Time Has Come to Clean House

THE greedy bi-partisan Penrose machine must be swept out, and the common welfare must be set in the place where it belongs. The magnate system of private monopoly has dominated the politics of State and Nation, stifled equal opportunity, raised the cost of living, and skimmed the cream of industry for the over-rich. It must be destroyed. This country belongs of right to its inhabitants. Extortion for private profit must stand aside for the public good. The Government must be made to serve the people.

*Page three*



I believe in the Conservation of Human Rights. I will work for:

The destruction of private monopoly in natural resources or the products of industry. The power of the monopolists lies in exclusive privileges. To end their power to raise the cost of living, their exclusive privileges must be destroyed. That is our greatest task.

The regulation of all large corporations not monopolies. Honest competition and fair dealing with the public must be assured.

The right of workmen to organize in unions, and by every fair means to compel recognition of such unions by employers. Only through their unions can the workmen meet the employers on equal terms.

*Page five*

A constitutional convention in Pennsylvania, so that our constitution may be adjusted to the needs of our time, and our system of taxation may be thoroughly revised.

A protective tariff which shall equalize the conditions of competition between the United States and foreign countries, and which shall be based upon the findings of a non-partisan scientific commission. The tariff must be taken out of politics.

A sharply graduated inheritance tax. Swollen fortunes drain the people.

A law to prevent fraud in clothing. Honest clothes are more needed than undoctored whiskey.

*Page six*

**I believe in the Conservation of Natural Resources. I will work for:**

The Conservation policy in State and Nation.

The protection of our forests in Pennsylvania. They can be made to yield four times the lumber they do now.

A law to limit franchises and require compensation from water-power companies. We have no right to facilitate the robbery of our descendants.

State and National laws to promote co-operation among farmers. The prosperous farmer helps us all.

A better law for the safety of miners. Over two hundred more miners were killed in Pennsylvania last year than the year before.

A law giving to a national commission the power to limit the

*Page seven*

wholesale price charged by the anthracite monopoly or its agents in interstate commerce. The price fixed should consist of a reasonable price for coal at the mine, sufficient to provide good wages for the miners, and a reasonable charge for transportation and handling. A reasonable profit should be included. The saving to the public should be applied in part to greater safety for miners, and in part to lowering the cost of living by reducing the price of coal. The monopoly in anthracite coal, which is a necessity of modern life, should be subject to the obligations of public service. The monopoly charges high prices because it has the power. That power must be destroyed.

(For reduction of anthracite prices in Pennsylvania, see heavy type on page twelve.)

Page eight

I believe in the Conservation of Human Welfare. I will work for:

The whole social and industrial justice program of the National Progressive platform, and in particular:

A workmen's compensation law. The great transportation, manufacturing, and building industries, and not the wage-earners and their families, should bear the burden of industrial accidents. Farmers and domestic employers should be excluded.

A workmen's insurance law. The dread of poverty from accident should be removed.

Standards of safety, health and employment in mines, railroads,

Page nine



mills, and factories. The welfare of the workers comes first.

A minimum wage law for women, and a law regulating the terms of their employment. The comforts and decencies of life should not be denied to the mothers.

A national child-labor law. The exploitation of childhood for profit must cease.

An effective mine-cave law effectively enforced. It is outrageous that men and property should be engulfed without notice and without redress.

*Page ten*

I believe in the Conservation of Citizenship. I will work for:

The initiative, referendum and recall, and direct primaries and direct voting in all elections. The people must control the Government.

Equal suffrage for men and women. The women are needed in public affairs.

Local option as to the liquor traffic. Each county and large city should decide for itself.

National option as to the liquor traffic, through a constitutional amendment giving the people of the Nation the right to decide for themselves.

The spread of knowledge by the State to all our citizens, old

*Page eleven*

"In all my acquaintance, I have hardly met a man who combines in one person in such measure the qualities of a lofty and uncompromising idealism with the energy and ability of a successful administrator."

—Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War under President Taft

"As Chief Forester, Gifford Pinchot virtually created the United States Forest Service, through which the National Forests are administered. Not once since it was created has any charge of illegality, despite the most searching investigation and the bitterest attack, ever led to reversal or reproof by either House of Congress or by any Congressional Committee. Not once has the Forest Service been defeated or reversed as to any vital legal principle underlying its work in any Court or administrative tribunal of last resort."

—George W. Woodruff, Law Officer U. S. Forest Service four years; Assistant Attorney General of U. S. two years; U. S. District Judge, 1909 to 1911.

"As you know I am a Wilson Democrat, and the election of Mr. Palmer would be a thing so much better than we have ever had in Pennsylvania, that under ordinary circumstances I should hope for his election; but I find myself sincerely hoping that he will be defeated by you."

—Letter from Herbert Quick, Author and Leader in the Country Life Movement.

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"Mr. Penrose should be beaten. It will be a bad thing for public life in America if the forces which he represents triumph in the Pennsylvania Senatorship contest. . . . His defeat will save the State of Pennsylvania from the discredit of unworthy representation in the United States Senate. . . . The Tribune hopes that Pennsylvania will elect Mr. Gifford Pinchot, the candidate of the Progressive Party, as its next Senator. He is a worthier candidate than the man chosen at the Democratic primaries. The necessity for defeating Penroseism transcends all partisan consideration. Opposition to it should not be divided. The Democratic candidate ought to withdraw. All citizens, irrespective of party affiliations, should unite in support of Mr. Pinchot."

—The New York Tribune, the Historic Mouthpiece of the Republican Party.

And again on May 25, the Tribune said:

"Pennsylvania tolerated men like Cameron and Quay because their evil qualities were balanced by intellectual audacity and by marked gifts of leadership. Penrose is merely plodding and commonplace. He represents commercialism in politics reduced to its barest and most uninviting terms. Murphy could probably poll 200,000 votes in this State as a candidate for Senator in the Democratic primary. But that would not prove that he could be elected. We decline to believe that Pennsylvania will disgrace herself by electing Penrose."

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and young, to help them in solving their private and their public problems, and opening the school buildings to the people.

I believe in our right to exercise sovereignty over the Panama Canal, and in free tolls for the coast-wise trade. Cheap transportation in American coast-wise ships will break down the present monopoly of the transcontinental railroads. That monopoly must be destroyed.

Six days after this platform was issued, the United States Supreme Court decided that the State of Kansas has the right to regulate the price of insurance. Under the principle of this decision the State of Pennsylvania has the right to regulate the price of anthracite coal.

I believe in and will work for such regulation. Thus all who use anthracite can get their coal cheaper. At the same time, under the power of the State, the safety and welfare of the miners can be increased.

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## The Judgment of the Country

"... Taking into account his (Pinchot's) tireless energy and activity, his fearlessness, his complete disinterestedness, his single-minded devotion to the interests of the plain people, and his extraordinary efficiency, I believe that it is but just to say that among the many public officials who under my administration rendered literally invaluable services to the people of the United States, he, on the whole, stood first."—Theodore Roosevelt.

"What this country needs more than anything else is a thousand Gifford Pinchots."

—Charles McCarthy, Legislative Expert of Wisconsin.

"I have admired him always. I saw him standing in our Capitol championing the rights of our people in the face of the threats of the great privileged water-power interests of my own State. At the same time we have seen these interests planning the destruction of Gifford Pinchot. Why? He has ever been the champion of the people's rights to those natural resources that God intended for the use of all his children."

—Ben B. Lindsey, The Children's Judge.

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"I am not a member of the political party which Mr. Pinchot represents, and therefore my plea in behalf of his candidacy ought have a greater weight, because it is not influenced in any way by partisan politics, but solely motivated by my desire to see Pennsylvania represented in the United States Senate by a man of Mr. Pinchot's ability and devotion to public service.

"With his record to show the character of his services and his devotion to the public interests, the people of the State could not do better than to send him as their representative to the Senate of the United States."

—Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, Head of the Movement for Pure Food.

"I am confident his election to the Senate from Pennsylvania would redound to the national welfare. I say this without regard to party. I come from a family always identified with the Democratic Party. But I hold that parties are subordinate to public good."

—Charles S. Barrett, President of the Farmers' Union, an organization of three million farmers.

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"In the many trying and perplexing questions constantly coming up before Congress a Senator of Mr. Pinchot's training and ability would be of inestimable value, not only to Pennsylvania, but to the country at large."—Jane Addams.

"Knowing, as I do, the important services that Mr. Gifford Pinchot has rendered to conservation and forestry in this State, I feel that it is my duty to say that he is not receiving the credit for these services to which he is justly entitled.

"The mere fact that he is in the midst of a political campaign is no reason why I should suppress the truth.

"It is more than doubtful whether the Yale Forest School would have been located each summer in Milford, Pike County, unless Mr. Gifford Pinchot had desired it. A considerable area of forest land is thus made an object lesson for the benefit of our citizens.

"Repeatedly during the period of Mr. Pinchot's official life in Washington, I appealed to him for active assistance in the matters of our own State forestry, and it was always cheerfully, promptly, and efficiently rendered. He has been an important factor in Pennsylvania Forestry, though his official relations required his presence elsewhere."

—J. T. Rothrock, Father of Forestry in Pennsylvania.

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"I have hunted and fished with some good men in my capacity as guide in northern Montana, but seldom or never have I met his equal, his superior never. In the trials of camp life, in cold or heat, in wet and storm, with or without shelter, when horses were lost, or packs turned, or bucked off, in down timber and rock slide, where things and sometimes many things conspire to try men's souls, I have never seen him other than kind, courteous, considerate, and a gentleman.

"He and I have slept in the same blanket (and only one) for weeks. We have lived on what we killed, and often we were unlucky and hungry. We have swam ice cold rivers with our guns, clothes, and axe on a raft, when those cold, swift-flowing mountain streams struck terror to my heart (and not many men would call me a quitter).

"Through it all I have never seen him hesitate or grasp the small end, no difference how hard the work or how tough and dangerous the proposition.

"Sober and industrious, physically, mentally and morally clean, a man who never knowingly wronged a fellow-man and never will. When such men enter politics to better conditions, and not graft, to upbuild and not tear down, to help and not wolf his fellow-men, means much for humanity."

—J. B. Monroe, Veteran Hunter, Prospector and Guide,  
Blackfoot Indian Reservation, Montana.

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"More than any other one man of this generation, Mr. Pinchot forced upon the attention of the people the tremendous facts of waste, theft, oppression, and resulting monopoly, which had marked the history of our natural resources. I believe that it is substantially impossible to put through now on such a large scale as was common in the past the robbery of the people's property of the natural resources. . . .

"This was Pinchot's greatest service, rendered when it was desperately needed, and accomplished in bitter conflict with some of the most powerful factors that exist in American life."

—Herbert Knox Smith, U. S. Commissioner of  
Corporations under President Roosevelt.

"When on the Country Life Commission appointed by President Roosevelt, Mr. Pinchot took the deepest interest in everything that pertains to the farm—schools, roads, sanitation, a better church life. In this work he did a service to the farmers which they do not realize, nor will realize fully during this generation.

"I have known Gifford Pinchot intimately for a number of years, and I know of no man who has a clearer vision of the wants of humanity, and particularly of the people living in the open country, or a better way of realizing this vision.

—Henry Wallace, Editor *Wallace's Farmer*, one of the  
Largest Agricultural Journals in the Middle West;  
Member Country Life Commission, appointed by  
President Roosevelt.

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"There are few men, even in Congress, who have to their credit so large an achievement in bringing about constructive legislation in the public interest as Gifford Pinchot may justly claim.

"It is a conservative statement that for the last fifteen years no man has fought more efficiently for constructive legislation in the field of conservation or more effectively against bad bills in the same field than he has done.

"Gifford Pinchot will come to the Senate, if the State of Pennsylvania again declares for Progressive principles, with perhaps more experience in framing legislation and in work for good bills than the average member of either the United States Senate or the House of Representatives.

"There is not a single conservation bill now pending before Congress, which is not based in very large part upon policies established by Pinchot, or upon bills drawn by him."

—Hon. Moses E. Clapp, U. S. Senator from Minnesota

"I wish you were a candidate for the United States Senate in Ohio. It would give me pleasure, as a Democrat, to work openly and zealously for your election."

—Herbert S. Bigelow, Clergyman, Writer, and  
Leading Democrat of Ohio.

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"A man of sublime unselfishness, a man of aggressive altruism; of altruism not confined to the dreams of a study, but bravely applied to the problems of his country. It is a fortunate thing that a great State has, in Gifford Pinchot's candidacy for the Senate, an opportunity to honor itself and to serve the nation.

"I do not conceive his candidacy as primarily a partisan matter. Men who love their country and who realize that our highest destiny and the meaning of our flag must be found in the ideals which we hold and our strenuous effort toward the realization of them, can hardly pass by the opportunity of endorsing their own best, their most unselfish impulses, by voting for Gifford Pinchot."

—Congressman William Kent, of California

"As Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Labor for four years and Comptroller of the Currency of the United States for five years, I know about business methods and requirements. Gifford Pinchot and I worked together almost daily for four years. He is one of the most practical business men I know, as he proved in the work we did of bringing the business management of the Government up to date. He understands the requirements of business men. Under him the United States Forest Service, from an insignificant beginning, grew to be one of the best business organizations in America."—Lawrence O. Murray.

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"Gifford Pinchot is one of the fittest candidates ever offered for a senatorship in this country. His vision, his conception of what natural resources mean to a people, his power in defending public properties against private rapacity are qualities to make him of rare value in the Senate of the United States. . . .

"Gifford Pinchot has pitched the key for a nation's inspiration in conserving its resources. But for him the water powers of the country, with all their stupenduous means of wealth, would long ago have passed beyond the reach of the plain people.

"Gifford Pinchot was the pathfinder, the prophet and the lord protector of American natural resources, and no man of his time can present a stronger claim to a seat in the American Senate."

—Portland (Ore.) Journal, Leading Democratic Newspaper of the Northwest

"The Rockefellers and allied interests may prevent Gifford Pinchot's election to the United States Senate from Pennsylvania, but long after he has turned to dust his work will live to testify to the services that he rendered to his countrymen when he caused the public domain to be held in perpetuity for its rightful owner, the people of the United States."

—Editorial from The Milwaukee Leader, the Leading Socialistic Newspaper of the Middle West

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"Congressman Palmer was visibly amused on his attention being called to the attack being made on the standing of Gifford Pinchot as a Pennsylvanian. He said:

"I regard it as so much piffle. Pinchot has been a neighbor of mine for many years, and for thirty years the Pinchots have been looked upon as Pike County people.

"I am not prepared to say how often Gifford Pinchot has voted in this State, or when he first voted, but I am willing to vouch for the fact that he and his family are regarded as Pike County residents."

Philadelphia Evening Bulletin, February 10, 1914.

"Gifford Pinchot's selection as a candidate for the senatorship of Pennsylvania is a real inspiration to the younger men of the State to spare no effort in the struggle for better things.

"We have traveled a long way during the last ten years, and nothing so fully demonstrates the distance traveled as the fact that the people of Pennsylvania can now support a man of his type as the representative of our State in the Senate."

—Dr. L. S. Rowe, President American Academy of Political and Social Science.

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"Every fair-minded man in Pennsylvania, without regard to political beliefs, recognizes the great service that Hon. Gifford Pinchot has rendered the coming generations of this country by his fight for the conservation of our natural resources. If elected to the United States Senate, he is one of the few men big enough to take in the future as well as the present generation.

"In his platform recently made public, he is clear on the temperance question, declaring for county local option and for permitting the people of the nation as a whole to settle the question as to its national aspect."

—The American Issue, Organ of the Pennsylvania Anti-Saloon League, April 24th

"I hope you defeat Penrose. For your campaign against him I have sent a check for \$100. . . . In doing this, I emphasize my Republicanism. Like thousands of Republicans in Pennsylvania and other States, I have always thought the Penrose influence harmful to the Republican party. His spirit is counter to what I conceive to be its real spirit. His defeat will destroy his influence in my party and his power for harm in the country.

"My long friendship with you and my admiration for your work as a public official make it the easier for me to contribute to your campaign to defeat one who pretends to be a Republican. You are a splendid idealist. You do things too. . . . You also have that rarest of qualities among public men, courage, regardless of consequences to you personally."

—From letter of Herbert Parsons, of New York.

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## MY FRIEND GIFFORD PINCHOT

By E. T. RIVIERE  
Milford, Pike County, Pa.

I HAVE known Gifford Pinchot all his life. He is a fighter and always has been. For twenty years, in office and out of office, he has fought for the people against the grabbers and wasters of our public wealth.

It was Pinchot who prevented the theft of billions of tons of coal in the Alaska fields.

When Roosevelt left the White House, Richard Achilles Ballinger, Secretary of the Interior under Taft, attempted to hand the fraudulent Cunningham coal claims in Alaska over to the Guggenheims.

Pinchot stood in the way. Because he did so he was dismissed from office by President Taft.

But Pinchot refused to be throttled. He appealed to the people and saved the

*Page twenty-five*

coal lands. Since then, as President of the National Conservation Association, he has kept up the fight against monopoly until this day.

#### **Roosevelt's Right-Hand Man**

Pinchot was Roosevelt's right-hand man in Washington, and suggested many of the most important policies of his administration. Among these were the conservation policy, the saving of the forests, the protection of water powers against monopoly, the development of our navigable streams, the improvement of life for the farmer, and the preservation of our coal lands for the people.

He was one of the leaders in securing better working conditions for the miners. With the support and co-operation of Roosevelt, Pinchot, John Mitchell, and Joseph A. Holmes were mainly responsible for the creation of the bureau of mines.

For years Pinchot has been fighting to put an end to child labor.

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He took part in the fight for pure food, and helped to frame the meat inspection law, which the beef trust opposed in vain.

#### **A Man Who Does Things**

Pinchot is first of all a man who brings new things to pass.

He began the fight for conservation of natural resources for the people of this country and made it an issue.

He was responsible for saving a hundred million acres of public forests, in spite of all the grabbers could do.

He took charge of the Forest Service of the United States when there were only eleven persons in it, and left it the best organized bureau in Washington, employing more than 3000 men.

#### **A Fighter Against Monopoly**

Pinchot uncovered the attempts of the magnates to monopolize our natural resources. He laid down a plan to pre-

*Page twenty-seven*



serve the people's rights and at the same time encourage business development and enterprise.

He was attacked again and again but refused to give way, and his fight awoke the country.

Pinchot is the man who started the fight to conserve the water-power rights, checked the growing water-power trust, and saved millions of dollars for the public.

At the meeting of the National Conservation Congress last fall he won a decisive battle for the people over the water-power monopolists.

#### **An Expert in Law Making**

Pinchot has been active for twenty years in shaping legislation for the benefit of the people. During his long service as a public official he drew bills, appeared before committees to urge their passage, conferred with members of House and Senate, and steered the measures through Congress. His ability and experience in

*Page twenty-eight*

this work peculiarly fit him for the duties of a United States Senator.

#### **An Out-Door Man**

Pinchot has spent much of his life in the open. He knows the mountains, the streams, and the farms. As a practical forester, woodsman, and hunter, he knows the woods and can take care of himself in them by day or night. He is a good shot and has a country-wide reputation as a fisherman.

#### **His People**

Mr. Pinchot's family has been identified with the interests of Pennsylvania from the first days of the Republic. An ancestor on his grandmother's side, Francis Joseph Smith, came from Belgium with a letter of introduction from Benjamin Franklin to Robert Morris. After serving as major in the Revolutionary War, he settled in the Delaware Valley at Shawnee, now in Monroe County.

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Gifford Pinchot's great grandfather, Constantine Pinchot, and his grandfather, C. C. D. Pinchot, whom I knew well, settled in Milford in 1816. Since that time the Pinchot family has belonged to Pike County. Mr. Pinchot's father, James W. Pinchot, was born in Milford and built the present Pinchot home there in 1886.

In that home, during the last twenty-eight years, Mr. Pinchot has done much of his technical and political writing. He has long been a property holder and taxpayer in Pike County.

### Forester by Profession

Gifford Pinchot was born in Simsbury, Connecticut, at the home of his mother's parent's, in 1865. He attended Phillips Exeter Academy and graduated from Yale in 1889. He was the first American to make forestry his profession.

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In 1898 he took charge of the Government forest work, which required him to live in Washington. His fight against Ballinger led to his removal by President Taft in 1910. In that year he established his voting residence in Pike County, the home of his people for more than 150 years.

Pinchot is an Episcopalian, and takes an active part in the work of the State Y. M. C. A. For years he has been a leader in the movement to improve the condition of country churches.

For over fifty years I have been a resident of Gifford Pinchot's home town, and from early boyhood I have been thrown into close association with his family and with him. As children we grew up together; as boys we hunted and fished together, and in later life we have been concerned together with the interests of Milford and Pike County.

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## IN WHICH COLUMN ARE YOU?

### For Pinchot

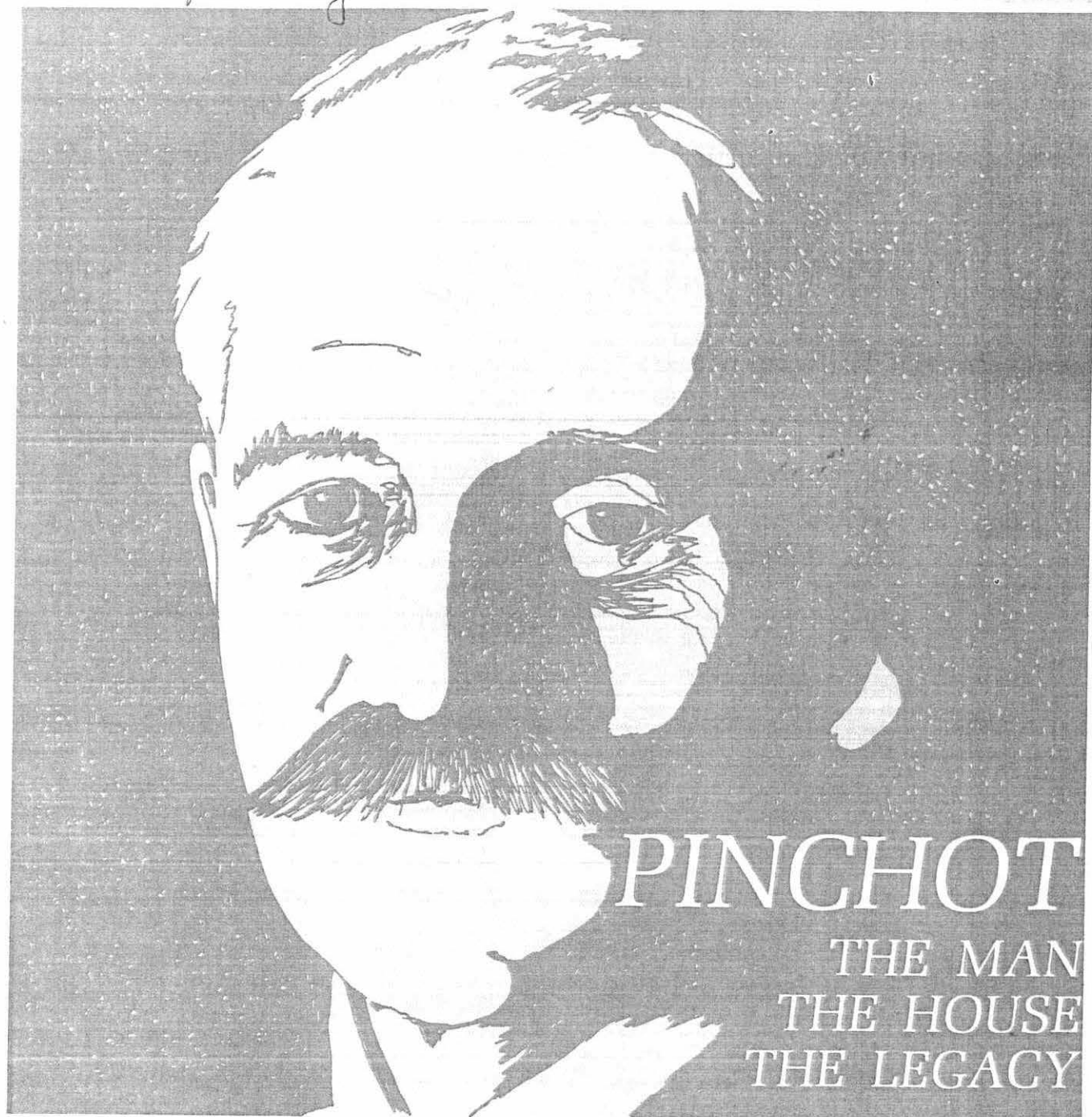
Theodore Roosevelt  
Jane Addams  
Ben B. Lindsey,  
the Children's Judge  
Dr. Harvey W. Wiley  
H. L. Stimson, of N. Y.  
The New York *Tribune*  
and the free papers  
James R. Garfield  
Herbert Knox Smith,  
Com. of Corporations  
under Roosevelt  
Albert J. Beveridge  
Gov. Hiram W. Johnson  
E. P. Costigan, counsel  
for Colorado strikers  
Dr. Leo S. Rowe  
Dr. J. T. Rothrock  
George Wharton Pepper  
Dr. J. William White  
H. D. W. English  
Dr. Charles F. Swift  
Harry P. Cassidy  
Chas. McCarthy, of Wis.  
Victor Murdock  
Senator Moses E. Clapp  
Francis J. Heney  
William T. Hornaday  
William Kent, of Calif.  
Booker T. Washington  
Charles S. Barrett,  
Pres. Farmers' Union

### Against Pinchot

Boies Penrose  
The Liquor Interests  
Jos. R. Grundy and the  
Child Labor Exploiters  
The Food Poisoners  
Boss Barnes, of N. Y.  
The corporation-kept  
papers everywhere  
Standard Oil  
The Water-power Monop-  
olists  
The Tobacco Trust  
The Beef Trust  
The Guggenheims  
The Rockefellers and oth-  
er Colo. mine owners  
The Anthracite Trust  
Jim McNichol  
The Vares  
"Bad Roads" Bigelow  
Senator Bill Crow  
Senator George T. Oliver  
The Short-weight Men  
James M. Beck, of S. O.  
"Uncle Joe" Cannon  
Ex-Senator Wm. Lorimer  
The Land Grabbers  
The Game Destroyers  
Ex-Senator Murray Crane  
John K. Tener  
Frank Feeney, Mc-  
Nichol's Labor Agent



read for accuracy



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"...among the many, many public officials who under my administration rendered literally invaluable service to the people of the United States, Gifford Pinchot on the whole, stood first."

*Theodore Roosevelt*

— President Theodore Roosevelt

"Gifford Pinchot was more than a forester; he was the Father of American conservation. He believed that the riches of this continent should be used for all the people to provide a more abundant life, and he believed that the waste of these resources, or the exploitation by a few, was a threat to our National democratic life...In the space of a few short years he made conservation an accepted virtue and part of our life...Every great work is in the shadow of a man, and I don't think many Americans can point to such a distinguished record as can Gifford Pinchot."

*John F. Kennedy*

— President John F. Kennedy

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# PINCHOT

THE  
MAN  
THE  
HOUSE  
THE  
LEGACY





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Gifford Pinchot was a true humanitarian. Born to wealth, endowed with imagination, foresight, and a love of nature, he shared his possessions and his intellect with his fellow Americans in order to make the American environment a better place for living.

For half a century, Gifford Pinchot was America's leading advocate of environmental conservation. In just two decades of his 81-year long life he raised forestry and conservation of all resources from an unknown experiment to a nationwide movement. He made the nation conscious of the need to manage its forests. He developed a 10-man office into a Forest Service administering a national system of forest reserves. And he made conservation public issue and national policy.

In fact, conservation was a word that Gifford Pinchot brought into everyday usage. He chose the word conservation to describe the effort of maintaining and protecting environmental resources for all generations.

Gifford Pinchot derived his conservation philosophy from his father, James Pinchot. In fact, it was at Grey Towers in the 1880's that James discussed the relationship of forests and natural resources to the welfare of a strong nation with his sons, Gifford and Amos. It was at Grey Towers, too, that the older man suggested that his son Gifford study forestry, then an unknown profession in the United States.

After graduation from Yale University in 1889, Pinchot went abroad to attend L'Ecole Nationale Forestière in Nancy, France, and to receive the tutorage of the prominent European foresters of Germany, France, Switzerland, and Austria.

When he returned home as America's first professional forester, Pinchot was offered the job of forest manager on George W. Vanderbilt's 7,000-acre Biltmore Estate near Asheville, N.C. Pinchot put his professional training to work on the Estate. In a short time, his concerted forestry management

# THE MAN

GIFFORD PINCHOT  
(1865-1946)

*Twice Governor of Pennsylvania  
First Chief of the USDA Forest Service*

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program was recognized as a success and scientific forestry was launched in America.

In 1896, Pinchot was named a member of the Forest Commission of the National Academy of Sciences, which was charged with recommending a forest policy for the United States to President Theodore Roosevelt. In this capacity, Pinchot travelled over hundreds of miles of America's great forests, many of which were later to become National Forests. He delivered lectures and wrote papers, based on the information he gathered in the woods. Throughout, he served as friend and advisor to the President.

In 1898, Pinchot was named Chief of the Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture. When he took over the Division it had 10 employees who conducted studies and published information on forestry. Within a year, 35 states were calling on the Division for advice.

Pinchot's Division of Forestry became a Bureau of Forestry in 1901. And in 1905, when the Bureau became an agency known as the USDA Forest Service, reserves that had been set aside in the public domain under the jurisdiction of the General Land Office were placed under its administration. The reserves were soon rechristened National Forests. And the Forest Service set to work developing effective protection and administration programs for these public properties, guided by the principle that they should be managed in Pinchot's ideal, for "the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

At Pinchot's urging, President Roosevelt called a Conference of Governors in 1908 to discuss conservation of natural resources. The enthusiasm engendered at this parley produced a new cooperative Federal-State outlook on protection and wise use of resources. Pinchot followed the Governor's Conference with another suggestion to call a North American Conservation Conference. President Roosevelt commissioned the Chief Forester to

deliver his invitations in person to the Governor General of Canada and the President of Mexico. The meeting took place in 1909 and again set a precedent, this time on the international level.

Pinchot served as Chief of the Forest Service until 1910. He went on to become Governor of Pennsylvania for two terms, 1923-27 and 1931-35. Through the years he continued his crusade for forestry.

In 1903 he had become Professor of Forestry at Yale and retained that post until 1936, when he retired as professor emeritus. The Pinchots endowed the Yale University School of Forestry in 1900 and for more than 20 years made their country estate available to the University for summer school and field work.

In 1902 Pinchot made a study of the forests of the Philippines and recommended the first forestry policy for the islands. He helped found and served as first President of the Society of American Foresters. He served as Commissioner of Forestry for Pennsylvania from 1920-22, and as President of the National Conservation Association from 1910-25. Pinchot was a member of the U.S. Food Administration during World War I. He received honorary degrees from Yale, Princeton, Michigan Agricultural College, McGill University, Temple University, and Pennsylvania Military College. In 1940 he received the Sir William Schlich Forestry Medal.

During his last few years, Pinchot finished his autobiography, showing the rise of forestry and conservation in America — the period from 1880-1910. The book, *BREAKING NEW GROUND*, was published posthumously in 1947.

At the time of his death in 1946, he was working on a new forest management plan for his estate. He was also urging and making plans for an international conference on conservation, the interrelationship of man and his environment. Without a doubt, conservation and scientific forestry were the major interests of his life.



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Along the woodland trails of his family's country estate in Milford, Pennsylvania, Gifford Pinchot learned to love nature. It was here that he engendered ideas for his scientific pursuit of forestry.

The grounds of the estate originally consisted of 3,600 acres of land, dominating the watershed of the Sawkill Brook. Grey Towers, the main building on the estate, was built in 1886 by Gifford's father. Designed by American architect Richard Morris Hunt, who also designed the base of the Statue of Liberty, the French chateau-like structure derived its name from its three grey-colored stone towers.

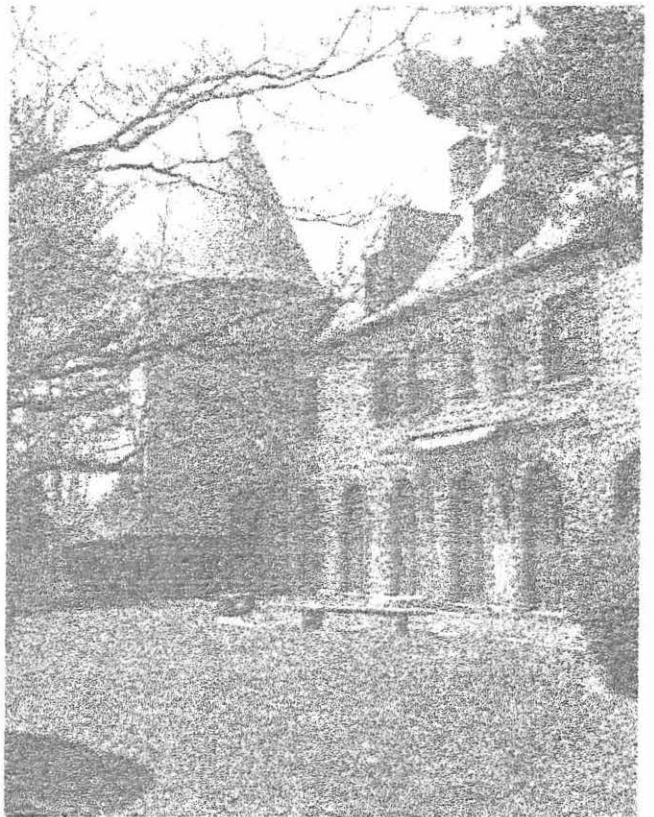
Poised above a hillside orcharded meadow, Grey Towers commands an eastward view of the Borough of Milford, nestled between the famed Pocono Mountains and the Delaware River, and beyond to the distant mountains of New Jersey.

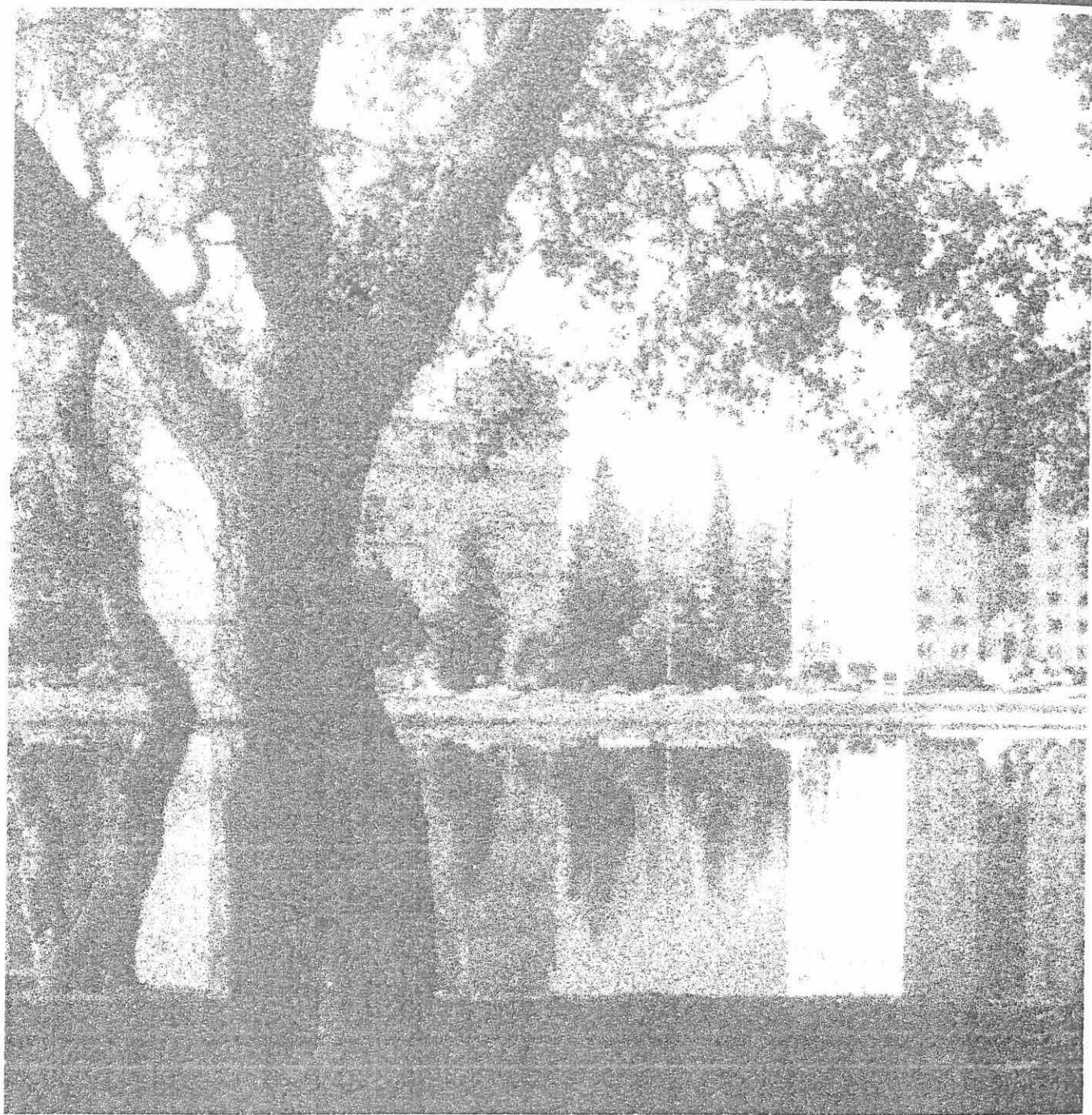
Part of Grey Towers has been renovated and is preserved as a museum to the memory of Gifford Pinchot. Several of its 41 rooms still contain the original Pinchot furnishings as testimony to elegant Nineteenth Century living. Some of the treasures of the world-travelling conservationist are on permanent display here.

The USDA Forest Service now maintains Grey Towers and 100 acres of grounds that include virgin white pine and hemlock forests. The present holdings were conveyed to the Forest Service by Pinchot's heirs in 1963.

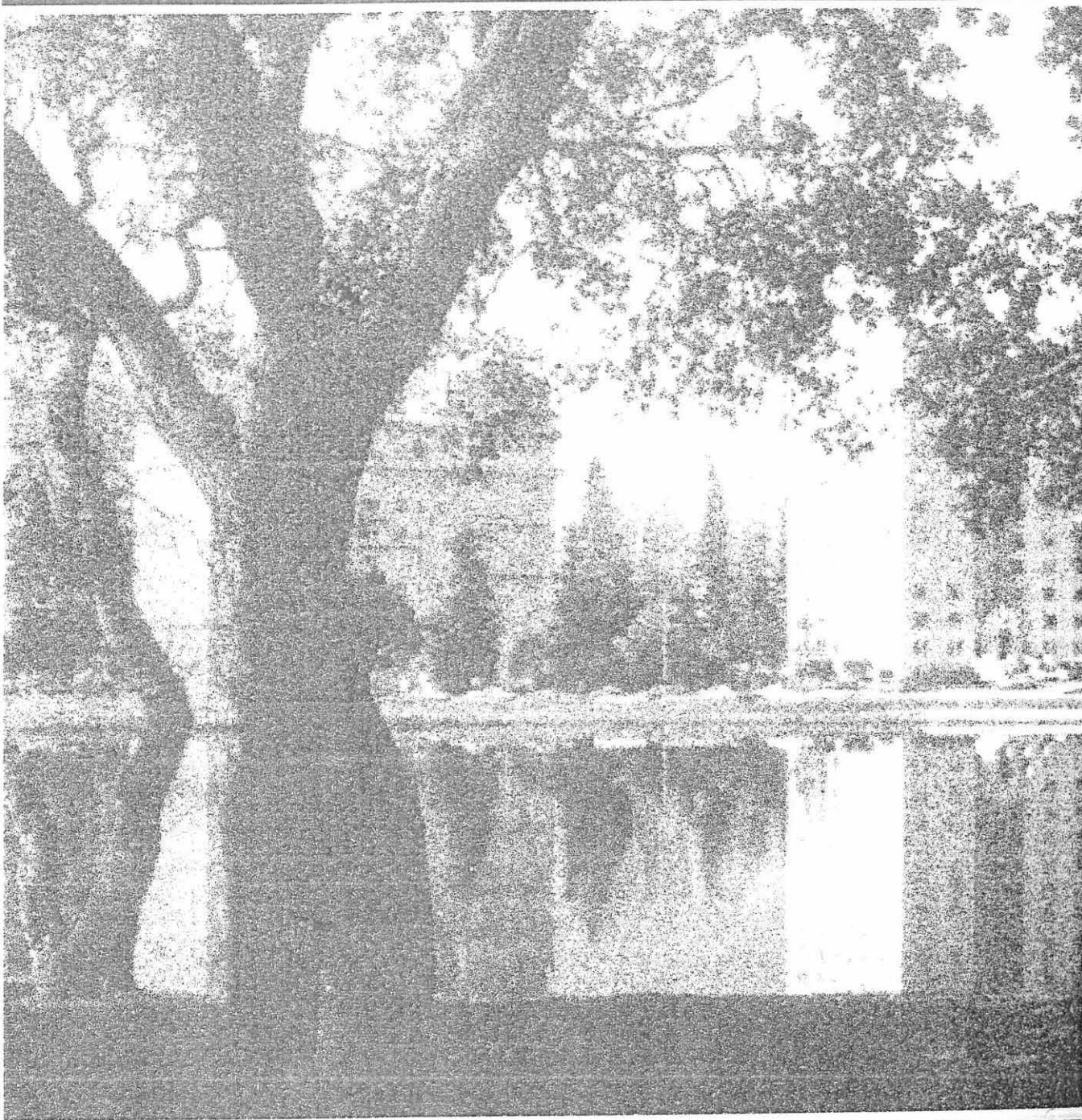
Dedication ceremonies, marking a new era in Pinchot conservation, were held in the natural amphitheater on the grounds on September 24, 1963. President John F. Kennedy was among the dignitaries present. For Kennedy it was the first stop of his last conservation tour of America. He called his trip "a journey to save America's natural heritage — a journey to preserve the past and protect the future."

# THE HOUSE: GREY TOWERS (1886)











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## MISSION

The Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies is located at the former home of Gifford Pinchot in Milford, Pa. Its purpose is to further conservation programs of the Forest Service and other conservation agencies through research, training, and conferences.

## CURRENT PROGRAM

The Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies was dedicated by President John F. Kennedy in 1963. In 1977 the program was expanded to include a Visitor Information Service program, a Human Resource program, historic restoration, and National program elements. The Institute will contribute to the long range management of the environment by conducting conferences to improve technology transfer, environmental education, urban forestry, and policy formulation, and by developing and implementing programs to improve public understanding of conservation principles, programs that will lead to greater public appreciation and more effective participation in resource management and the decision-making process.

It will also provide an opportunity for people to visit the historic Pinchot family estate. The estate, Grey Towers—A registered National Historic Landmark—was the home of an aristocratic French family who migrated to America. The family was wealthy, influential, and dedicated to the promise of the future. They knew science and politics. They were achievers with empathy for the public and a deep understanding of the need for wise stewardship of the land and the environment.

Grey Towers will include a place for honoring those who have achieved greatness in developing the fundamental American concept of resource conservation to enhance the quality of life.

Grey Towers symbolizes those qualities of intellectual freedom and responsibility to humankind that characterize all the great leaders in the conservation movement. Their strategies, political liaisons, and techniques were different, but their unanimity

# THE LEGACY:

## THE PINCHOT INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION STUDIES

of purpose and dedication marked these greats of conservation as citizens to whom every American, every citizen of the world, owes a debt of respect—and gratitude. It is appropriate that they be honored here where the conservation principles they pioneered still live and grow.

Institute programs will focus on the following areas:  
*Management of the Grey Towers Property*

Grey Towers is a national historic landmark and will be managed to preserve and enhance its historic value. There will be continuing programs to restore and rehabilitate the building, and recover and preserve artifacts. Grey Towers will be used for meetings until other facilities are available.

*Establish a Conservation Trail of Fame*

Criteria will be developed by a broadly representative foundation to identify outstanding conservationists in our Nation's history. Using these

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criteria, people will be nominated, selected, and installed in a Conservation Trail of Fame located on Grey Towers property. Appropriate material will be displayed to describe their accomplishments.

*Provide a Visitor's Information Service program at the Pinchot Institute, Grey Towers*

The Visitor Information Service program will present and interpret Gifford Pinchot's philosophy and his contribution to conservation, and relate them to past, present, and future natural resource management. The program will also include information about Grey Towers and its restoration. Other parts of the national interpretation program will discuss such topics as multiple-use forest management, urban forestry, human resources, and the role of forest resources in our daily lives. It will also test advanced techniques of interpretation and will provide an opportunity for training interpreters.

*Provide new and innovative methods for the evaluation of public conservation knowledge*

The Institute will evaluate public understanding of renewable natural resource conservation, and of the contributions of these resources to the Nation. It will evaluate the effectiveness of present conservation education efforts in providing an objective understanding of environmental issues. It will identify areas of conservation knowledge that need emphasis. It will provide a setting where scholar, industrialist, conservationist, student, and scientist can exchange ideas in a "think tank" atmosphere, free of day-to-day interruptions, pressures, and demands.

*Identify and discuss critical conservation issues*

The Institute will identify emerging controversial issues and provide a neutral ground for discussing them and resolving conflicts. It will produce "white papers" that present objective assessments of issues and provide bases for discussion.

It will organize and conduct symposia and other

meetings to allow all viewpoints to be presented on an issue, and it will provide for the public dissemination of the information gathered. Where appropriate, it will issue reports and summaries for use in policy formulation. The emphasis will be on objectivity.

*Develop new and innovative environmental education techniques*

In support of a national program, the Institute will develop new and innovative approaches to increase the scope and effectiveness of environmental education, in both formal and informal educational settings to reach all levels of education, age, and socioeconomic background. Educators and resource managers will be involved in identifying barriers to effective environmental education. Means will be provided for rapid dissemination of new techniques throughout the educational community.

*Improve technology transfer in renewable natural resources fields*

The Institute will develop techniques to identify useable technology for resource managers to shorten the time between the development of technology and its implementation. The Institute will provide methods to insure the prompt recognition and use of adaptable technology from related fields. The Institute will be the catalyst for interdisciplinary interaction between diverse segments of the scientific community and users of information.

*Conduct human resources program at Grey Towers*

Available manpower programs such as Youth Conservation Corps (YCC), Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC), older Americans, volunteers in the national forest, and others will be used in the operation, restoration, and maintenance of the Pinchot Estate.

Wherever possible these programs will provide a conservation learning experience for participants. Through the Institute, model human resource programs will be designed and tested for national use.



For additional information contact:  
Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies  
Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry  
Milford, Pennsylvania 18337

(Revised May 1978)



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# *PINCHOT*



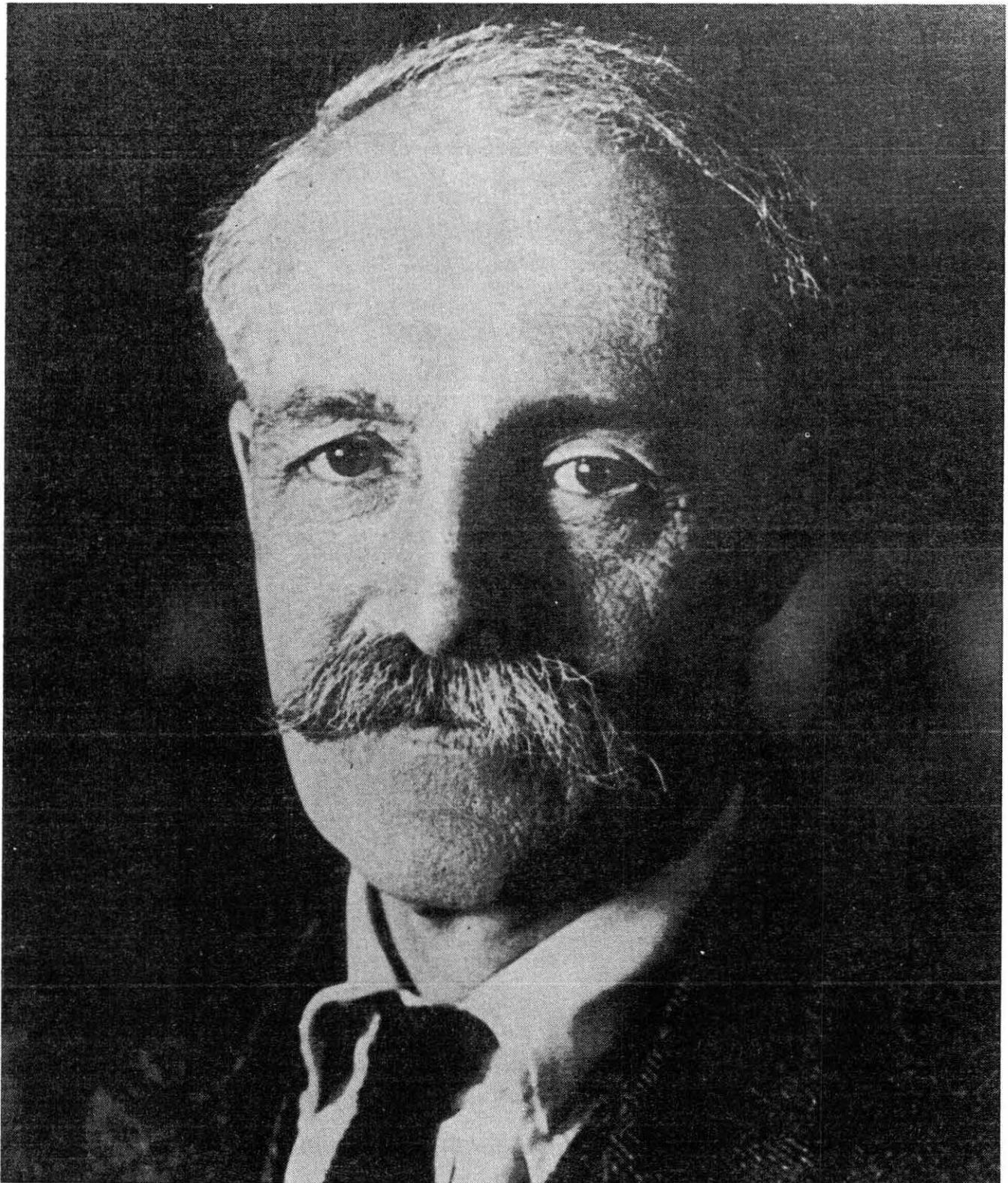
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Gifford Pinchot

## About this issue. . . . .

Articles on Gifford Pinchot by Mrs. Barry Walden Walsh, Dr. Stephen R. Fox, and Professor John W. Furlow, Jr., are published in this issue of the *Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal*. These three essays were originally presented as papers at the 16th Rose Hill Seminar, "Gifford Pinchot, Conservationist and Public Servant," held at Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, June 6, 1987. The Rose Hill Seminars were founded by the late Homer Rosenberger, Ph.D., and held for many years at Dr. Rosenberger's home, "Rose Hill," near Waynesboro, Pennsylvania. Today the Rose Hill Seminars on history are held annually at Wilson College, and are sponsored by the Pennsylvania Historical Association, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, Kittochtinny Historical Society, Waynesboro Historical Society, Pennsylvania Junto, and Wilson College. Professor John W. Furlow, Jr., was chairman of the 16th Rose Hill Seminar. . . . . Mrs. Barry Walden Walsh, author of "Gifford Pinchot, Conservationist," is former Senior Editor of the *Journal of Forestry*. Stephen R. Fox, Ph.D., whose paper "Gifford Pinchot and His Place in the American Conservation Movement" is published in this issue of the *Journal*, is the author of *John Muir and His Legacy: The American Conservation Movement* (1981), *The Mirror Makers: A History of American Advertising And Its Creators* (1984), and other books. Dr. Fox is a member of the Theodore Roosevelt Association, and has written previously for the *Journal*. Dr. John W. Furlow, Jr., is Assistant Professor of History at the DuBois Campus of Pennsylvania State University and Director of Academic Affairs at the DuBois Campus. Dr. Furlow's essay "Gifford Pinchot: Public Service and the Meaning of Conservation" is the third of the three papers from the 16th Rose Hill Seminar included in this issue of the *Journal*. . . . . The Association thanks the authors of these three essays on Gifford Pinchot, and the directors of the Rose Hill Seminars, for permission to publish the papers in the *Theodore Roosevelt Association Journal*. The Association also thanks Mr. Edmund J. Vandermillen, current Director of Public Affairs for the USDA Forest Service, and former Director of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies and the Grey Towers National Historic Landmark, for his work on the 1987 Rose Hill Seminar, and for his efforts to promote historical scholarship on the American conservation movement.

—John A. Gable, Executive Director, Theodore Roosevelt Association.

## Gifford Pinchot 1865 - 1946

The son of wealthy and public-spirited parents, James Pinchot and Mary Jane Eno Pinchot, Gifford Pinchot, after graduating from Yale in 1889, studied at L'Ecole Nationale Forestiere in Nancy, France, and became the first professionally trained American forester. In 1898, Gifford Pinchot was appointed Chief of the Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture during the administration of President William McKinley, and continued in this post under President Theodore Roosevelt. In 1905, when the present Forest Service of the Department of Agriculture was created, TR named Pinchot the first Chief of the USDA Forest Service. Under TR and Pinchot, the forest reserves of the United States were expanded from approximately 43,000,000 acres to about 194,000,000 acres. Pinchot served on several presidential study commissions under TR, and was a leader of the Conference of Governors in 1908 and the North American Conservation Conference in 1909. TR said that "among the many, many public officials who under my administration rendered literally invaluable service to the people of the United States, Gifford Pinchot on the whole, stood first." Edmund J. Vandermillen, present Director of Public Affairs of the USDA Forest Service, writes of TR and Pinchot: "They saw eye to eye on conservation policy and the ideals of good government. They also shared a deep mutual respect for each other. To Pinchot, Roosevelt was a great American hero, and to Roosevelt, Gifford Pinchot epitomized the ideal public servant."

Fired as Chief of the Forest Service in 1910 by President William Howard Taft in a dispute over conservation, Gifford Pinchot became an outspoken critic of TR's successor, and in 1912 Gifford and his brother Amos Richard Eno Pinchot (1873-1944) became leaders in the Progressive ("Bull Moose") Party, which nominated Roosevelt for President against Republican Taft and Democrat Woodrow Wilson. In 1914, Gifford Pinchot was the defeated Progressive candidate for the U.S. Senate in Pennsylvania. From 1920 to 1922, Gifford Pinchot served as Commissioner of Forestry for Pennsylvania; and in 1922, as a Republican, he was elected Governor of Pennsylvania, again winning that office in 1930. (At the time, Governors of Pennsylvania were prohibited from holding successive terms.) Pinchot's two administrations are widely regarded as among the most productive and important in his state's history.

During his first term as Governor of Pennsylvania, Pinchot settled the anthracite coal strike of 1923, reorganized state government, and eliminated the state's huge deficit. In his second term, he built some 20,000 miles of rural roads, thereby becoming known as the Governor who got "the farmers out of the mud." During both terms, he fought for the regulation of public utilities. In his 1923 inaugural address, Pinchot declared that his victory was "the direct descendant of the Roosevelt Progressive movement of 1912."



*Pinchot — Cont.*

Gifford Pinchot was a founder and the first President of the Society of American Foresters, and served as President of the National Conservation Association, 1910-1925. The Pinchot family endowed the Yale School of Forestry in 1900, and Gifford was Professor of Forestry of Yale, 1903-1936. He served with the U.S. Food Administration during World War I, and in World War II was an advisor to the Navy on lifeboat improvement, developing a special fishing kit for survival. At the time of his death, at age 81 in 1946, Pinchot was working on plans for a United Nations conference on conservation.

Gifford Pinchot married Cornelia Bryce (1881-1960) in 1914. Cornelia Bryce Pinchot was active in public affairs, and in 1949 was a delegate to the United Nations Scientific Conference on Conservation, the conference planned by her late husband.

Gifford Pinchot in 1919 was one of the founders of the Roosevelt Memorial Association (later the Theodore Roosevelt Association), and in the 1920s was Chairman of the Association's "Committee for the Perpetuation of Roosevelt's Ideals" and a member of the Executive Committee of the Association.

Grey Towers, the Pinchot family home in Milford, Pennsylvania, a chateau designed by Richard Morris Hunt and built in 1885, was given to the USDA Forest Service in 1963, and became the home of Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies and a museum open to the public.

## *Gifford Pinchot, Conservationist*

by

Barry Walden Walsh

Seven years ago, when I began work as an editor for the Society of American Foresters, I took my mother and daughter to see my office outside Washington, D.C. We followed the drive through the wooded property and pulled up in front of a fieldstone manor house, where a sign read, "The Gifford Pinchot Forestry Building." My mother, who happens to be a native of Pennsylvania, asked, "Why did the foresters name their headquarters for Governor Pinchot?" Why indeed.

Pinchot once stated, "I have been a governor every now and then, but I am a forester all the time—have been and shall be to my dying day." And his was a long and intensely active life, extending from the close of the Civil War through World War II.

At the turn of the century, Pinchot founded and served as first president of the Society of American Foresters, a professional group comparable to the American Bar Association. It was Pinchot who suggested a U.S. Forest Service, and as its first chief, he spread the idea of preserving forests to a nation of pioneers then intent on clearing the wilderness. President John F. Kennedy, in a 1963 speech, credited Pinchot as the father of American conservation, stating: "In the space of a few short years he made conservation an accepted virtue and part of our life."

Pinchot was a scientist-politician with something of the Don Quixote in his approach to public service—in his quest for the greatest good—in his tireless effort to right each wrong as he saw it. Along the way, he proved himself a fearless fighter, and he met challenge on all sides. Land developers in the Northwest hung him in effigy to protest "Pinchotism," their name for the policies regulating the use of

federal forests. Charging him with empire-building, they called him "Gifford the First." Meanwhile, the preservationists, led by John Muir, condemned him as a deconservationist for advocating development of water resources at Yosemite.

The focus of this essay is conservation. But in working on a new Pinchot biography, I find it difficult to separate his career in natural resources from his politics. The fight for conservation was often on a political front.

### Student

Gifford Pinchot was the first American-born professional forester. What did that mean exactly? First of all, a forester is not a logger with a college degree. A forester must understand logging and supervise loggers, but a forester is primarily a theorist and diagnostician. You will hear foresters speak of treatments and prescriptions to improve the health of a forest and of the young trees that must in time replace it.

When Pinchot set out to become a forester, the United States had no forestry schools, and he had to look to Europe, where forests had been managed for hundreds of years. Pinchot was well-prepared for graduate studies abroad. His fluency in French allowed him to enroll in the National Forest School at Nancy, France. For a study tour through the Black Forest, he had only to brush up on his German.

His parents had educated him in the style of a Victorian gentleman. He grew up in the Fifth Avenue townhouse of his maternal grandfather Amos Eno, who had amassed a fortune in Manhattan real estate.

Walsh — *Cont.*

At age six, Gifford went with his parents to live for several years in Paris. He later attended private schools in New York City, was tutored for a term in England, and prepared for college at Phillips Exeter. At Yale, he took courses in the Sheffield School of Science, and graduated as a prize-winning orator in the Class of 1889.

Everyone discouraged him from choosing forestry as a career, everyone except his father James Wallace Pinchot, who had inherited logging concerns near Milford, Pennsylvania, from his father. On business trips abroad, James Pinchot compared the cutover hills near Milford with the well-managed forests of Europe. As he told Gifford, it was time for someone's son to render valuable service to the nation through forestry.

### Consulting Forester

Returning from his studies in Europe, Gifford Pinchot prepared forestry reports on Phelps Dodge & Company lands in the West. After a year of travel, writing, and speaking on forestry, he was ready for his first major assignment—to make forestry pay at Biltmore, the 7,000-acre estate being put together near Asheville, North Carolina, by George Vanderbilt. The goal was to harvest over-mature trees without injuring the young understory, while at the same time earning a profit for the owner. Pinchot would work on the Biltmore project for six years.

In 1896, Pinchot was named a member and secretary of the National Academy of Sciences' Forest Commission formed at the request of the Secretary of the Interior. Pinchot was the youngest member and the only trained forester. After a 3-month tour of the West, with John Muir as guide, the Commission recommended adding 21 million acres of new forest reserves, which President Grover Cleveland proceeded to do.

### Public Forester

Members of the Commission could not agree on how these lands should be treated, and the following summer, the Secretary of the Interior hired Pinchot as a confidential forest agent to examine the reserves and recommend policy. His appointment angered Commission Chairman Charles Sargent, a Harvard botany professor. Sargent complained that Pinchot had "gone over to the politicians" and regretted starting him on his government career.

The following year, Pinchot was named chief of the 11-man Forestry Division in the Department of Agriculture in William McKinley's administration. Now an awkward situation had arisen: the forest reserves were under the Department of the Interior, but the only professional foresters in government were in the Department of Agriculture. Pinchot led a crusade to

have the reserves moved to the Department of Agriculture. It took him seven years, and the support of the young president who succeeded McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt.

To create a climate favorable to the transfer, Pinchot traveled the nation, speaking on forestry. He established the first press bureau within a federal agency, and forestry press releases went out regularly. Pinchot used the press to reach the American people in that turn-of-the-century era before radio or TV.

Victory came in 1905, when the forest reserves were moved to Agriculture. In 1907, they were renamed "national forests." The name change was not an empty one but meant that—rather than being locked up—federal forestlands would be managed for "the greatest good of the greatest number in the long run."

The charge that he had gone over to the politicians was now accurate in one respect. Pinchot had become politically astute. He had mastered the federal legislative process—no small task—but not without making powerful enemies.

In 1907, a senator from Oregon introduced an amendment to that year's Agricultural Bill, taking from the President and reserving for Congress the power to create new national forests in six Western states. The president had one week to sign the bill. What could Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot possibly do in one week? They created what came to be called the "midnight forests." Forest Service staff worked round the clock drawing up the proclamations. Pinchot carried them to the White House, and with maps and forms spilling over onto the floor of his office, the president signed them.

Only at week's end, after securing 16 million acres of new national forests, did T.R. sign the bill. The Western interests, when they learned what had happened, were livid. Though they couldn't touch Roosevelt, they swore to get The Forester. They challenged Forest Service policies in court, unsuccessfully, and scrutinized each appropriation. Pinchot thrived in the heady atmosphere of Congressional combat, and later would say, "As I see it, the greatest of all luxuries is to work yourself to your very limit in a cause in which you believe with your whole soul."

Pinchot's government work was not limited to forestry. He also suggested and served on a number of presidential commissions—Organization of Government Scientific Work and Public Lands (1903), Department Methods (1905), Inland Waterways (1907), Country Life and the National Conservation Commission (1908). Years later another Roosevelt, Franklin Delano, would credit Pinchot as the first of the "brain trusters."

Walsh — Cont.

From his commission work, Pinchot gained a comprehensive knowledge of federal land management, and began to see that forestry problems could not be isolated. Forests, waters, minerals, fish and game were linked. He was horseback riding in Rock Creek Park one winter day in 1907, when the idea struck him that natural resources were not a series of separate problems but a single question with many parts. To coordinate resource management, a whole new movement would be needed, and Pinchot and his advisors christened it "conservation." Although others laid the groundwork, the packaging of conservation in the early part of this century was pure Pinchot.

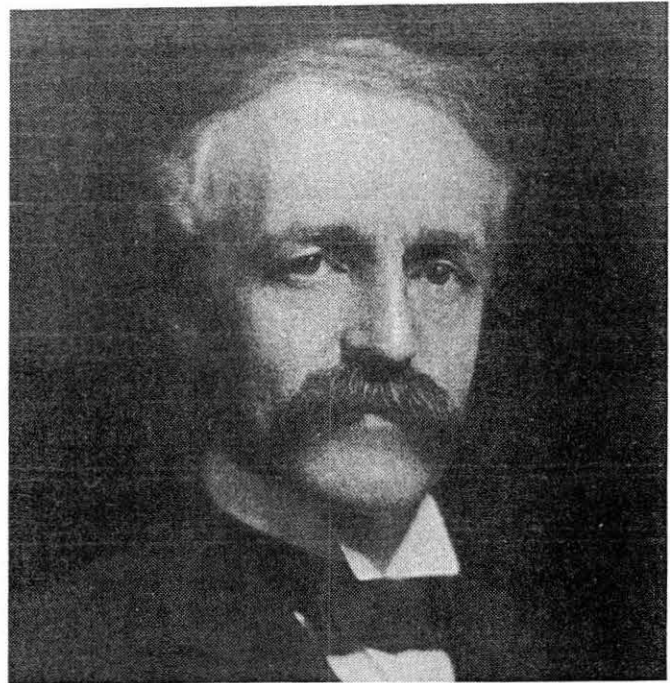
As electricity began to dominate American life, Pinchot grew concerned with the development of hydropower sites on the national forests. Recognizing the potential for private monopolies in what he believed should remain public utilities, he helped write the first regulations on hydropower leases. He advised withdrawing from entry those areas of the public domain especially favorable for dams. Some of these sites were withdrawn on the grounds that they were needed for forest ranger stations. Pinchot's efforts later contributed to the Federal Water Power Act of 1920 and to his Giant Power proposals as governor.

Speaking of which, another Pinchot innovation was the first governors' conference, and it occurred long before he himself was a governor. In 1907, the Inland Waterways Commission had raised the novel idea that the governors of the states might gather to confer on a subject of common interest. Theodore Roosevelt invited them to meet at the White House; the subject to be the conservation of natural resources. Pinchot not only planned the conference and wrote a number of the speeches, but helped finance the meeting out of his own pocket. He also entertained nearly a thousand delegates and guests at his home on Rhode Island Avenue in Washington.

The governors proposed that the president appoint a National Conservation Commission to inventory the country's natural resources—something that had never been done. The commission, with Pinchot as chairman, completed the inventory in six months.

At Pinchot's suggestion, Theodore Roosevelt scheduled a North American Conservation Conference, and Pinchot personally delivered invitations to the governments of Mexico and Canada. Another Pinchot original, the conference was the first international meeting ever held on conservation. It took place in Washington, D.C., in February, 1909, and the delegates called for all nations to confer on conserving natural resources worldwide. Roosevelt then announced to Congress that he was inviting the nations of the world to just such a meeting.

Invitations went out to 58 nations to meet at the Peace Palace in The Hague in September, 1909. Thir-



Grey Towers, USDA Forest Service

Gifford Pinchot was the first Chief of the present USDA Forest Service.

ty nations, including Great Britain, France, and Germany, had accepted when the new president, William Howard Taft, killed the plan and recalled the invitations. With this traumatic beginning, it is little wonder that Pinchot and President Taft would clash.

The showdown came with the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy over coal claims in Alaska. Pinchot charged that Secretary of the Interior Richard Ballinger had granted the claims knowing them to be fraudulent. When Pinchot presented his case in a letter read in the U.S. Senate, Taft fired him for insubordination. The year was 1910. The subsequent Congressional investigation of the Ballinger-Pinchot matter damaged Taft's credibility and may have cost him reelection in 1912.

### Conservationist

After leaving government service, Pinchot devoted his efforts to the National Conservation Association, a membership group he founded in 1909. He wrote his classic work, *The Fight for Conservation*, and lobbied to keep the national forests from being returned to the states—a proposal that resurfaced periodically. He began his relentless campaign for federal regulation of forest practices on private land, and many a lumberman was won over to forestry from the cut-and-move-on practices then prevalent because of the threat raised by Pinchot's push for regulation. He also continued to joust with the preservationists.

In 1913, Pinchot was a star witness before Congress on the matter of Hetch Hetchy, a valley within the Yosemite National Park. San Francisco sought per-



*Walsh — Cont.*

mission to build a reservoir at Hetch Hetchy for a municipal water supply. Pinchot supported the reservoir, especially after the San Francisco earthquake and fire of 1906. John Muir led the opposition.

Theodore Roosevelt, siding with Pinchot, had said, "In all forestry matters, I have put my conscience in the keeping of Gifford Pinchot." President Woodrow Wilson, in deciding for San Francisco, stated that he was less uncertain in his judgement because he found it "... concurred in by men whose energies have been devoted to conservation . . . ."

Muir and Pinchot had disagreed on other issues, but Hetch Hetchy was Muir's pet project, and he called Pinchot a satan for endorsing the dam builders. Pinchot testified, "... If we had nothing else to consider than the delight of the few men and women who would yearly go to Hetch Hetchy Valley, then it should be left in its natural condition. But the considerations on the other side of the question, to my mind, are simply overwhelming . . . ."

The Pinchot-Muir split was bitter, and traces of it persist today between wise-use conservationists and preservationists. Pinchot never wavered in his belief that wise use was the key to conservation, but he may have regretted the repercussions of Hetch Hetchy. In his autobiography, *Breaking New Ground*, he said, "One of the great mistakes of a long and misspent life is that I saw the Yosemite Valley only after the Grand Canyon had dulled my sense of wonder."

In 1920, Pinchot became Commissioner of Forests in Pennsylvania. During a two-year tenure prior to being elected governor, he reorganized the state forestry department and waged a popular campaign against forest fires. Pinchot was elected Governor of Pennsylvania in 1922 and again in 1930, serving two terms with distinction.

Pinchot began advising Franklin Roosevelt on conservation matters in 1912, when FDR was a state legislator in New York. Twenty years later, as president-elect, FDR asked Pinchot to prepare a forestry paper with recommendations for the New Deal. Pinchot's report proposed nationalizing vast acreages of private forestland which FDR felt was too radical, but it also called for a forest work-relief program that became the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Pinchot differed with FDR in 1935 over the transfer of the national forests back to Interior. The idea was the brainchild of Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes. Ickes, convinced that Pinchot's propaganda machine had defeated the transfer bill, promised retribution. In 1940, he wrote a scathing magazine article, resurrecting the old Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, questioning Pinchot's motives those many years before, and charging that Ballinger had been an innocent victim. Nevertheless and notwithstanding,

as Pinchot like to say, the national forests remained in Agriculture, where they are today.

Pinchot and FDR did see eye to eye, though, on the merits of an International Conservation Conference. Pinchot pursued the idea with FDR throughout World War II, and the president had Pinchot's proposal with him when he left for Yalta. Referring to Pinchot as "our no. 1 conservationist," FDR had given the go-ahead for the conference shortly before he died. Pinchot, then a man in his eighties, met with President Harry Truman to obtain his approval.

Convinced that permanent peace depended on the wise use of the world's natural resources, Pinchot was working on the conference program at the time of his death in 1946. His widow was a delegate to the United Nations conference held in New York in 1949, but with Pinchot gone, the gathering lacked vitality. Historical suppositions can be intriguing. What if, back in 1909, Germany had attended, as planned, Pinchot's world conference on the conservation of natural resources?

### Professor

Today, Gifford Pinchot is not much remembered as an educator, yet he changed the thinking of a nation by teaching Americans to value forests and waters as precious commodities. I once asked Henry Clepper, a Pinchot associate, how Pennsylvania happened to get the Allegheny National Forest the same year that Pinchot became governor of the state. Henry's answer was, "because he wanted it." Pinchot designed the national forests as models to show Americans how to manage their forestlands—not just to preserve spectacular sites but to preserve the forestland base of the nation.

A charisma, lost now in dusty documents but cherished by the friends and associates I have interviewed, made Pinchot a hero of the conservation movement. Somehow, between the epithets and the accolades, he was able to inspire a generation of young people. Among them was William O. Douglas, Supreme Court Justice and lifetime conservationist.

But to educate foresters, the nation had to have forestry schools. In 1900, Pinchot persuaded his family to endow and his *alma mater* to establish the Yale Forest School. He served as professor for four decades and, over the years, traveled frequently to New Haven for meetings of the school's Governing Board and to lecture on conservation. Through 1927, Yale summer forestry camps were held at Grey Towers, the Pinchot home in Milford, Pennsylvania, where today, the U.S. Forest Service conducts the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies.

Under Pinchot's watchful eye, the Yale Forest School supplied a steady stream of leaders for the

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conservation movement; men such as Aldo Leopold, a founder of the Wilderness Society, and Tom Gill, the nation's first tropical forester. Yale has produced forestry professors and consultants and six chiefs of the Forest Service.

Pinchot saw his students as the new growth of the profession—a new growth to be nurtured. During his

own student days in France in the woods near Verdun, he had learned that *le coup d'oeil forestier*—the eye of the forester—must ever be on the next generation. Some of his students came to differ and some even to break with their old chief, but this was hardly surprising, for they had been taught to fight for conservation by the man who wrote the book.

## *Gifford Pinchot and His Place in the American Conservation Movement*

by  
Stephen Fox

Defining Gifford Pinchot's place in the history of American conservation depends on how you define "history" and how you define "conservation." It is time to reassess Pinchot in this context because our sense of both history and conservation has been changing over the last few decades.

In a general way, across the historical profession, what is called the new social history has shifted our attention from what politicians and governmental institutions have been doing—with a bias toward famous names and their political viewpoints, narrowly construed—to what large, anonymous groups of ordinary citizens have done, with particular attention to class and cultural aspects and their ideologies construed in broad, not necessarily political terms. For the study of conservation history, this means switching the focus from political figures and the work of government agencies like the Forest Service and the National Park Service to the private conservation groups—the Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, National Wildlife Federation, and the rest—and to mass public opinion, to ideologies more cultural than political.

A brief digression: to shift our attention in this way is to step outside the usual political spectrum of left to right because the conservation ethic does not fit neatly anywhere on that scale. Historically, conservationists have come from anywhere in political terms; they were mostly Republicans under the first Roosevelt, mostly Democrats since the second Roosevelt. More than anything else—as I suggested in my book *John Muir and His Legacy* (1981)—conservation is a cultural attitude, an aspect of the "antimodern" tradition in American social and intellectual history. The main treatment of antimodernism to date is a book by Jackson Lears, *No Place of Grace*, published in 1981. As far as I'm concerned, Lears is the best American historian of my generation, truly a gifted scholar. He does not treat conservation in this book, but he has since allowed that he should have, that the conservation ethic belongs with the other antimodernisms he describes.

Concurrently, and coincidentally, our grasp of the origins of conservation history has been changing because of certain archival circumstances. One point—perhaps the only point—that conservation historians can agree on is that around the turn of this century, the nascent movement was split into two camps: utilitarian or wise-use conservation and preservationist or esthetic conservation, the two factions being led, in the public perception, by Gifford Pinchot and John Muir. To state the difference in stark terms, when Muir saw a tree he saw the oldest and largest of all living things, an entity that was beautiful and sufficient unto itself, not put there just for human purposes, but with its own purposes, perhaps even its own soul. When Pinchot saw a tree he saw only board feet, with no purposes but human uses.

Late in life John Muir started to write his autobiography, but he never finished it. The only part ever published took him merely to the age of 22, when he left the family farm in Wisconsin for college in Madison. After Muir died in 1914, his descendants for their own peculiar, mysterious reasons kept his private papers locked up for some sixty years; they allowed only the two reverent, authorized biographies published in 1923 and 1945. Historians thus have not had access to the materials they need for a just estimate of Muir and his tradition.

By contrast Pinchot did finish his autobiography, down to the end of his conservation work, when he was 45. It was published under the title *Breaking New Ground* in 1947, one year after his death. His enormous collection of papers was soon opened at the Library of Congress; it constitutes the largest such collection of any non-President at the LC, running to thousands of file boxes. Pinchot apparently had an acute sense of his own historical importance and never threw anything out. So historians have had all the evidence they need to understand the man and his work.

Thus we find a paradox in the reputations of these two protean figures in recent decades. To the public

Fox — Cont.

at large, Muir is today the better known. His books are often republished in new editions, and the Sierra Club—which he helped found and then presided over for the last 22 years of his life—keeps his name and flame prominent in its publications and good works. In the 1960s the National Wildlife Federation created a Conservation Hall of Fame, adding one new member each year. Muir was the second inductee, after Theodore Roosevelt; Pinchot was not added until the eighth year, and he followed the rather obscure figure of Hugh Bennett of the Soil Conservation Service. This sequence faithfully reflects the relative *popular* reputations of Muir and Pinchot of late.

But historians, as opposed to the general public, have typically given Pinchot more attention and credit as the founder of American conservation—because his memoirs and his papers have been extensive and available for a long time. Since the Muir papers were finally opened some ten years ago at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, California, three books have appeared that made full use of them, and others are awaiting publication. Because we now understand Muir and Muir tradition better, we now can see Pinchot more clearly as well. As a scholar who has been through some of Pinchot's papers and all of Muir's, and as someone who has written a little about Pinchot but rather more about Muir, I tend to see Pinchot through Muir's eyes. That is my bias here, and you should bear it in mind.

It seems to me, then, that Pinchot is best understood not as a conservationist but as a politician. Recently I re-read *Breaking New Ground* for the first time in ten years. What I found most striking this time is that the book does not read like a typical memoir by a conservationist or nature lover. That is, one finds there no fond descriptions of early baptisms in the natural world, of the first exposures to nature; no lyrical descriptions of natural contacts and excursions undertaken in adulthood; no expansive philosophical detours into arguments for religious belief derived from the wonders of nature's design; no speculations about the proper human place and significance in the grand scheme of things, all designed to curb human hubris and induce a greater humility in us all; not even a chapter about fishing, the outdoor activity that Pinchot most loved.

Instead the book is mostly about politics, and the dominant note is that of a clamorous ego. In the tradition of most political memoirs, Pinchot's autobiography regrets no decisions, admits no mistakes, and generally exaggerates the author's importance. To the extent that historians have taken the book literally, they have passed along and reinforced these exaggerations. But this does help us define Pinchot's true nature and significance.

If a conservation ethic means anything, it is that humans—especially those in modern, western, indus-



President Theodore Roosevelt and Chief Forester Gifford Pinchot on a steamboat in the Mississippi in 1907.

trialized countries—need to tread more lightly on the earth, to throttle down their Faustian ambitions, to think more in terms of balance and harmony, less in terms of “progress,” coarsely defined. It is no coincidence that many conservationists have worked not for money or power, but for deeply felt philosophical reasons. Instead of bringing them money and power, their conservation work has often cost them time and money; in crass terms it has meant more giving than receiving. A true conservationist should be naturally humble, not ego-driven.

For a politician, on the other hand, ego and power are mother's milk. To accuse a politician of being ambitious is like accusing a nun of being celibate. It just goes with the job description. So while a ravenous ego and ambition may appear unseemly in Pinchot the conservationist, they seem routine, even inevitable, in Pinchot the politician.

Approaching *Breaking New Ground* as a political autobiography, then, how does it look? Pinchot (or his ghostwriters) give full and generous credit to the conservation associates in his immediate circle: Frederick Newell, W.J. McGhee, and especially the Forest Service cohorts. To other founders of American conservation—those who disagreed with him—Pinchot is less fair and forthcoming in his acknowledgments. The treatment of Charles Sprague Sargent of Harvard and the Arnold Arboretum is amazingly contradictory. Pinchot extends credit and gratitude in one chapter, then takes them back in the next. The final verdict is not so much balanced as incoherent. John Wesley Powell, a far more original,



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seminal conservation thinker than Pinchot, is mentioned once, unfavorably, for burning a tree. Theodore S. Palmer, the most active Audubon Society founder and leader in Washington government circles, is also mentioned once, as an assistant to C. Hart Merriam, without his first name being given. The Audubon groups and the Sierra Club, founded a decade or more before the Forest Service, are not mentioned at all.

The most significant omission of all is George Bird Grinnell, a co-founder with Theodore Roosevelt of the Boone and Crockett Club in 1887, and a much more important conservation influence on Roosevelt than Pinchot was. As editor of *Forest and Stream* magazine, Grinnell was the ubiquitous early leader of conservation in the eastern United States. He was active in the fight at a time when Pinchot was still in grade school. His complete absence from a book that claims to be a history of the origins of American conservation is extraordinary—especially given that Grinnell was a Yale man, a persuasion that Pinchot usually treated with conspicuous generosity. (The record of Grinnell's historical reputation resembles Muir's in some ways. His papers were discovered at the Connecticut Audubon Society by a graduate student, John F. Reiger; the collection has since been moved to Yale. Reiger's books have restored the importance of this remarkable man; see also the article by John G. Mitchell in the March, 1987 issue of *Audubon*.)

As an account of the beginnings of American conservation, then, Pinchot's autobiography is parochial and selective. As a record of one politician's origins, it is more adequate. To see Pinchot in this light is to see his conservation phase quite differently and less favorably. Instead of Pinchot's being an influence on Theodore Roosevelt, the effect is quite in the other direction. Pinchot did not make Roosevelt a conservationist; rather, Roosevelt made Pinchot a politician.

In my book, *John Muir and His Legacy*, I have described how Sargent brought Pinchot into national conservation circles—and then felt betrayed, stabbed in the back, as Pinchot took the movement from its preservationist origins toward more modest, more practical, more politically feasible goals of utilitarian conservation. Pinchot rode the wave that Sargent had already generated, and Sargent retired from conservation work, understandably embittered toward Pinchot and all his designs. Pinchot meantime contracted a strong and durable case of Potomac fever which lasted the rest of his life and affected all of his subsequent work, both in conservation and in politics.

Roosevelt in 1900 described Pinchot as having no more interest in politics than the Harvard astronomers did. This changed quickly over the next few years—because, I think, of Pinchot's inclusion in

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the so-called "Tennis Cabinet" around TR, where the conversation ranged across any topic that was on the President's mind at the time, and where the young Pinchot—still only in his late thirties when it started—could acquire a heady, intimate sense of life inside that most strenuous White House. From then on, Pinchot dreamed big dreams.

Even before he got the Forest Service in 1905, Pinchot wanted a cabinet post, either Interior or Agriculture. Failing that, he hoped to be anointed as TR's successor as President. Much of his activity in 1907-08, though overtly in the service of conservation and the Forest Service, actually may be seen as efforts to broaden his political base beyond forestry and win the nomination in 1908. In 1907 he attended at least 34 meetings of various trade groups: livestock, lumbermen, mining groups, and so on. His membership on the Inland Waterways Commission in 1907 put him in contact with new constituencies and political forces. The celebrated Governors' Conference in the spring of 1908 was conceived, planned, and paid for by Pinchot, and he carefully kept troublesome dissenters like John Muir away from the meeting.

It may now seem overreaching for the 43-year-old head of a mere bureau in the Agriculture Department to be thinking about the presidency. But he was then a year older than TR had been when he came to the office in 1901. Pinchot was also better known than William Howard Taft and at least as well qualified for the presidency, and all that either man needed to get the nomination was TR's approval. Pinchot had to prove that he could function in a bigger pond than

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the Forest Service. Evidently Roosevelt was not persuaded, and he chose Taft—not the best decision TR ever made.

After Taft fired him in 1910, Pinchot spent much of his later career trying to get back to the White House. In 1912 thirty editors polled by the *Chicago Tribune* endorsed him for the nomination. As a leader of the Progressive Party from 1912 to 1916, he in some ways, as Martin Fausold has argued, wielded more—and more important—national influence than during his years at the Forest Service. In his only major conservation job afterward, as Pennsylvania's Commissioner of Forestry from 1920 to 1922, he practiced what Harold Pinkett has called "show-window forestry," that is, stressing issues like forest fires with the widest popular appeal instead of more substantial efforts in research and demonstration. In his two terms as Governor of Pennsylvania, he generally disappointed his old forestry colleagues by his inattention to conservation matters. By 1933 he was so out of touch with his old calling that when Franklin Roosevelt asked him for conservation advice, Pinchot had to turn to Robert Marshall, the best informed of the younger generation of conservationists, to draft a statement.

Seeing his life as a whole, then, it seems to me that Pinchot was a conservationist in the same sense that Herbert Hoover was an engineer and Ronald Reagan was a movie star. It was an early phase, before moving on to a life in national politics. That Pinchot is now mostly remembered as a conservationist may be because—unlike Hoover and Reagan—he never made it to the White House; but also because his conservation work was more significant than Hoover's

engineering or Reagan's acting, excuse the faint praise.

Let me be clear about this: nothing I have said should deny Pinchot's importance as a conservationist in his prime time, from 1895 to 1910. Granted that he had few original ideas, and that the books and articles published under his name were written by other people. Yet he was a truly brilliant administrator, publicist, and advocate: tireless, inventive, and honest. He created and set up his own Forest Service, and he ran it along standards of professionalism and honesty that lasted for decades after his departure. The extent to which his version of conservation has dominated most historical accounts is its own tribute to his success at making "forestry" and "conservation" and "Gifford Pinchot" virtually interchangeable terms.

Whether he ever inspired anybody to enter politics is not a matter of record. But there is no doubt of his inspirational effect on later conservationists as diverse as Robert Marshall, Harold Ickes, Aldo Leopold, Justice William O. Douglas, and Bernard DeVoto. Even though all five of these men ultimately gravitated toward the Muir tradition and away from Pinchot, they all started out as Pinchot disciples, inspired by his example. In conservation affairs, the Muirs and the Pinchots have needed each other: the Muirs offering vision, zeal, and a kind of purity, while the Pinchots bring practicality, staying power, and an ability to get things done. Without Pinchot and the tradition descended from him, American conservation would have remained only half a movement.

## *Gifford Pinchot: Public Service and the Meaning of Conservation*

by

John W. Furlow, Jr.

At the beginning of his book entitled *Gifford Pinchot, Private and Public Forester*, Harold Pinkett quotes Pinchot as saying: "I have been a Governor every now and then, but I am a forester all the time."<sup>1</sup> One could conclude that Gifford wanted to reassure his associates in forestry that despite his excursions into elective politics, he was true to his profession, the one he had introduced to America in the late nineteenth century.

Many of his forestry associates preferred or prefer to minimize Pinchot's political involvement in the later years of his life. They consider this activity less consequential than the great battles fought for conservation in the early 1900's when the Forest Service was set on a firm foundation by its chief, "G.P.," as his subordinates called him.<sup>2</sup>

American history texts reflect this same bias. After Pinchot's confrontation in 1910 with Secretary of the Interior Ballinger over the disposition of coal resources on public lands in Alaska, he disappears from these surveys.<sup>3</sup> Despite a very active life which spanned the Roaring Twenties, the Great Depression, the Second World War, and the post-war effort to achieve permanent peace, little is published about what happened to this influential public figure.

Neglecting the later career of Gifford Pinchot is to fail to recognize his role in a significant development in the concept of "conservation." This is the term to which he is credited with giving life and so much publicity. Ignored also would be his close relationship with Cornelia Bryce, whom he married in 1914. In this later period together they saw their strategy for international peace finally move a step toward reality. Despite his associates' and historians' efforts to confine him to forestry, Gifford Pinchot proved, as he did so often during his lifetime, that he would not or could not be limited physically or spiritually.

According to Henry Clepper, historian of the forestry movement,<sup>4</sup> the concept of "conservation" had been developing for thirty years before Gifford Pinchot and Theodore Roosevelt focused public attention and concern on it at the beginning of the 20th Century. Several individuals are said to have actually used the word first in its modern connotation or suggested it to Pinchot.<sup>5</sup>

The definition of the term "conservation" has been disputed over the years, and Pinchot himself used the term to mean different things. In 1910 he proclaimed that the basic principles behind conservation were the

development of and use of natural resources for the benefit of the many, and not merely for the profit of a few. He insisted on the scientific management of renewable resources to prevent waste and to guarantee their availability for future use.<sup>6</sup> Thirty-five years later in his autobiography, *Breaking New Ground*, published the year after his death, he wrote: "Conservation is the foresighted utilization, preservation, and/or renewal of forests, waters, and lands and minerals for the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time . . . it means everywhere and always that the public good comes first." By then he had come to this interesting and expansive conclusion: "It is obvious, therefore, that the principles of conservation must apply to human beings as well as to natural resources."<sup>7</sup>

All accounts agree that Pinchot believed firmly that natural resources, renewable or not, were there for the use of and the benefit of all mankind.<sup>8</sup> As noted by many, this idea appeared to flow from the Judeo-Christian belief that God created the natural world under man's dominion.<sup>9</sup>

Although his background was as a forester, Pinchot did not confine his original definition of conservation in 1900 to the protection of trees, but broadened the resources to be wisely managed to soil, water, minerals, and grazing areas.<sup>10</sup> In 1908 he was involved in the renaming of the journal of the American Forestry Association from *Forestry and Irrigation* to *Conservation* to denote these broader concerns. Pinchot also founded the Conservation Association to pressure for government action to realize the broad objectives of the conservation movement as defined by Pinchot.

Henry Clepper states that there was no disharmony between the American Forestry Association and the National Conservation Association. However, after a few issues of the journal were published under the name *Conservation*, its title was changed to *American Forestry*, and the Directors of the American Forestry Association determined not to follow Pinchot in what Henry Clepper calls "their sound decision" not to be a party to his "grandiose" plans. Eventually, the National Conservation Association with many shared members merged back into the American Forestry Association.<sup>11</sup>

Pinchot not only actively attempted to broaden the types of resources placed under the protective cover of conservation but also supported the emerging concept of multiple-use for those forest reserves first set



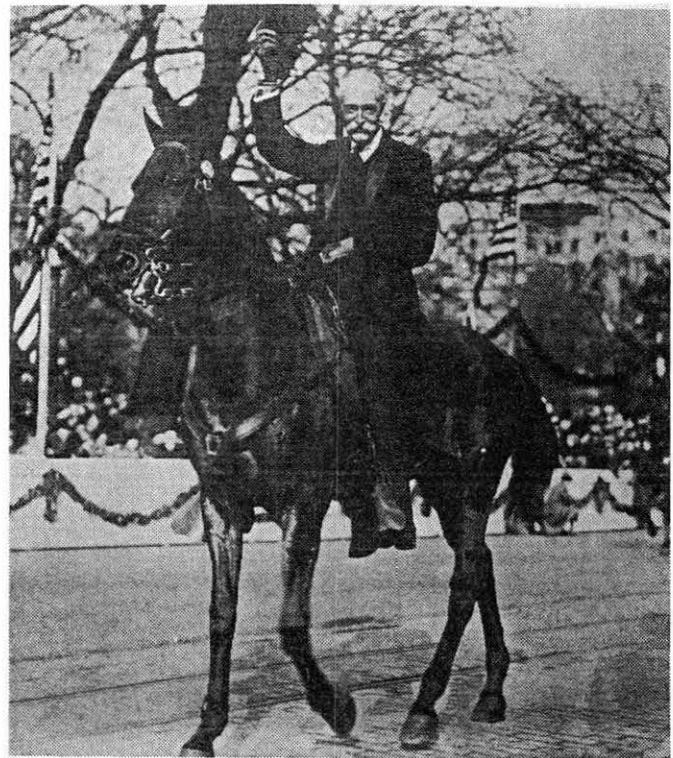
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aside by Presidents Harrison and Cleveland and then to an increasing extent by T.R. Multiple-use, with as many shadings of meanings as the word "conservation," directed that public forest lands and reserves were to be open to use for a wide range of purposes, from flood control to grazing to lumbering to mining to recreation. Pinchot and the Forest Service pursued this democratic policy which they believed was complementary to the idea of "conservation." After the acceptance of "multiple-use," the Forest Service placed few restrictions on the types of utilization of the reserves.<sup>12</sup>

This idea remained strong with Pinchot throughout his long life. In 1931, Governor Pinchot broke ground for Pymatuning Dam reserve area in the northwestern part of Pennsylvania. He pointed proudly to the value of this project which served as a means of flood control, as well as a recreational site for the citizens of the state and a source of employment.<sup>13</sup> Despite potential conflicts over the use of the reserves, such as the desire to preserve the beauty and uniqueness of wilderness areas by denying access to them by the masses, Pinchot saw primarily the potential of multiple uses. He firmly believed any conflict could be managed by an effective administrator, which he was recognized to be.<sup>14</sup>

Beyond expanding the natural resources to be managed for future use and exploring the wise utilization of public reserves, Gifford Pinchot participated in formally nationalizing and internationalizing the conservation movement. The White House Governor's Conference of 1908 on Conservation, for which Pinchot served as Chairman, was so successful in terms of encouraging commitment to the cause by the leadership of the country, that he called for a conference of the leaders of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The positive results of that meeting resulted in invitations being sent by T.R. to the world to join in a gathering to promote cooperation in conservation. When William Howard Taft became President and rescinded the invitations, Pinchot was not able to carry the idea of internationalizing conservation any further at that time.<sup>15</sup>

The first years of the new century had seen America's first professional forester reach the heights of national influence through his own considerable energy and dedication, and through the support from professional resource associations, individual teachers from the scientific community, and powerful political leaders of the country. Pinchot had sensed through his close collaboration with Theodore Roosevelt what political power could accomplish in terms of reordering the world for the good of the greatest number.<sup>16</sup> With the incoming Taft administration, although the basic principles of conservation and multiple-use were firmly entrenched in the Forest Service and in the public mind, their potential, as seen by Pinchot, was not to be realized; and Pinchot found himself outside of government. At this



*Grey Towers, USDA Forest Service*

Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania coming up Pennsylvania Avenue in the Presidential Inaugural Parade on March 4, 1925.

point historians writing texts on American history lose track of Pinchot, and many of his associates in the forestry profession expected him to return to the fold.

In this transitional period, two influences made their mark on Gifford Pinchot. They were to alter significantly the meaning of conservation and of Gifford Pinchot's life. At the Governor's Conference of 1908, amidst the many noted speakers, two individuals presenting two forces within the economic system raised an issue that broadened the discussion about conservation. Andrew Carnegie, in this talk on protecting critical ores and metals from waste, spoke about the need to conserve human resources, particularly from the dangers of extracting those ores and metals.<sup>17</sup> Samuel Gompers, leader of the American Federation of Labor, expanded on that brief touch of concern by Carnegie, not widely known for his reticence in exploiting both natural and human resources. Gompers warned his listeners that constant vigilance was necessary on behalf of the welfare of the wealth-producing wage earners upon whose material advancement depended the future of the Republic. He called for the conservation of natural resources and the energy of the laborer in the spirit of stewardship that lay beneath the brotherhood of man. Gompers cautioned the delegates that the greatest form of waste was the immense numbers of people unemployed through no fault of their own or those people whose lives had been destroyed or whose bodies had been maimed in industry and commerce by ignorance, incompetence, or greed. "What

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is more the antithesis to the conservation of our natural resources?" he asked. The labor leader ended his statement by calling upon the world to follow the example of those American leaders, "the rugged, forceful, and intelligent manhood and womanhood who breed and foster the aristocracy of heart and mind."<sup>18</sup> It is certain that Gifford Pinchot was aware of these sentiments, and with the passage of time and increased sensitivity they would reemerge in an expanded definition of conservation.

In 1914, Gifford Pinchot at age 49, married Cornelia Bryce. Cornelia met Gifford through her father's acquaintance with Theodore Roosevelt. With red hair and a record of political activism, she was Gifford's equal in energy and interest in politics.<sup>19</sup> Their partnership began with an unsuccessful race by Gifford for the United States Senate seat from Pennsylvania then held by Boies Penrose, powerful national Republican boss. This attempt was the first of many by Pinchot to return to national political position and power. With the strong support of his wife, there would be numerous campaigns in the years ahead.<sup>20</sup>

Before these campaigns could take place, the progressive reform movement of which conservation was a part and the Pinchots' marriage were overwhelmed by the "War to end all wars," the First World War. Despite the destruction of human and natural resources during that conflict, Gifford was an enthusiastic supporter of America's involvement in the war. Cornelia Pinchot with a Quaker heritage had been associated with the peace movement before marriage. Although agreeing enthusiastically with Gifford on many of the reforms he advocated, including conservation, she did not share his positive views about war. When asked about this difference, she stated: "Two minds don't think as one; it would be dreary if true."<sup>21</sup>

With the end of the hostilities, Gifford and Cornelia returned to campaigning. In 1922, he was elected Governor of Pennsylvania and she became first lady of the state. By all estimates, G.P.'s concern about forestry appeared to take second place to the broad demands of governing a large and complex state. The greatest accomplishment of the progressive governor in the prosperous Twenties was an administrative reorganization of state government in part so that employment in it would be based on merit. This effort produced an admirable efficiency and cost effectiveness.

In fact, the major conservation effort for the Pinchots in the Twenties came from their desire to conserve human resources. Gifford and Cornelia were considered to be the most devoted national leaders in the enforcement of prohibition.<sup>23</sup> The argument that Gifford Pinchot gave that motivated his effort to make the law work was the useless waste of human life from the evils of alcohol: of families deprived of income and support, of the destruction of property,



*Grey Towers, USDA Forest Service*

Cornelia Bryce, daughter of journalist-politician Lloyd Bryce, was introduced to Gifford Pinchot by Theodore Roosevelt, who attended their wedding in Roslyn, Long Island, on August 15, 1914. Both Gifford and Cornelia were active in the Progressive ("Bull Moose") Party.

and the violence.<sup>24</sup> Despite the devotion and funds expended, prohibition as a social experiment failed. In his second term as governor, 1931-1935, Pinchot would have to preside over the end of prohibition and the initiation of the regulation of liquor sales by the state.<sup>25</sup>

Since constitutionally the governor could not succeed himself, the Pinchots had to wait until 1930 for Gifford to run again. By then the economic promise of Pennsylvanian and Secretary of the Treasury, Andrew Mellon, had turned into depression. The days of administrative codes and balanced budgets gave way to a time of increasing concerns for the unemployed and those least able to survive the economic dislocations of the Thirties.

Despite a narrow victory in 1930, the Pinchots prepared to address the state's deepening crisis. While Gifford battled the still powerful Republican machines and what he called selfish interests, and kept an eye on the depression-inspired Democratic Party, Cornelia used the opportunity to pursue the causes that had meant much to her since the progressive period at the beginning of the century. One of the most memorable and popular parts of the Pinchots' campaign for the governorship in 1930 was their pledge to get the farmers "out of the mud." Gifford had been associated with rural concerns since he had served on T.R.'s Commission on Country Life. He talked proudly of his annual meeting with



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the Grange. In turn the rural, often "dry," areas of the state gave Pinchot many of the votes in his campaigns. The program to build all-weather, rural roads which Pinchot continued throughout his second term was a prime example of multiple-use which resulted in the conservation of human resources. The roads, constructed as cost effectively as possible, not only connected the farmers to modern life and to a wider market for their products, but provided life-saving work and wages for the rapidly increasing numbers of unemployed.<sup>26</sup>

The election and inauguration of Franklin Roosevelt in 1933 had the enthusiastic support of the Pinchots. In assessing the changes that had taken place in the early Thirties, Gifford concluded, "The world will never be again what it was when the depression began. The many have come to a new sense of their needs, their rights, and their power."<sup>27</sup> He further concluded, "The Government of this country exists for the protection and preservation of its people."<sup>28</sup> In his gubernatorial campaign in 1930, Pinchot had promised a "new deal" for the state of Pennsylvania.<sup>29</sup> Despite the fact that Gifford wanted the 1932 Republican presidential nomination, he praised FDR and his "New Deal" within a year of the Democrat's inauguration: "He moves. He tries first one thing and then another. I stand with FDR because he destroyed the paralyzing hopelessness in the country."<sup>30</sup>

Pinchot was most pleased with the passage by the New Deal inspired U.S. Congress in early 1933 of the act to create the national Civilian Conservation Corps. It appealed to him first, because it followed the multiple-use concept. Not only did the CCC do actual conservation work, including building facilities for recreation, flood control measures, and soil conservation, often at the same site, but that contributed in turn to the physical and mental health of the participants. Secondly, Pinchot took pride in his role in impressing Franklin Roosevelt years before in the New York State Legislature with slides of China which showed the devastating effects of soil erosion from a lack of conservation of forest resources. Most importantly, this act contributed to the conservation of human resources, not only of the men who found work and health but of their dependents who received a substantial portion of their wages. Pinchot had earlier set up work relief camps in Pennsylvania through the cooperation of several state agencies

under military coordination that were prototypes of the CCC camps.<sup>31</sup>

The commitment to the conservation of human resources deepened for the Pinchots as the depression continued. It was based on past concerns, especially by Cornelia Bryce, whose public activity increased as the second governorship moved to a conclusion. Hugh Johnson, National Recovery Act administrator, after tangling with Mrs. Pinchot over the policies of his office, asked the question in 1934, "Who is Governor of Pennsylvania?"<sup>32</sup>

In the days before her marriage, Cornelia Bryce was active in opposition to child labor and poor working conditions for women. In the early 1930s, she gained national prominence for a crusade against "sweatshops" which her husband defined as "factories which pay starvation wages and violate labor laws."<sup>33</sup> In particular, while serving as one of the Governor's representatives on a commission to investigate these employers, she marched on a picket line at an Allentown textile mill with young women called "Baby Strikers" by the newspapers. She appeared on behalf of workers in the steel mills, in the laundry, and hosiery businesses. In collaboration with Charlotte Carr, the Governor's Secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry, Cornelia pressured the National Red Cross and the national government to investigate conditions in Pennsylvania factories. The Governor concluded, "I think you'll agree that the strongest weapon I had was Cornelia Bryce Pinchot, whose work against the sweats is known throughout the U.S. . . . she's this administration's best contribution to the cause of workers on farm or factory, mill or mine."<sup>34</sup>

As always, not only occupied with the present but with the future, the Pinchots acted quickly when it was discovered that malnutrition was causing children to faint in school. As powerful supporters of education as a means to a better society, the Governor and Mrs. Pinchot set up a system of milk stations to provide the resources to insure better nutrition. They supervised personally the children's weigh-ins to make certain that the program was doing the job.<sup>35</sup>

Although Democratic Governor George Earle, elected in 1934, is credited with much of the social legislation which because of similarities to FDR's

For biographical information on Gifford Pinchot, see . . . . . Martin L. Fausold, *Gifford Pinchot: Bull Moose Progressive* (Syracuse, NY, 1961); M. Nelson McGeary, *Gifford Pinchot: Forester-Politician* (Princeton, NJ, 1960); Gifford Pinchot, *Breaking New Ground* (New York, 1947), Pinchot's autobiography, which has also been published by the University of Washington Press (Seattle, 1972) with an introduction by James Penick, Jr.; Harold T. Pinkett, *Gifford Pinchot: Private and Public Forester* (Urbana, IL, 1970); and the article by James Penick, Jr. in *Dictionary of American Biography: Supplement Four* (New York, 1974). Also see the following publications of the USDA Forest Service, Washington, DC, in conjunction with the Pinchot Institute for Conservation Studies and Grey Towers National Historic Landmark in Milford, PA: *Grey Towers National Historic Landmark: Home of Gifford Pinchot* (1985), *Historic Structure Report: Grey Towers* (1979), *The Other Pinchots of Grey Towers* (1978), and *Pinchot: The Man, the House, the Legacy* (1978). A lecture on July 14, 1985 at Grey Towers by John Allen Gable, *Adventure in Reform: Gifford Pinchot, Amos Pinchot, Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressive Party*, was published by the Grey Towers Press, Milford, PA, in 1986.



*Furlow — Cont.*

program was called the "Little New Deal," the Pinchots proposed and publicized many of the specific elements in it. To protect the state's valuable human resources, the Governor proposed pensions for the blind and aged, advocated expanded Workmen's Compensation, and unemployment compensation, called for increased restrictions on child labor and curbs on sweatshops through minimum wage and maximum hour legislation. The Pinchots argued that such programs made good sense because of the savings achieved by preventing the loss of human ability and by reducing the cost of poorly administered general public maintenance programs.<sup>36</sup> Although the Pinchots were not successful in seeing all of their proposed legislation passed during their tenure, the next administration put those programs and more into effect.

At the end of the term, the Pinchots were determined to remain active in politics in order to promote the conservation of human as well as natural resources. Gifford ran for the Republican nomination for United States Senator in 1934. When rejected by the Republican Party, he almost succeeded in receiving the Democratic nomination. Again in 1938, he tried for the Republican nomination for governor. But a third term was not to be. Cornelia Pinchot ran several times for the Republican nomination for U.S. Congress from the Milford area around Grey Towers, and also ran for nomination from the Philadelphia area. Not victorious, she was pleased with her showings against entrenched incumbents.<sup>37</sup> These defeats did not prevent the Pinchots from voicing their opinions on the broad issues of the day or advocating their own proposals.

Since they believed that Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal was what the people wanted and needed, except in certain details, they pressed upon him their ultimate proposal combining the conservation of natural and human resources. Based on their experiences from the initial progressive drive for conservation and on years of political activity, Gifford Pinchot with strong support from his wife urged FDR to call an international conference that would develop a strategy for world peace based on cooperative efforts among nations to conserve human and natural resources. FDR received the plea by noting that Pinchot was a "wild man," an individual who could not be controlled.<sup>38</sup>

In the early 1940's, Gifford fought age and illness as he had always battled those "interests" who opposed what he believed was for the "public good." He succumbed, however, in 1946 at the age of 81.<sup>39</sup>

It is fitting that Cornelia Bryce Pinchot would be the one to attend the post-war world conference in 1949, supported by FDR's successor, Harry Truman. Sponsored by the United Nations on the subject of conservation and utilization of resources, scientists from around the world and numerous interested



Cornelia Bryce Pinchot (1881-1960) was active in politics and social reform. The historian Louis Filler writes of Mrs. Pinchot in the 1930s: "For a time she was, among women concerned with social issues, second in visibility only to Eleanor Roosevelt, with whom as a child she went to dancing school."

observers were invited to share their collective wisdom with no thought to policy making.<sup>40</sup>

Trygve Lie, Secretary-General of the United Nations, set the tone for this first interdisciplinary, international, scientific meeting. In his opening remarks, he called upon the delegates to "... mobilize technical knowledge in support of one of the high purposes of the Charter—to raise the standards of living. This is one of the keys to peace. For behind most wars stand the spectres of hunger and want—effective warmongers of the past." He continued, "Floods, crop failures, and droughts know no frontiers. Their effect cuts across national boundary lines. No country has a monopoly of the techniques in the sound use and conservation of natural resources, and both industrial and non-industrial countries can profit from the techniques developed in different parts of the world." Lie concluded with the hope that: "If we could really put science and technology to fuller use in peace as we did in war, I believe that no one could predict the world population our resources could support or the rise in the average standard of living that would be possible."<sup>41</sup>

Instead of a sense of triumph at the vindication of forty years of effort, the results of the Conference disappointed Cornelia Pinchot. The grounds for her disappointment show clearly the course of Progressive thought by conservationist Gifford Pinchot since the late nineteenth century. Speaking for herself and for her late husband, her main criticism was that

Furlow — Cont.

the participants spent too much time discussing the narrowest technological grounds in relation to conservation. She called upon the conferees to regain her late husband's broader vision, "the conservation ideal," by saying, "Every true conservationist knows that man himself is a natural resource, the basic resource; that without man's energy, the energy of coal, of electricity, of oil, or atomic fission itself, is inert and meaningless. To side-step the human and political implications of conservation, to deal with it exclusively in terms of materials, matter and technical processes, is to take a long step backward from where we stood a generation ago."<sup>42</sup>

Raphael Zon, who has been called one of Gifford Pinchot's best forestry proteges, concluded in an article in 1946 that "Gifford Pinchot's evolution has been really remarkable."<sup>43</sup> He noted the change of his mentor from the narrow scientifically trained forester to the broadly experienced advocate for world peace. While Pinchot is often portrayed as the activist rather than the thinker, "the Wildman" and the publicizer, rather than the intellectual, he moved beyond the limitations proposed for him by his field of professional specialization to understand where inspired leadership might take his state, nation, or even the world. An unquestionable influence in this evolution or development was Cornelia Bryce with her sensitivity to the concerns of those who wanted their share of the "public good." Despite these sensitivities and the push by Pinchot to stretch the boundaries of human accomplishment, the Great Depression and a second World War were sobering elements to any optimism that progressivism and theories of scientific management at the beginning of the century may have generated. It is to the credit of the Pinchots that regardless of seemingly insurmountable obstacles, they continued to press for solutions that would truly bring the greatest good for the greatest number, not only at home but abroad.

At the conclusion of his autobiography, Gifford Pinchot wrote, "I believe, and I have made no secret of my belief, that a good forester must also be a good citizen. I have tried to be both, with what success, it is not for me to say. But at least I am not without experience."<sup>44</sup> In the period before the concept of ecology became as current as conservation, before Pennsylvanian Rachel Carson's books carried understanding of the interrelationships within the environment a giant step farther, and before the serious discussion of the "quality of life" took place, Gifford and Cornelia Pinchot fought to raise the consciousness of mankind about its place in the world, and its responsibilities. Their efforts were successful, deserve the appreciation of their peers, and the recognition of history.

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup>Harold T. Pinkett, *Gifford Pinchot: Private and Public Forester* (Chicago: University of Illinois Press, 1970), 3.  
In his extensive biography, Nelson McGeary takes the opposite view, "All his life he (Pinchot) maintained a strong interest in

forestry and conservation, but in his last quarter century his interest in politics overshadowed his concern for conservation." Nelson McGeary, *Gifford Pinchot: Forester-Politician* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1960), 197.

<sup>2</sup>Henry Clepper, *Professional Forestry in the United States* (Baltimore: John Hopkins Press, 1971), 141-142.

<sup>3</sup>Numerous American history texts.

<sup>4</sup>Henry Clepper, *Crusade for Conservation: The Centennial History of the American Forestry Association* (Washington, D.C.: American Forestry Association, 1975), 29.

<sup>5</sup>Clepper, *Professional Forestry*, 16.

<sup>6</sup>Gifford Pinchot, *The Fight for Conservation* (Page, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1910), 44-46.

<sup>7</sup>Pinchot, *Breaking New Ground* (N.Y.: Harcourt, Brace, and Co., 1947), 504-510.

<sup>8</sup>For a discussion of the conservationist versus preservationist controversy, Fox calls Pinchot a conservationist utilitarian. Stephen Fox, *The American Conservation Movement: John Muir and His Legacy* (Madison, Wisconsin: University of Wisconsin Press, 1985), 115, 121, 208.

<sup>9</sup>Fox, *The American Conservation Movement*, 359-361.

<sup>10</sup>Henry Clepper, *Crusade for Conservation: The Centennial History of the American Forestry Association* (Washington, D.C.: American Forestry Association, 1975), 7.

<sup>11</sup>Clepper, *Crusade for Conservation*, 29.

<sup>12</sup>Grant McConnell, "The Multiple-Use Concept in Forest Service Policy," *Sierra Club Bulletin*, Oct. 1959: 14-28.  
Clepper, *Crusade for Conservation*, 20.

<sup>13</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress), Box 2296, Ground-breaking at Pymatuning Dam Site, October 6, 1931.

<sup>14</sup>Harold Steen, *The Forest Service: A History* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1976), 298-301.

Joseph Albert Falco, "Political Background and First Gubernatorial Administration of Gifford Pinchot, 1923-1927" (unpublished Doctor's Dissertation, University of Pittsburgh, 1956).

<sup>15</sup>McGeary, *Gifford Pinchot*, 108.

<sup>16</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), Speech by Pinchot at Memorial Day Exercises conducted by Quentin Roosevelt Post of American Legion at Oyster Bay, New York, May 30, 1931.

<sup>17</sup>Andrew Carnegie, "The Conservation of Ores and Related Minerals," Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources, White House, Washington, D.C., May 13-15, 1908: 17, 19.

<sup>18</sup>Samuel Gompers, "Conservation in Relation to Labor," Conference on the Conservation of Natural Resources, White House, Washington, D.C., May 13-15, 1908: 399-403.

<sup>19</sup>LeRoy Greene, *Shelter for His Excellency* (Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 1951), 210, 226.

<sup>20</sup>Isidor Feinstein, "A Gentleman in Politics," *The American Mercury*, 29 (1933): 84.

John Furlow, "Cornelia Bryce Pinchot: Feminism in the Post-Suffrage Era," *Pennsylvania History*, 43 (October, 1976): 343.

<sup>21</sup>Furlow, "Cornelia Bryce Pinchot," 332.

<sup>22</sup>Clyde L. King, "Fiscal and Administrative Reorganization in Pennsylvania," *American Political Science Review* 17 (Nov., 1923): 597-608.

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Sylvester K. Stevens et al., *Exploring Pennsylvania* (Harrisburg: Harcourt, Brace, 1961), 339.

<sup>23</sup>Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, *Legislative Journal*, 1927, Governor Gifford Pinchot's Message to the General Assembly of Pennsylvania delivered in person to the Joint Session in House of Representatives, Jan. 4, 1927, iii.

<sup>24</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296A), Pinchot Address before Pennsylvania State Christian Association at State College, PA, "What Shall a Dry Do Now?" October 27, 1933.

Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), Radio speech, April 5, 1933.

<sup>25</sup>Gifford Pinchot, "Liquor Control in the U.S.A. State Store Plan," *Rotarian* 44 (Jan., 1934): 12-13, 59-60.

<sup>26</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), "The Orphan Child of American Politics," Speech by Pennsylvania Governor Pinchot before Missouri Farmers Association, Sedalia, Missouri, Sept. 1, 1931.

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<sup>27</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2294), Address by Pinchot at meeting of Pennsylvania Federation of Labor in Honor of the Honorable Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, April 12, 1933.

<sup>28</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), Statement by Pinchot, Aug. 31, 1931.

<sup>29</sup>Philadelphia *Inquirer*, Oct. 29, 1930: 1, 2.

<sup>30</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2298), Speech by Pinchot, Philadelphia, May 4, 1934.

<sup>31</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), Statement, Oct. 28, 1931.

"Emergency Labor Camps in Pennsylvania," *Monthly Labor Review* (June, 1932): 1289-1291.

<sup>32</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2298), Letter from Mrs. Pinchot to General Hugh Johnson, March 8, 1934.

<sup>33</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2294), *Governor Says*, May 24, 1933.

<sup>34</sup>"New Deal in Grundyland," *The New Republic* (Aug. 9, 1933): 330-333.

<sup>35</sup>Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2294), Speech by Pinchot, Harrisburg, Feb. 2, 1933.

Pinchot Papers (Library of Congress, Box 2296), Speech by Pinchot at Dedication of Education Building in Harrisburg, Nov. 4, 1931.

<sup>36</sup>John Furlow, "An Urban State Under Siege: Pennsylvania and the Second Gubernatorial Administration of Gifford Pinchot, 1931-1935" (Unpublished Doctor's dissertation, University of North Carolina, 1973), 322-323, 411-425, 468-469.

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<sup>37</sup>Furlow, "Cornelia Bryce Pinchot," 342-343.

<sup>38</sup>Edgar B. Nixon, ed., *F.D.R. and Conservation, 1911-1945*, 2 vols. (Hyde Park, N.Y.: General Services Administration, National Archives and Records Service, 1957), 2:175.

<sup>39</sup>Gifford Pinchot, "Conservation as a Foundation of Permanent Peace," *Nature* 146 (Aug. 10, 1940): 183-185.

Cornelia Pinchot, "Gifford Pinchot and the Conservation Ideal," *Journal of Forestry* 48 (Feb., 1950): 83-86.

<sup>40</sup>U.S. Department of Economic Affairs, *Proceedings of the U.N. Scientific Conference on the Conservation and Utilization of Resources, August 17-September 16, 1949, Lake Success, N.Y.*, 7 vols. (New York, 1950), 1:319.

<sup>41</sup>*Proceedings of the U.N.*, 1:2.

<sup>42</sup>*Proceedings of the U.N.*: Plenary Meetings, 1:319.

<sup>43</sup>Raphael Zon, "Public Good Comes First," *American Forests* 53 (Nov., 1946): 544-557.

<sup>44</sup>Pinchot, *Breaking New Ground*, 506.

## \* \* \* \* \* BOOK REVIEW \* \* \* \* \*

*Gore Vidal's Views on TR*

Gore Vidal, *Empire*, a novel, Random House, New York, NY 1987, 486 pp.

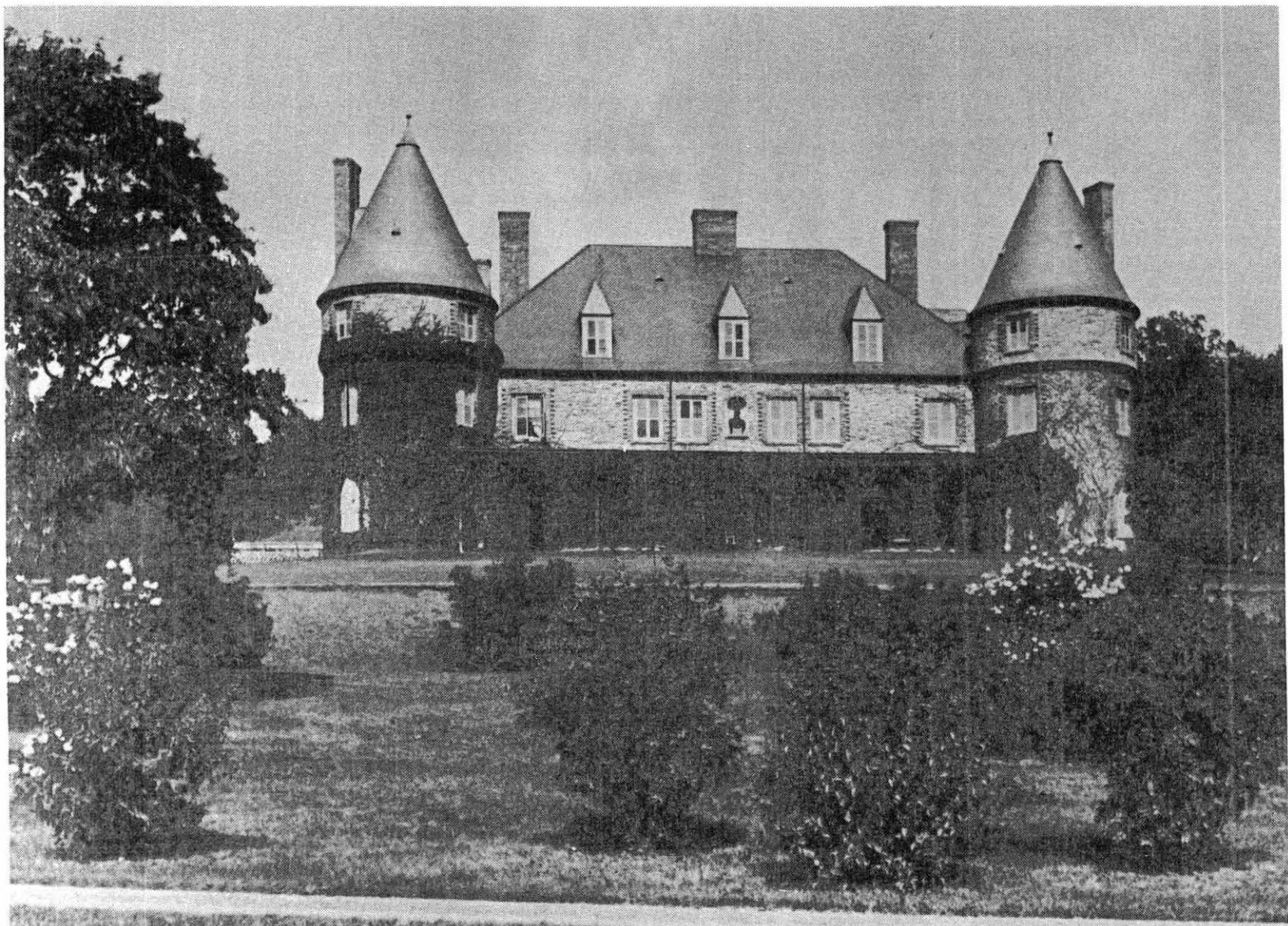
Reviewed by  
Perry D. Floyd

*Empire* reminds me of a Chinese diplomat who, when asked about Tuchman's *Stilwell and the American Experience in China*, used the word "unfortunate." Although I thought he meant the book was "unfortunate," he meant the rancor between Stilwell and Chiang Kai-shek was unfortunate. When he suggested Stilwell's "dark side" explained his enmity with Chiang, I asked whether Chiang had a "dark side." Could Chiang's followers (capable of worship, they deified a general during my lifetime) have given him over to the transubstantiation Brumidi had in mind when painting "The Apotheosis of George Washington" in the Capitol dome? Such a portrait does not come "warts and all."

Some of Gore Vidal's portraits, like Brueghel's, contain mostly warts. Vidal cleverly painted a "dark side" of Jefferson. My own (I hope enlightened) guess (the best any of us can aspire to at this late date) is that Jefferson deserves the result. But despite Vidal's insight, or lack of it, as the case may be, regarding their Virginia predecessor in the White House, his pen does not deliver Lincoln or T.R. to an identical fate. Their portraits are much more complex, indeed, sympathetic.

A reviewer of Gore Vidal's *Lincoln* novel wrote that he was pleased to find a Lincoln book that didn't





*Grey Towers, USDA Forest Service*

"Grey Towers," the Pinchot family home in Milford, Pennsylvania, was designed by Richard Morris Hunt and built in 1885. Grey Towers is now owned by the Forest Service, and is open to the public as a museum. Grey Towers is located on U.S. Route 6, two miles east of Exit 10 on I-84, in the Pocono mountains of northeastern Pennsylvania. The mansion commands a magnificent view of Milford and the Delaware River Valley.

QUOTES FROM GIFFORD PINCHOT

"A nation deprived of liberty may win it, a nation divided may reunite, but a nation whose national resources are destroyed must inevitably pay the penalty of poverty, degradation, and decay."

"I have been a governor now and then, but I have been a forester all the time--have been, and shall be to my dying day."

--At 40th Anniversary of the Forest Service

"There are just two things on this material earth--people and natural resources."

". . . a constant and sufficient supply of natural resources is the basis human problem."

--Breaking New Ground, page 325.

"The earth and its resources belong of right to its people."

"Without natural resources life itself is impossible. From birth to death, natural resources, transformed for human use, feed, clothe, shelter, and transport us. Upon them we depend for every material necessity, comfort, convenience, and protection in our lives. Without abundant resources prosperity is out of reach."

"Since Conservation has become a household word, it has come to mean many things to many men. To me it means, everywhere and always, that the public good comes first."

"To the use of the natural resources, renewable or nonrenewable, each generation has the first right. Nevertheless no generation can be allowed needlessly to damage or reduce the future general wealth and welfare by the way it uses or misuses any natural resource."

--Breaking New Ground, page 505.

Harcourt, Brace and Company. New York: 1947.

##

Gifford Pinchot  
(forester, conservationist)  
Conservation

1680 2-D  
MORE QUOTES FROM GIFFORD PINCHOT

"The conservation of natural resources is the key to the future."

"The very existence of our Nation, and of all the rest, depends on conserving the resources which are the foundations of its life."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 324

"Action is the best advertisement. The most effective way to get your cause before the public is to do something the papers will have to tell about."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 329

"Conservation is my lifework, in the Government service or out of it."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 455

"Conservation is the application of common sense to the problems for the common good."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 506

"The earth, I repeat, belongs of right to all its people, and not to a minority, insignificant in numbers but tremendous in wealth and power. The public good must come first."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 509

"The rightful use and purpose of our natural resources is to make all the people strong and well, able and wise, well-taught, well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed, full of knowledge and initiative, with equal opportunity for all and special privilege for none."

--Breaking New Ground, Page 509-10



Bill

A collection of Gifford Pinchot  
Quotes & References Supplied  
by Grey Towers

QUOTES FROM GIFFORD PINCHOT

from my "materials"  
APRIL 8, 1980  
+ others

THE FOLLOWING QUOTES FROM GIFFORD PINCHOT WERE GATHERED FOR THE JUNE 14, 1980  
FOREST SERVICE 75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION AT THE USDA FOREST SERVICE PINCHOT  
INSTITUTE FOR CONSERVATION STUDIES, GREY TOWERS, MILFORD PA.

BY GIFFORD PINCHOT, JUNE 14, 1907

"THERE ARE MANY GREAT INTERESTS IN THE NATIONAL FORESTS WHICH SOMETIMES CONFLICT A LITTLE. THEY MUST ALL BE MADE TO FIT INTO ONE ANOTHER SO THAT THE MACHINE RUNS SMOOTHLY AS A WHOLE. IT IS OFTEN NECESSARY FOR ONE MAN TO GIVE WAY A LITTLE HERE, ANOTHER A LITTLE THERE. BUT BY GIVING WAY A LITTLE AT PRESENT THEY BOTH PROFIT BY IT A GREAT DEAL IN THE END.

NATIONAL FORESTS EXIST TODAY BECAUSE THE PEOPLE WANT THEM. TO MAKE THEM ACCOMPLISH THE MOST GOOD THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES MUST MAKE CLEAR HOW THEY WANT THEM RUN."

STATEMENTS BY GIFFORD PINCHOT AT THE  
CELEBRATION OF THE FOREST SERVICE 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY, 1945

"A NATION DEPRIVED OF LIBERTY MAY WIN IT, A NATION DIVIDED MAY REUNITE, BUT A NATION WHOSE NATIONAL RESOURCES ARE DESTROYED MUST INEVITABLY PAY THE PENALTY OF POVERTY, DEGRADATION, AND DECAY."

"I HAVE BEEN A GOVERNOR NOW AND THEN, BUT I AM A FORESTER ALL THE TIME---HAVE BEEN, AND SHALL BE TO MY DYING DAY."

"THE VERY EXISTENCE OF OUR NATION, AND OF ALL THE REST, DEPENDS ON CONSERVING THE RESOURCES WHICH ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF ITS LIFE."

FROM PINCHOT'S FAREWELL ADDRESS TO THE FOREST  
SERVICE, JANUARY 8, 1910

"CONSERVATION IS MY LIFE WORK, IN THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE OR OUT OF IT."

(SOURCE UNCONFIRMED)

"ACTION IS THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT. THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO GET YOUR CAUSE BEFORE THE PUBLIC IS TO DO SOMETHING THE PAPER WILL HAVE TO TELL ABOUT."

FROM BREAKING NEW GROUND, BY GIFFORD PINCHOT;  
COPYRIGHT 1947 BY HARCOURT BRACE JAVANOVICH,  
INC; PUBLISHED BY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
PRESS, AMERICANA LIBRARY EDITION COPYRIGHT  
1972

"THERE ARE JUST TWO THINGS ON THIS MATERIAL EARTH--PEOPLE AND NATURAL RESOURCES."

"... A CONSTANT AND SUFFICIENT SUPPLY OF NATURAL RESOURCES IS THE BASIC HUMAN PROBLEM." PAGE 325

"TO THE USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES, RENEWABLE OR NONRENEWABLE, EACH GENERATION HAS THE FIRST RIGHT. NEVERTHELESS NO GENERATION CAN BE ALLOWED NEEDLESSLY TO DAMAGE OR REDUCE THE FUTURE GENERAL WEALTH AND WELFARE BY THE WAY IT USES OR MISUSES ANY NATURAL RESOURCE." PAGE 505

"THE EARTH AND ITS RESOURCES BELONG OF RIGHT TO ITS PEOPLE." PAGE 505

"SINCE CONSERVATION HAS BECOME A HOUSEHOLD WORD, IT HAS COME TO MEAN MANY THINGS TO MANY MEN. TO ME IT MEANS, EVERYWHERE AND ALWAYS, THAT THE PUBLIC GOOD COMES FIRST." PAGE 505

"THE RIGHTFUL USE AND PURPOSE OF OUR OUR NATURAL RESOURCES IS TO MAKE ALL THE PEOPLE STRONG AND WELL, ABLE AND WISE, WELL-TAUGHT, WELL-FED, WELL-CLOTHED, WELL-HOUSED, FULL OF KNOWLEDGE AND INITIATIVE, WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL AND SPECIAL PRIVILEGE FOR NONE." PAGE 509-10

"WITHOUT NATURAL RESOURCES LIFE ITSELF IS IMPOSSIBLE. FROM BIRTH TO DEATH, NATURAL RESOURCES, TRANSFORMED FOR HUMAN USE, FEED, CLOTHE, SHELTER, AND TRANSPORT US. UPON THEM WE DEPEND FOR EVERY MATERIAL NECESSITY, COMFORT, CONVENIENCE, AND PROTECTION IN OUR LIVES. WITHOUT ABUNDANT RESOURCES PROSPERITY IS OUT OF REACH." PAGE 505

"THROUGH ALL MY WORKING DAYS, A PART OF MY JOB, IN OFFICE AND OUT, AND A MOST ESSENTIAL PART, HAS BEEN TO ESTIMATE AND UNDERSTAND PUBLIC OPINION, AND TO AROUSE, CREATE, GUIDE AND APPLY IT." PAGE 505

"CONSERVATION MEANS THE WISE USE OF THE EARTH AND ITS RESOURCES FOR THE LASTING GOOD OF MEN." PAGE 505

"CONSERVATION IS THE APPLICATION OF COMMON SENSE TO THE COMMON PROBLEMS FOR THE COMMON GOOD." PAGE 506

"CONSERVATION IS THE FORESIGHTED UTILIZATION, PRESERVATION, AND FOR RENEWAL OF FORESTS, WATERS, LANDS AND MINERALS, FOR THE GREATEST GOOD OF THE GREATEST NUMBER FOR THE LONGEST TIME." PAGE 505

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FROM THE FIGHT FOR CONSERVATION, BY GIFFORD  
PINCHOT; COPYRIGHT 1910 BY DOUBLEDAY, PAGE AND  
CO; PUBLISHED BY UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
PRESS AMERICANA LIBRARY PAPERBACK EDITION  
COPYRIGHT 1973

"THE CONSERVATION IDEA COVERS A WIDER RANGE THAN THE FIELD OF NATURAL RESOURCES ALONE. CONSERVATION MEANS THE GREATEST GOOD TO THE GREATEST NUMBER FOR THE LONGEST TIME." PAGE 48

"THE CONSERVATION POINT OF VIEW IS VALUABLE IN THE EDUCATION OF OUR PEOPLE AS WELL AS IN FORESTRY; IT APPLIES TO THE BODY POLITIC AS WELL AS TO THE EARTH AND ITS MINERALS." PAGE 49

"UNLESS THE FOREST SERVICE HAS SERVED THE PEOPLE, AND IS ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THEIR WELFARE IT HAS FAILED IN ITS WORK AND SHOULD BE ABOLISHED. PAGE 51

"THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FORESTS AND RIVERS IS LIKE THAT BETWEEN FATHER AND SON. NO FORESTS, NO RIVERS." PAGE 53

"ONE MAN WITH A JACK-KNIFE WILL BUILD A LADDER, ANOTHER WITH A FULL TOOL-CHEST CANNOT MAKE A FOOTSTOOL. THE MAN WITH THE JACK-KNIFE WILL OFTEN REACH THE HIGHER LEVEL" PAGE 59

"CONSERVATION HAS MUCH TO DO WITH THE WELFARE OF THE AVERAGE MAN OF TO-DAY. IT PROPOSES TO SECURE A CONTINUOUS AND ABUNDANT SUPPLY OF THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE WHICH MEANS A REASONABLE COST OF LIVING AND BUSINESS STABILITY. IT ADVOCATES FAIRNESS IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE BENEFITS WHICH FLOW FROM THE NATURAL RESOURCES." PAGE 80

"CONSERVATION IS A MORAL ISSUE BECAUSE IT INVOLVES THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF OUR PEOPLE--THEIR RIGHTS TO PROSPERITY AND HAPPINESS, AND THEIR DUTIES TO THEMSELVES, TO THEIR DESCENDANTS, AND TO THE WHOLE FUTURE PROGRESS AND WELFARE OF THIS NATION. PAGE 88

"THE PUBLIC WELFARE CANNOT BE SUBSERVED MERELY BY WALKING BLINDLY IN THE OLD RUTS. TIMES CHANGE, AND THE PUBLIC NEEDS CHANGE WITH THEM. THE MAN WHO WOULD SERVE THE PUBLIC TO THE LEVEL OF ITS NEED MUST LOOK AHEAD, AND ONE OF HIS MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEMS WILL BE TO MAKE OLD TOOLS ANSWER NEW USES--USES SOME OF WHICH, AT LEAST, WERE NEVER IMAGINED WHEN THE TOOLS WERE MADE. THAT IS ONE REASON WHY CONSTRUCTIVE FORESIGHT IS ONE OF THE GREAT CONSTANT NEEDS OF EVERY GROWING NATION." PAGE 60-61

"WE ARE BEGINNING TO REALIZE THAT THE CONSERVATION QUESTION OF RIGHT AND WRONG, AS ANY QUESTION MUST BE WHICH MAY INVOLVE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PROPERTY AND POVERTY, HEALTH AND SICKNESS, IGNORANCE AND EDUCATION, WELL-BEING AND MISERY TO HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF FAMILIES." PAGE 82

"THAT THIS NATION EXISTS FOR ITS PEOPLE WE ALL ADMIT; BUT THAT THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NATION EXIST NOT FOR ANY INDIVIDUAL, BUT FOR ALL PEOPLE--IN OTHER WORDS, THAT THE NATURAL RESOURCES OF THE NATION BELONG TO ALL THE PEOPLE--THAT IS A TRUTH THE WHOLE MEANING OF WHICH IS JUST BEGINNING TO DAWN ON US." PAGE 103

"CONSERVATION IS THE MOST DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT THIS COUNTRY HAS KNOWN FOR A GENERATION. IT HOLDS THAT THE PEOPLE HAVE NOT ONLY THE RIGHT BUT THE DUTY TO CONTROL THE USE OF THE NATURAL RESOURCES WHICH ARE THE GREAT SOURCES OF PROSPERITY." PAGE 81

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IN A LECTURE PRESENTED AT THE YALE SCHOOL OF FORESTRY CIRCA 1916, GIFFORD PINCHOT SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING MAXIMS TO GUIDE THE BEHAVIOR OF FORESTERS IN PUBLIC OFFICE:

1. A PUBLIC OFFICIAL IS THERE TO SERVE THE PUBLIC AND NOT RUN THEM.
2. PUBLIC SUPPORT OF ACTS AFFECTING PUBLIC RIGHTS IS ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED.
3. IT IS MORE TROUBLE TO CONSULT THE PUBLIC THAN TO IGNORE THEM, BUT THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE HIRED FOR.
4. FIND OUT IN ADVANCE WHAT THE PUBLIC WILL STAND FOR; IF IT IS RIGHT AND THEY WON'T STAND FOR IT, POSTPONE ACTION AND EDUCATE THEM.
5. USE THE PRESS FIRST, LAST, AND ALL THE TIME IF YOU WANT TO REACH THE PUBLIC.
6. GET RID OF THE ATTITUDE OF PERSONAL ARROGANCE OR PRIDE OF ATTAINMENT OF SUPERIOR KNOWLEDGE.
7. DON'T TRY ANY SLY OR FOXY POLITICS BECAUSE A FORESTER IS NOT A POLITICIAN.
8. LEARN TACT SIMPLY BY BEING ABSOLUTELY HONEST AND SINCERE, AND BY LEARNING TO RECOGNIZE THE POINT OF VIEW OF THE OTHER MAN AND MEET HIM WITH ARGUMENTS HE WILL UNDERSTAND.
9. DON'T BE AFRAID TO GIVE CREDIT TO SOMEONE ELSE EVEN WHEN IT BELONGS TO YOU; NOT TO DO SO IS THE SURE MARK OF A WEAK MAN, BUT TO DO SO IS THE HARDEST LESSON TO LEARN; ENCOURAGE OTHERS TO DO THINGS; YOU MAY ACCOMPLISH MANY THINGS THROUGH OTHERS THAT YOU CAN'T GET DONE ON YOUR SINGLE INITIATIVE.
10. DON'T BE A KNOCKER; USE PERSUASION RATHER THAN FORCE, WHEN POSSIBLE; PLENTY OF KNOCKERS ARE TO BE HAD; YOUR JOB IS TO PROMOTE UNITY.
11. DON'T MAKE ENEMIES UNNECESSARILY AND FOR TRIVIAL REASONS; IF YOU ARE ANY GOOD YOU WILL MAKE PLENTY OF THEM ON MATTERS OF STRAIGHT HONESTY AND PUBLIC POLICY, AND YOU NEED ALL THE SUPPORT YOU CAN GET.

USDA FOREST SERVICE NEWLETTER, INTERMOUNTAIN REPORTER (R-4) APRIL 1976

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THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA PUBLISHED IN 1914 (NEW YORK) BEARS OUT GIFFORD PINCHOT'S CLAIM THAT CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES WAS A TOTALLY NEW CONCEPT. THIS ENCYCLOPEDIA SAID:

"THE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT SPRANG DIRECTLY FROM THE FOREST MOVEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES. THE UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE DEVELOPED IN 10 YEARS, UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF GIFFORD PINCHOT, FROM A MINOR DIVISION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE TO AN ORGANIZATION ADMINISTERING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST NEARLY 200,000,000 ACRES OF FOREST LAND, EMPLOYING 3,000 PERSONS AND AIDING INDISPENSABLY IN THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE WEST. GIFFORD PINCHOT WAS THE FIRST MAN TO SEE THAT THE USE AND THE MISUSE OF ALL THE NATURAL RESOURCES ARE INTERDEPENDENT, THAT CONSERVATION OF THESE NATURAL RESOURCES IS ESSENTIAL TO THE NATIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL WELFARE..."

THE BIRTH OF "CONSERVATION" AS WE KNOW IT., M1217

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THE USE OF THE NATIONAL FOREST RESERVES  
REGULATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS BY GIFFORD  
PINCHOT, USDA FOREST SERVICE, JULY 1, 1905  
(THE 1ST FOREST SERVICE MANUAL)

RELATION OF FOREST OFFICERS TO THE PUBLIC. THE ADMINISTRATION OF FOREST RESERVES IS NOT FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT OF THE PEOPLE. THE REVENUE DERIVED FROM THEM GOES, NOT INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE UNITED STATES, BUT TOWARD MAINTAINING UPON THE RESERVES A FORCE OF MEN ORGANIZED TO SERVE THE PUBLIC INTERESTS. THIS FORCE HAS THREE CHIEF DUTIES: TO PROTECT THE RESERVES AGAINST FIRE, TO ASSIST THE PEOPLE IN THEIR USE, AND TO SEE THAT THEY ARE PROPERLY USED.

FOREST OFFICERS, THEREFORE, ARE SERVANTS OF THE PEOPLE. THEY MUST OBEY INSTRUCTIONS AND ENFORCE THE REGULATIONS FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE RESERVES WITHOUT FEAR OR FAVOR, AND MUST NOT ALLOW PERSONAL OR TEMPORARY INTERESTS TO WEIGH AGAINST THE PERMANENT GOOD OF THE RESERVES; BUT IT IS NO LESS THEIR DUTY TO ENCOURAGE AND ASSIST LEGITIMATE ENTERPRISES. THEY MUST ANSWER ALL INQUIRIES CONCERNING RESERVE METHODS FULLY AND CHEERFULLY, AND BE AT LEAST AS PROMPT AND COURTEOUS IN THE CONDUCT OF RESERVE BUSINESS AS THEY WOULD IN PRIVATE BUSINESS.

THEY MUST MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO PREVENT THE MISUNDERSTANDING AND VIOLATION OF RESERVE REGULATIONS BY GIVING INFORMATION FULLY AND FREELY. THE OBJECT SHOULD BE TO PREVENT MISTAKES RATHER THAN TO HAVE TO PUNISH THEM. INFORMATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TACTFULLY, BY ADVICE, AND NOT BY OFFENSIVE WARNINGS.

FOREST OFFICERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO BE THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH EVERY PART OF THIS BOOK, AND TO INSTRUCT THE PUBLIC AND ASSIST IN MAKING APPLICATIONS FOR THE USE OF THE RESERVES. PAGE 12

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A PRIMER OF FORESTRY BY GIFFORD PINCHOT,  
FORESTER. PART II PRACTICAL FORESTRY, THE  
SERVICE OF THE FOREST, FARMERS BULLETIN 173,  
USDA 1909

NEXT TO THE EARTH ITSELF THE FOREST IS THE MOST USEFUL SERVANT OF MEN. NOT ONLY DOES IT SUSTAIN AND REGULATE THE STREAMS, MODERATE THE WINDS, AND BEAUTIFY THE LAND BUT IT ALSO SUPPLIES WOOD, THE MOST WIDELY USED OF ALL MATERIALS. ITS USES ARE NUMBERLESS, AND THE DEMANDS WHICH ARE MADE UPON IT BY MANKIND ARE NUMBERLESS ALSO. IT IS ESSENTIAL TO THE WELL-BEING OF MANKIND THAT THESE DEMANDS SHOULD BE MET. THEY MUST BE MET STEADILY, FULLY, AND AT THE RIGHT TIME IF THE FOREST IS TO GIVE ITS BEST SERVICE. THE OBJECT OF PRACTICAL FORESTRY IS PRECISELY TO MAKE THE FOREST RENDER ITS BEST SERVICE TO MAN IN SUCH A WAY AS TO INCREASE RATHER THAN TO DIMINISH ITS USEFULNESS IN THE FUTURE. FOREST MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATIVE LUMBERING ARE NAMES FOR PRACTICAL FORESTRY. UNDER WHATEVER NAME IT MAY BE KNOWN, PRACTICAL FORESTRY MEANS BOTH THE USE AND PRESERVATION OF THE FOREST. PAGE 3

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## Gifford Pinchot - Quotes

### On Conservation:

Quotes from Pinchot's autobiography:

Breaking New Ground: Univ. of Washington Press, 1972

"The earth and its resources belong of right to its people."

"Without natural resources life itself is impossible. From birth to death, natural resources, transformed for human use, feed clothe, shelter, and transport us. Upon them we depend for every material necessity, comfort, convenience, and protection in our lives. Without abundant resources prosperity is out of reach."

"Since conservation has become a household word, it has come to mean many things to many men. To me it means, everywhere and always, that the public good comes first."

"To the use of the natural resources, renewable or nonrenewable, each generation has the first right. Nevertheless no generation can be allowed needlessly to damage or reduce the future general wealth and welfare by the way it uses or misuses any natural resource."

Breaking New Ground pg. 505

"The conservation of natural resources is the key to the future."

"The very existence of our nation, and of all the rest, depends on conserving the resources which are the foundations of its life."

Breaking New Ground pg. 324

"Conservation is the application of common sense to the common problems for the common good."

Breaking New Ground pg. 506

"The rightful use and purpose of our natural resources is to make all the people strong and well, able and wise, well-taught, well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed, full of knowledge and initiative, with equal opportunity for all and special privilege for none."

Breaking New Ground pgs. 509-510

"A nation deprived of liberty may win it, a nation divided may reunite, but a nation whose natural resources are destroyed must inevitably pay the penalty of poverty, degradation, and decay."

- Gifford Pinchot at 40th anniversary of  
Forest Service

### On National Forest System:

"There are many great interests on the National Forests which sometimes conflict a little. They must all be made to fit into one another so that the machine runs smoothly as a whole. It is often necessary for



one man to give way a little here, another little there. But by giving way a little at present they both profit by it a great deal in the end."

"National Forests exist today because the people want them. To make them accomplish the most good the people themselves make clear how they want them run."

Gifford Pinchot  
June 14, 1907

On Himself:

"Conservation is my lifework, in the Government service, or out of it."

Breaking New Ground page 455

"I have been a governor now and then, but I have been a forester all the time-have been, and shall be to my dying day."

Gifford Pinchot at 40th anniversary  
of Forest Service

"My own money came from unearned increment on land in New York by my grandfather, who willed the money, not the land, to me. Having got my wages in advance in that way, I am now trying to work them out."

Gifford Pinchot to E. W. Scripps,  
March 27, 1914

Pinchot, when asked by Yale Professor William Lyon Phelps,

"What are you going to do after graduation?", replied

"I am going to be a forester."

"What's that?" asked Phelps.

"That's why I'm going to be a forester."

From Gifford Pinchot, Forester-  
Politician, by M. Nelson McGarry,  
Page 15

Personal Opinion:

"Action is the advertisement. The most effective way to get your cause before the public is to do something the papers will have to tell about."

Break New Ground, page 329

"The earth,..., belongs of right to all its people, and not to a minority, insignificant in numbers but tremendous in wealth and power. The public good must come first."

Breaking New Ground, page 509

Others on Gifford Pinchot:

"... Taking into account his (Pinchot's) tireless energy and activity; his fearlessness, his complete disinterestedness, his single-minded devotion to the interests of the plain people, and his extraordinary efficiency, I believe that it is but just to say that among the many public officials who under my administration rendered literally invaluable services to the people of the United States, he, on the whole, stood first."

Theodore Roosevelt  
From "What Gifford Pinchot Stands  
For"  
Campaign brochure; April, 1914

"In all my acquaintance, I have hardly met a man who combines in one person in such measure the qualities of a lofty and uncompromising idealiser with the energy and ability of a successful administrator."

Henry L. Stimson  
From "What Gifford Pinchot Stands  
For"

Gifford Pinchot, in one of his lectures on forest policy at the Yale School of Forestry, 1910-20, gave 11 maxims to guide the behavior of foresters in public office. Here they are:

- ✓ 1. A public official is there to serve the public and not to run them.
2. Public support of acts affecting public rights is absolutely required.
- ✓ 3. It is more trouble to consult the public than to ignore them, but that is what you are hired for.
4. Find out in advance what the public will stand for. If it is right and they won't stand for it, postpone action and educate them.
- ✓ 5. Use the press (radio and TV) first, last, and all the time if you want to reach the public.
6. Get rid of the attitude of personal arrogance or pride of attainment or superior knowledge.
7. Don't try any sly or foxy politics, because a forester is not a politician.
8. Learn tact simply by being absolutely honest and sincere, and by learning to recognize the point of view of the other man and meet him with arguments he will understand.
- ✓ 9. Don't be afraid to give credit to someone else when it belongs to you; not to do so is the sure mark of a weak man. But to do so is the hardest lesson to learn. Encourage others to do things; you may accomplish many things through others that you can't get done on your single initiative.
10. Don't be a knocker; use persuasion rather than force, when possible. Plenty of knockers are to be found; your job is to promote unity.
- ✓ 11. Don't make enemies unnecessarily and for trivial reasons. If you are any good, you will make plenty of them on matters of straight honesty and public policy, and you need all the support you can get.



**THIS IS MY PLEDGE TO THE PEOPLE OF  
PENNSYLVANIA:**

**If elected United States Senator I will use the full  
power of my office:**

**To carry out the principles laid down in the Re-  
publican National Platform and President Cool-  
idge's inaugural address.**

**To strengthen law enforcement and resist every  
attempt to weaken the existing liquor laws.**

**To drive the Gang out of control in the Repub-  
lican Party of Pennsylvania.**

**To secure a national law to punish ballot box  
frauds in elections for Federal office.**

**To lighten the burden of taxation through econ-  
omy and efficiency in government.**

**To advance and protect, through the tariff, the  
industries of Pennsylvania.**

**To better the condition of working men, women,  
and young people.**

**To secure justice for the farmers, who feed us all.**

**To support every forward step for world peace.**

**To protect and maintain the Roosevelt policy for  
the conservation of natural resources.**

**As United States Senator I will recommend no  
one for Federal office whom I know to be unfit.**

**I will stand by the people against the monopolists  
and the gangsters, as I have done in the Governor-  
ship.**

**I will do my level best to give the people  
A ROOSEVELT SQUARE DEAL.**

*Gifford Pinchot*

**GIFFORD PINCHOT AS GOVERNOR:**

**Has made the greatest fight for law enforcement  
ever made by any Governor in America.**

**Has successfully defended the public schools  
against the Gang and cared for the children and  
teachers better than ever before.**

**Has built more roads than any other Governor  
of this or any other State, and maintained the State  
roads better.**

**Has wiped out an inherited State debt of  
\$31,000,000, and put the Commonwealth on a pay-as-  
you-go basis.**

**Has established a budget system and given the  
people a dollar's worth of service for every dollar  
spent.**

**Has put the first woman in any Governor's cab-  
inet and has given women equal pay with men.**

**Has advanced the interests of the farmer.**

**Has been the friend of labor.**

**Has given capital a square deal.**

**Has done his utmost to protect the rights of the  
people through the Public Service Commission.**

**Has led the fight for clean elections.**

**WHAT ROOSEVELT SAID OF PINCHOT:**

**"Among the many, many public officials who under  
my Administration rendered literally invaluable  
service to the people of the United States, he, on  
the whole, stood first."**

**In 1910 he wrote Pinchot: "You were the leader  
among all the men in public office—and the aggres-  
sive, hard hitting leader—of all the forces which  
were struggling for conservation, which were fight-  
ing for the general interest as against special  
privilege."**

**In 1916 he wrote Pinchot: "You had a keen  
understanding of our international affairs and our  
military needs, and your character and standards,  
public and private, were such as to render you a  
man eminently fitted to represent American ideals  
in foreign affairs. In view of these facts I had  
intended, as I at the time told you, if elected Presi-  
dent in 1912 to make you Secretary of State."**

C  
O  
P  
Y

January 8, 1910

Speaking at a meeting of all the members of the Forest Service, at 11 o'clock, Mr. Pinchot said:

"There are just a few things I want to say; and I want you to remember and act upon them. In the first place, keep it clearly in mind that this work upon which you are all engaged, men and women, every one in the Forest Service, is larger and finer than any man's fortune, any man's presence here. It makes absolutely no difference to the work upon which you are engaged whether any man is here or is not. You are engaged in one of the best pieces of public service that has ever been done in this country, and you have been doing it with a finer spirit than any other body of Government people have ever had to my knowledge, unless in time of war. I have always been able to count on the loyalty and devotion of this Service to the uttermost. Continue that loyalty to the cause. The work is the big thing. I want you to go straight ahead with that work in exactly the same way you have been carrying it on. Don't let the spirit of this Service decline one half inch. Hold the work up just where it is, keep the Forest Service as a fighting service for the public good. Stay in the Service. Stick to the work. You are servants of the people of the United States. Keep that in mind with the utmost clearness. I don't want this Service to disintegrate even around the outside edges. I want it to hold together, to keep the same spirit, to follow the same purpose. I shall esteem it the highest compliment that you can pay me, and the highest evidence of the spirit in which we have been working together, if you stand by the ship.

Second: I don't want you to get the idea -- and this is my personal end of it -- that because I am going out of the Service, I am in

any sense losing my interest in it or my touch with it or with you. Conservation is my life work, in the Government service or out of it. And this is the most important piece of Conservation work there is. Therefore, I propose to know about it, and to follow the work that you are all doing, and to keep my interest in it, and so far as that is in any way possible my touch with it and my knowledge of it.

If you will take my advice, you will all go cheerfully ahead with the piece of work we have begun together, remembering that the test of what we have tried to do together in the past will be largely whether it can go on without being interfered with very much by the presence or absence of one man or one set of men. Go ahead with it, exactly as if I were still here.

I wish you the very best success in your work. I want you to feel, every one of you, that my interest in you is just as keen as it ever was, and that whenever you want to see me, I want to see you.

I want to thank you with all my heart--the last thing I want to say now -- for a better support, a finer loyalty, a more generous cooperation, as I think, than any public servant has ever had before. My very best good wishes to you all.

There is one thing I forgot. Mr. Price is leaving too, but he would not come up to speak to you. Mr. Shaw is going out likewise, after a long period of honorable service in this Bureau, known and well known to every one of you, and carrying with him as he leaves your affection and respect. Mr. Price has had a closer relation to this Service and is more responsible for the growth of it and its achievements than any other one man. It is as though I had been the president of the company, and Mr. Price the general manager, since it has been his daily hand that has carried on this work.



I have never known a finer, more high-minded, more earnest, efficient, loyal, clean, and fine a man than Overton W. Price.

He is as high a type of the Christian American gentlemen, I venture to say, as any of us have ever known. I want you, every one, to buckle down to minimize the loss of him as much as you can, to justify the work by keeping it on the same fine, high plane that has guided it up to this time. As I said before, the best of good luck to every one of you.

The attached transcript of Gifford Pinchot's farewell address to the Forest Service was sent into the Washington Office by Miss E.M. Pearl Dennis in connection with a Forest Service Retiree Opinion Survey. At the end of the survey questions she wrote the following note:

"I happened to be working in the W.O. at the time of Mr. Pinchot's farewell to the F.S. and took notes of his farewell address. Recently I came across those notes and typed them up. While there undoubtedly is a complete copy of his address on file there, I have decided to send a copy with this questionnaire. It isn't perfect because I missed some words and in another place couldn't read my imperfect note, but it is quite good and since no one of my cousins would be interested in it when I am gone, I thought it could be filed in the Washington Office along with perhaps better ones."

E.M. Pearl Dennis

June 21, 1962

~~XXXX~~ Madison, Wisconsin

10:30 a.m., January 8, 1910 -- Washington, D.C.  
Atlantic Bldg., 7th & F Streets  
Assembly Room

GIFFORD PINCHOT'S FAREWELL ADDRESS TO THE FOREST SERVICE

Mr. Shaw entered the room at 10:45 a.m.; Mr. Pinchot entered the room where the Forest Service people were gathered at 10:50 a.m., and was greeted with a shower of applause lasting several minutes, to which he replied as follows:

"I thank you very much. That is just the kind of spirit I expected from this Service, and I thank you for it heartily. Now there are just a few things I want to say, and I want you to remember them and act upon them.

"In the first place, keep it clearly in mind that this work upon which you are all engaged, men and women, from one end of this country to the other, this Service is bigger and finer than any man's fortune, than any man's presence here; that it makes absolutely no difference with the work upon which you are engaged whether any one is or is not here. You are engaged in one of the finest pieces of public service that has been done in this country ever, and you have been doing it with a finer spirit than any other body of Government people has ever had that I know of outside of wartime. I want you to go right straight ahead with that piece of work in exactly the same way you have been carrying it on. Don't let the spirit of this Service drop one-half inch. Hold the thing up just



where it is. Keep this re\_\_\_\_\_ by fine \_\_\_\_\_ service for the public good. Stay in the Service. Stick to the work. You are servants of the people of the United States. Keep that in mind with the utmost clearness. I want every man and woman in this Service to go ahead with the work exactly as they have been going ahead with it before. I don't want this work to disintegrate even around the edges. I want this work to go on exactly in the way, exactly in the same spirit, and policy, and I shall esteem it the highest compliment that you can pay me if you will stand to that and stick to the work and carry it on.

"Second, I don't want you to get the idea that because I am going out of the Service that I am in any sense losing my interest in it, or that I propose to lose my touch with it, or with you. Conservation is my life work in the Government Service or out of it, and this is the most important piece of conservation work that there is. Therefore, I propose to know about it, to follow the work that you are all doing, to keep my interest in it, and so far as that is in any way possible my touch with it, my knowledge of it, not my guiding hand upon it, but so far as that may be properly used, my advice, counsel, and cooperation that I may be able to give when any of you may want it as to what the best thing to do for the public interest. So, will you all go cheerfully ahead with the piece of work you have got to do, remembering that it is infinitely bigger, finer, beyond the possibility of being scratched or interfered with very much by the presence or absence of any one many or anyone set of men. I want you to go right ahead with this work just the same as if I

was here, and it will only be different so far as my interest is concerned in that somebody else will sign the routine letters.

"My interest in you is just as keen as it ever was and I shall be glad to see any of you at any time, and I will have a good deal more time than I used to have and my office for any conference that you want to have with me, or any help, is simply 1615 Rhode Island Avenue.

"Now I want to thank you most heartily for a better spirit and a finer loyalty, better cooperation, I think than any Chief of a Government bureau has ever had.

"My very best wishes to you all."

(Overwhelming applause!)

Returns to speak for Mr. Price.

"Just a word or two. It is not an easy thing to do because I think so much about it. Mr. Shaw and Mr. Price did what they thought was their duty and they have suffered for it but I am not going to discuss that end of the case at all. I want to say just a few words about Mr. Price, however. Mr. Shaw is going out, likewise, after a long period of honorable service in this bureau, known and well known to everyone and carrying with him as he leaves your affection and respect. (Applause.)

"Mr. Price has had a closer relation to this Service, and I think is more responsible for the character of it, and its achievements than any other one man. It is as though I had been President of the Company and Mr. Price its General Manager. His has been the daily hand that has carried on this work. I have never known a finer, more highminded, more earnest, loyal, clean, fine upstanding gentleman than Overton W. Price. He is as good a type of a Christian American gentleman I venture to say, as any of us have ever known. (Applause!) I am precious glad if I had to leave, to leave in such good company. (Laughter-Applause).

"Now, the loss of these two men to the Service, and especially Mr. Price, is going to be a very large one. I want you everyone to buckle down and minimize that loss as much as you can and I want this Service which we have helped to create and make what it is to justify the work that has been given to it by continuance on the same fine high plane that has guided the work of all of you up to this time. As I said to you once before, the best of good luck to everyone."

Gifford Pinchot

(These notes were taken by Miss E.M. Pearl Dennis, a stenographer, employed at that time in the Washington Office of the U.S. Forest Service.)

January 8, 1910



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
WASHINGTON

October 30, 1946

Speaking at the conclusion of their prepared addresses before the American Forest Congress, both Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson and Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the Forest Service, paid tribute to Gifford Pinchot, America's pioneer forester, who died shortly before the Congress opened.

Mr. Anderson said -

"In closing I want to pay tribute to a great man who is no longer with us. Every true conservationist deeply mourns the loss of Gifford Pinchot, whose death last week ended a life-long crusade for forestry. It was Gifford Pinchot, indeed, more than any other man, who brought the very word "conservation" into the everyday American vocabulary, and the ideal of sound management and wise use of our natural resources into our national thinking. He put the public interest first. Under his leadership the foundations of our national forest system were laid — the first great step in America's conservation movement. He established the guiding principles of administration in the public interest under which the national forests serve the welfare of our people today. He also was a staunch advocate of strong measures to protect public values in the timber resource in private ownership. It can be truly said that much of this country's total accomplishment in forest management, public and private, stems directly from the pioneer work of Pinchot and his early-day foresters. As the outstanding leader in the rise of the conservation movement — a movement which may well determine our country's future destiny — Gifford Pinchot will rank among America's great men."

Mr. Watts spoke as follows -

"Mr. Chairman, Friends.....I cannot rise and discuss conservation without first expressing my personal feeling of sadness at the passing of Gifford Pinchot, the aggressive figure with a great heart, who never forgot forestry. Little more than a year ago at the 40th Birthday Celebration of the Forest Service, Gifford Pinchot said to me, "I have been a governor now and then; but I am a forester all the time, and shall be to my dying day." That was literally true. Within a few days of his death, he had been working on a revised forest management plan for his home place in Milford, Pennsylvania. The principle of developing all resources on forest lands, and their wise use for the benefit of all the people to which his dynamic leadership gave the first great impetus, guides the Forest Service today, and will continue to guide it in the future."



## FOREST SERVICE

## WASHINGTON OFFICE INFORMATION DIGEST

CONFIDENTIAL-SERVICE

No. 102

October 7, 1946

We Lose Our First Chief

Gifford Pinchot, our first Chief, died Friday, October 4, in the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center, New York City, at the age of 81. Mr. Pinchot had been in ill health for some time. He had been in the hospital for a week. His wife was with him when he died at 10:30 p. m.

Funeral services for Mr. Pinchot will be held at 2 p. m. today at his home, Grey Towers, Milford, Pa. The rites will be conducted by the Rev. Harry J. Fenwick, pastor of the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, of which Mr. Pinchot was a member. As representatives of the Forest Service, Messrs. E. W. Loveridge, C. M. Granger, Earle H. Clapp, and Raphael Zon are attending the services from Washington and R. M. Evans from Philadelphia.

Gifford Pinchot received his preparatory education at Phillips Exeter Academy, and was graduated from Yale University in 1889. He studied forestry in France, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. When he came to the Department of Agriculture as Chief of its Division of Forestry, in 1898, he had been associated with the forestry movement for several years. In January 1892 he inaugurated the first example in the United States of practical forest management on a large scale at Biltmore, N. C. Later he prepared the Biltmore and North Carolina exhibits for the World's Fair at Chicago. He was a member of the commission appointed by the National Academy of Sciences in 1896, at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, to investigate and report upon the inauguration of a rational forestry policy for the forest lands of the United States. As a member of this commission, Mr. Pinchot helped lay the foundation of the Nation's present forest policy. As Chief of the Forest Service he further developed this policy and led the movement for scientific forestry practice in America.

Pinchot's administration of the National Forests was abruptly ended in January 1910, by a dramatic episode in the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy over public domain resources. His leaving the Forest Service did not, however, end his interest in forestry. He continued to help fight for the things for which the Service stood. As he stated in his talk at the Fortieth Anniversary of the Service last year, "I have since been a Governor every now and then, but I am a forester all the time -- have been, and shall be, to my dying day." His latest effort, only a few months ago, was to perfect a plan for a world survey of natural resources and suggestions for increasing the availability of the resources of all nations as a means of reducing the causes of war. His work along this line was a basis of a proposal for a world resources organization which President Truman recently announced he was submitting to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

(over)



GIFFORD PINCHOT - 1865-1946

In recognition of the services of Gifford Pinchot to the cause of forestry and conservation, R-2 Administrative Notes prints tributes from two typical newspapers of the Rocky Mt. Region. In the editorial reprinted from the Denver Post, old-timers will note the contrast between the praise accorded Pinchot currently, and the vituperation heaped upon his head in the earlier days of Forest Service history.

FOREST PROPHET What Gifford Pinchot accomplished in the field of conservation stands as an enduring monument to his memory. No part of the country profited more from his efforts than the west. Here in the Rocky Mountain Empire, water is the very lifeblood of agriculture. But without forests to conserve moisture vast irrigation projects and municipal water developments would be impossible.

Pinchot played a leading role in awakening the American people to the vital necessity of conserving their forest and other natural resources. If he was not the father of conservation in this country he was its most eloquent prophet. His name is linked inseparably with conservation. He started the first systematic forestry work in the United States, developed the division of forestry of the department of agriculture into the bureau of forestry, and played a foremost part in working out the first plan for U. S. forest reserves. -- Denver Post.

GIFFORD PINCHOT, FRIEND OF BLACK HILLS When they come to the Black Hills, they go away to proselyte. This was as true of Gifford Pinchot as it is of all others. The great conservationist was practically the father of the Black Hills National Forest which, when it was established, included what later became the Harney National Forest. His belief in forestry was Pinchot's life, and when he helped to establish the Black Hills National Forest he did so in face of opposition from Hills residents. "At Custer," he once said, "they dressed up like Indians and hooted and howled when I came to town, presumably to frighten me away." An eventful life, full of strenuous fighting for what he believed was right was ended when Gifford Pinchot died Saturday.

Gifford Pinchot made his first trip to the Black Hills in 1896 as a member of the national forest commission of the National Academy of Sciences. Four times after that he returned to the Black Hills, the last time in 1936 after his work for forestry was largely completed. On that last occasion he spent a full day touring the southern Hills and another day touring the northern Hills. He is reported to have said of this trip to the Hills that he "had the best day in a dog's age." The northern and the southern Hills have here a fine bone to fight over.

Pinchot himself disclaims the whole credit for the establishment of the national forests in the Black Hills and the great benefit which they have conferred upon this area. But he delighted in what had even then in his early visits been accomplished. When he came back in 1898 he was a member of the division of forestry; on the 1901 trip he was chief forester; the 1905 visit was as head of the forest service of the United States. His watchfulness and constant personal interest vastly helped to defend the national forest as well as to establish it. Pinchot was the stormy petrel statesman of Pennsylvania. He won sometimes, and lost often, but whether as governor, a member of Teddy Roosevelt's kitchen cabinet, or plain citizen he never ceased his battling for forestry and conservation. Gifford Pinchot was one of the first of a long line of distinguished friends of the Black Hills.  
-- Rapid City Journal.

Name of paper Citizen-Times

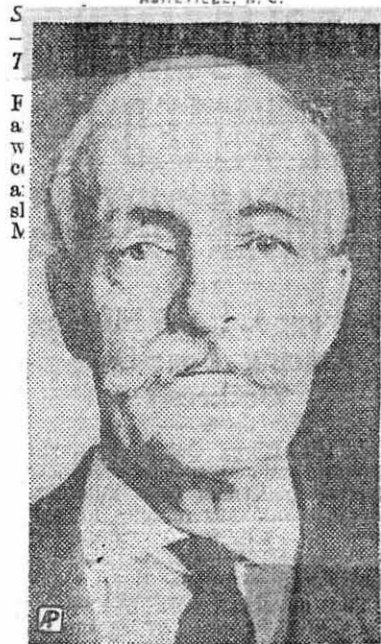
Where published Asheville, N.C.

Date of issue 6 October 1946

Sent by \_\_\_\_\_  
APPALACHIAN FOREST EXPERIMENT STATION  
ASHEVILLE, N. C.

Forest Service Reference File

*Range report*



GIFFORD PINCHOT

the past week, died at 10:30 p. m. (EST) at Columbia Presbyterian Medical center.

#### In Politics 25 Years

Tall and spare, with a fierce handle-bar moustache, Pinchot was active in Pennsylvania politics for 25 years. He was a Republican who often found himself on the other side of the political fence.

He was governor of Pennsylvania from 1923 to 1927 and from 1931 to 1935. Before that he served as chief of the division of forestry under Presidents McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt and Taft and became known as the father of the country's conservation system.

#### 'Bull Mooser'

Pinchot was a friend and admirer of Theodore Roosevelt. He helped Roosevelt found the Progressive or "Bull Moose" party, which brought a cleavage between two factions of the Republican party.

Later he used Roosevelt's colorful techniques in campaigning in Pennsylvania. He was beaten twice in running for the U. S. senate, and after he retired to his farm at Milford, Pa., he crossed party lines to support Franklin D. Roosevelt for reelection in 1940 and 1944.

#### Premier Conservationist

Pinchot was recognized as the nation's premier conservationist. As head of the forestry service, he founded the present-day policy of making forest reserves available to the public.

Born in Simsbury, Conn., Aug. 11, 1865, he was trained in forestry at Yale university and later in a number of foreign countries.

Many of Pinchot's theories of conservation were embodied in Theodore Roosevelt's program, but Pinchot was ousted from his office during Taft's administration in a dispute with Secretary Ballinger.

#### Last Ran In 1938

Pinchot's last bid for public office was in 1938 when he lost in Pennsylvania's Republican gubernatorial primary to Arthur H. James.

In recent years he had been working on a book, a history of conservation since 1834, to be called "Breaking Ground."

His wife, who had been Cornelia Elizabeth Bryce, daughter of Lloyd Stevens Bryce, former American minister to The Netherlands, was with him when he died. They had one son, Gifford Bryce Pinchot.

Funeral services will be held at 1 p. m. (EST) Monday at Milford.

## Served At Forester For Biltmore Estate

Gifford Pinchot was the first man employed by the late George W. Vanderbilt on the Biltmore estate more than a half-century ago when he was building his forested domain into one of the primary show places of Western North Carolina.

Mr. Pinchot came to the estate as forester and assisted Dr. Carl Alwin Schenck, who succeeded him in the 1890's, in establishing the first forestry school in America there.

When he came to the estate he placed together trees of the same ages in an experiment in the ripening and weeding of woods. All the estate, including sections that are now part of Pisgah National forest, was divided into 600 sections and was carefully card cataloged. Mr.

Pinchot was successful in making the forestry department of the estate pay its way, for the old trees were cut down and used for cordwood at the Biltmore brick works and in many places for artistic wood trim.

Mr. Pinchot never lost interest in Asheville and Biltmore estate, and no one from this section could talk to him long without being asked to give an up-to-date report on the estate. When a good-will tour from Asheville visited Harrisburg while he was governor of Pennsylvania in 1926, he spent hours with the party talking about his days of work here.



FILE COPY.

USDA

FOR NOVEMBER 11, 1946

## Another pioneer

ON THE evening of October 4 there died in New York City, of leukemia, Gifford Pinchot, twice Governor of Pennsylvania, and a pioneer exponent of forestry and forest conservation. His name catalogues with those of other outstanding bureau chiefs of the old days—D. E. Salmon, B. T. Galloway, Milton Whitney, Harvey W. Wiley, and L. O. Howard—of whom only the last now survives. Mr. Pinchot was a close friend of Theodore Roosevelt and a prominent national figure for half a century.

Born in Simsbury, Conn., August 11, 1865, he took his A. B. at Yale, in 1889, then studied forestry in France, Germany, Switzerland, and Austria. He began the first systematic forestry work in the United States at Biltmore, N. C., in 1892, and became a member of the National Forest Commission in 1894. In 1898 he was named chief of the then Division of Forestry by President McKinley. This became a bureau in 1901, and the Forest Service in 1905. Pinchot remained chief until 1910, when he left the Government service as a result of a controversy with Secretary of the Interior Ballinger over certain Alaskan conservation questions.

When Pinchot entered the Forestry Division, July 1, 1898, "Tama Jim" Wilson was Secretary of Agriculture. Pinchot had made out the questions for his own examination, because there was no one then in the Government service competent to do this job, but the President covered him into Civil Service before the questions were used. The Division did not then control a single acre of forests, but it had in it all the foresters in the Government service, and Pinchot was one-half of the two of them. The National Forest Reserves were then in charge of the General Land Office, which had no forester at all!

When Pinchot joined up, the Division had 11 employees and an annual appropriation of \$28,500. When Forest Service celebrated its fortieth anniversary and Gifford Pinchot spoke, its annual appropriation was nearly 60 million dollars. One of its smaller national forests today requires more employees than did the Division when Pinchot took over. The Division was then housed in two rooms in the attic of the old red brick building. Pinchot's office was in one of them, about the size of a hall bedroom; the remaining ten members of the force shared the other room.

If you want to know what Forest Service is today, get Miscellaneous Publications 290, The Work of the U. S. Forest Service, and read up. Whatever else he became—and he became a great national figure—Pinchot remained at heart a forester and a conservationist all his life. He rendered distinguished service as such in the Second World War. His heritage is a mighty institution which performs a complicated, highly responsible, and extremely useful public service, fully grounded in scientific principles, with thousands of conscientious, well-trained employees animated by a zeal which not even low remuneration can extinguish.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICEADDRESS REPLY TO  
CHIEF, FOREST SERVICE  
AND REFER TO

WASHINGTON

I  
INFORMATION  
General

September 13, 1945

Regional Foresters  
and Directors

Dear Sir:

Mr. Pinchot very much desires that his letter to the men and women of the Forest Service in appreciation for the honor paid him on his eightieth birthday reach all present members of the Service, former members who are now in the armed forces, and retired employees.

"G. P.'s" letter was quoted in the W. O. Information Digest for September 7 and we presume it will reach present employees through that medium. Will you therefore reproduce the letter in the news letters you send to members of your Region or Station in the armed forces and to retired employees. If you do not issue a news sheet to your alumni, you no doubt have some other means of reaching them.

Very truly yours,

*Dana Parkinson*DANA PARKINSON, Chief  
Division of Information and Education



May 22, 1932.

Mr. Fred N. Kirby,  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.,

My dear Fred:

I noted with alarm the action of the wicked Republicans in Pennsylvania in nominating for the governorship the Hon. Gifford Pinchot.

Pinchot is a cross between a paternalist and a socialist. He embraces all of the doctrines of both that are wrong. He believes in the nationalization of everything beginning first, of course, with his pet hobby, the forests; then the coal and iron mines; then the farms; then the department stores; then everything else that is necessary to carry out socialistic theories presently attempted by the Soviet government in Russia.

He has absolutely no respect for the Constitution, in fact I much doubt if he could repeat the preamble to that holy document or recite from memory any single provision of the Bill of Rights.

The only difference between Mr. Pinchot and Eugene Debs is that Pinchot's previous associations are eminently respectable whereas Debs' association has been the reverse. Pinchot is infinitely more of a menace to American ideals and to rights of individuals as guaranteed under the Constitution than is Debs, because of this difference in environment.

Mr. Fred W. Kirby #2:

5/22/22.

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If Pinchot is to be elected Governor in Pennsylvania for four years and you give him a subservient Legislature, then no wise man would pay 25¢ on the dollar for any property in your great commonwealth. They will confiscate it or so handicap its use as to make its ownership undesirable.

I came in contact with Pinchot 20 years ago when he was United States Forester. My last conflict with him was in January of this year before the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry of the present Congress. He is a plumb bad one.

You will pardon me for introducing into our business correspondence this discussion of Pennsylvania's local political affairs. Frankly I am alarmed because the triumph of this firebrand in staid old Pennsylvania will create a feeling of uneasiness in every part of the Republic.

Your friend,

December 22, 1921.

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Mr. A. H. Kalbfleisch,  
Mercedes, Texas,

Dear Mr. Kalbfleisch:

I am indebted to our mutual friend Judge Frank  
Andrews for your address.

Please ship me by express, to 2006 Smith St.,  
Houston, Texas, one crate of oranges and one crate of  
grapefruit, and send me bill therefor.

Very truly yours,

December 22, 1921.

Mr. J. H. Allison,  
c/o Fort Worth Record,  
Fort Worth, Texas,

My dear Allison:

I thank you for yours of the 19th and for the in-  
formation it conveys. I am quite sure you and Withington  
are going to make a winning with the Record and I hope 1922  
will be a very prosperous year for you.

I must be in Washington on the 9th of January to  
appear in my capacity as President of the Southern Tariff  
Association before the Finance Committee of the Senate, and  
on the next day I must appear before the Forestry Committee  
of the House who have under consideration certain measures  
looking to the establishment of a permanent national forestry  
policy. I may be detained in Washington several weeks but  
after my return I hope to have the pleasure of visiting you  
in Fort Worth for a few days.

Your friend,

January 3, 1922

Judge Chas. F. Greenwood,  
Dallas, Texas.

My Pal:

Some of these days some man will be kind enough to make a little note, possibly in cold type, of the things I wished and the things I hoped for and the things I stood for in this dear old world, and when he does I hope he will be diligent enough to look into the things I put away as worth preserving and find your beautiful letter of January 1st.

I know you are sincere, Charlie, in what you say, and it is the only thing I know about you that has impressed me that you are even slightly superficial. In this instance you seem to have gone far afield because I do not possess the qualities you ascribe to me, and all there is to me is that big bump of affection which Nature bestowed upon me for all the big and good things that God made. That bump has had an opportunity to play upon you, to know you, to honor you, to believe in you, to love you.

I am in the act of leaving for Washington where I have two public duties to perform. The first is in relation to the Southern Tariff Association, and I shall stand in the halls of legislation and insist that the discriminations of the past shall be abandoned and that this beautiful Dixie of ours shall



(Judge Chas F Greenwood - 2)

have for all of its people an equal opportunity in the race for national existence. The selfish and financial great, whom our demagogues attack, have not always been thoughtful of us poor plodding mortals who are creating things essential to the world's thrift and progress and happiness. There must be an end to that policy. The end is coming now and men like you and Bill Poindexter, and others with the same just spirit and purpose, have made it possible to bring it about.

You know, Charlie, you are tremendously tempting with that dinner thought but such things are not for me now. When I have finished this tariff controversy in which I must antagonize all of the big ones in the great party in which you and I have heretofore believed, and in the principles of which you and I still believe, there is still another task - the spineless Senators from the treeless states are making an assault upon private property under the pretense that posterity has a greater interest in the accumulations of the present than have those whose perseverance and skill have enabled them to accumulate a few trees. The leader of these disciples of folly is one Gifford Pinchot, and about the middle of next week I shall cross swords with him in an inquiry before the House Committee on agriculture and forestry as to how far the mailed hand of the Government may be extended into the pocket of the current owner of trees. Trees are property and the owner of them is a citizen. Our forefathers

(Judge Chas F Greenwood - 3)

had substantial respect for the latter parties and I am planting myself upon the Constitution which they builded in the hope that Mr. Pinchot may break his lance upon that adamantine document.

When I have returned to these parts and if you are still of the same disposition I should dearly love to sup with you and enjoy any part of the old buck, or the young one, which you brought up from the wilds of old Pratt's ranch.

With every affectionate wish, I am

Your friend

Houston Texas Jan 4 1922

W P Hobby  
Beaumont Texas

Matter I mentioned to you when you were last here should probably have some immediate attention Stop I am leaving tonight for Washington and may be away two or three weeks In meantime wish you would come to Houston confer with R M Johnston then in your own way develop the situation

Jno H Kirby

January 4, 1922

Mr. Geo. W. Hooks,  
Box 131,  
Beaumont, Texas.

Dear George:

I have your letter of the 3rd. I have a great deal of confidence in your judgment in oil matters and especially in the coastal field but we are not presently preparing to take on anything additional. Mr. Bass will have to concentrate on our Mexia leases for the next several weeks or months and I am today leaving for Washington for an absence of some two or three weeks so that for the moment we are not so circumstanced as to permit ourselves to take advantage of your very kind suggestion.

Your friend,

# AMERICAN HERITAGE



FEBRUARY • MARCH 1991 \$4.50

MORLEY SAFER ON  
A VIETNAM  
WE NEVER SAW  
THE MAN WHO  
INVENTED  
ENVIRONMENTALISM

## THE *It Goes Back Further Than You Think* REAL STORY BEHIND THE S&L MESS

■ Bank failure is as American as apple pie. The first American failure took place in Rhode Island in 1809, when a bank capitalized at \$45 issued \$800,000 in bank notes, a sum equal *(continued inside)*



Ninety years ago a highborn zealot named Gifford Pinchot knew more about woodlands than any man in America. What he *did* about them changed the country we live in and helped define environmentalism.

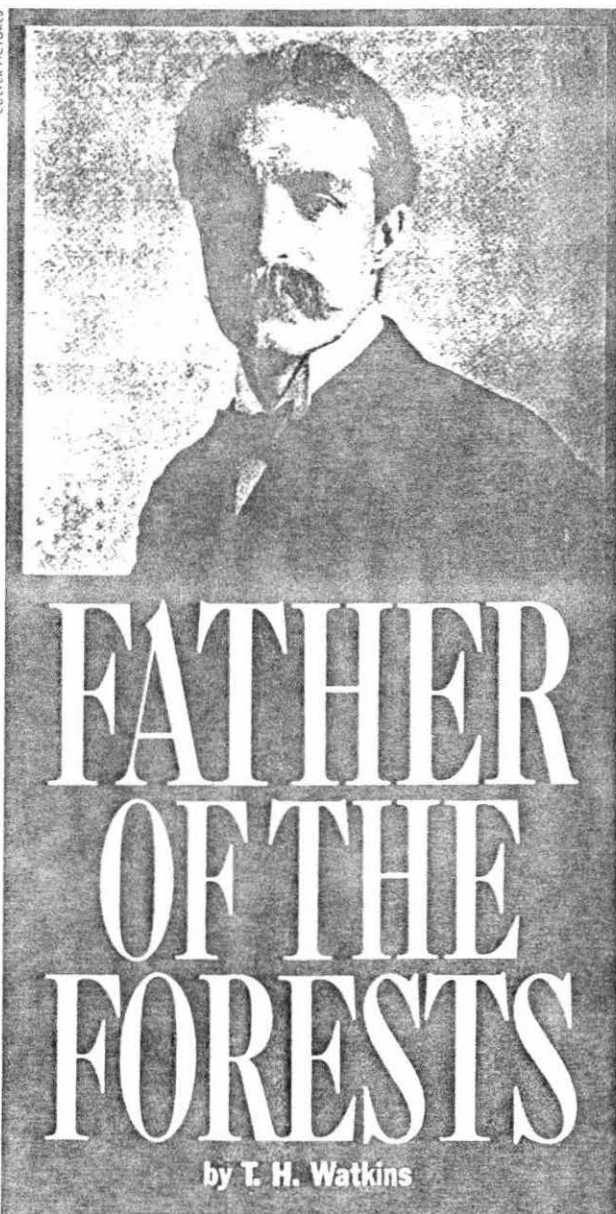
**L**ike most public officials, Gov. Gifford Pinchot of Pennsylvania could not answer all his mail personally. Much of it had to be left to aides, but not all of these realized the character of their boss. When a citizen wrote in 1931 to complain angrily about one of the governor's appointments, Pinchot was not pleased to find the following prepared for his signature: "I am somewhat surprised at the tone of your letter. . . . It has been my aim since I became Governor to select the best possible person for each position. . . . I hope time will convince you how greatly you have erred."

The governor was not given to such mewlings and forthwith composed his own letter: "Either you are totally out of touch with public sentiment, or you decline to believe what you hear. . . . To say that I was not attempting to do right when I made these appointments is nonsense. I was doing the best I knew how, and my confidence that I did so is by no means impaired by your letter." That was more like it—and more like the man too.

Gifford Pinchot passed through nearly six decades of American public life like a Jeremiah, the flames of certitude seeming to dance behind his dark eyes. "Gifford Pinchot is a dear," his good friend and mentor Theodore Roosevelt once said of him, "but he is a fanatic, with an element of hardness and narrowness in his temperament, and an extremist."

The complaint was legitimate, but the zealot in question also was the living expression of an idea shared by much of an entire generation (indeed, shared by Roosevelt himself): the conviction that men and women could take hold of their government and shape it to great ends, great deeds, lifting all elements of American life to new levels of probity, grace,

CUYLER PICTURES



freedom, and prosperity. The urge was not entirely selfless; the acquisition and exercise of power have gratifications to which Pinchot and his kind were by no means immune. But at the forefront was a solemn and utterly earnest desire that the lot of humanity should be bettered by the work of those who were equipped by circumstance, talent, and training to change the world. It had something to do with duty and integrity and honesty, and if it was often marred by arrogance, at its best it was just as often touched by compassion.

And the world, in fact, was changed.

**I** have . . . been a Governor, every now and then, but I am a forester all the time—have been, and shall be, all my working life." Gifford Pinchot made this pronouncement in a speech not long before his death at the age of eighty-one, and repeated it in *Breaking New Ground*, his account of the early years of the conservation movement and his considerable place in it. It was true enough, but it could just as legitimately be said of him that

he had been a forester every now and then but was a politician, had been and would be, all his working life.

It could also be said that it was forestry that taught him his politics. Pinchot was born on August 11, 1865, into the sort of environment that would normally have pointed him in the direction of nothing more exotic than law or one of the other gentlemanly persuasions. His father, James, a self-made man of the classic stripe, had acquired so much money as a dry goods merchant in New York City that he

Above, Pinchot near the turn of the century. Opposite page: High Rock Lookout at Gifford Pinchot National Forest, in Washington State.





He and Theodore Roosevelt hit it off from the start. "There has been a peculiar intimacy between you . . . and me," the President wrote in later years, "because [we] have worked for the same causes, have dreamed the same dreams."

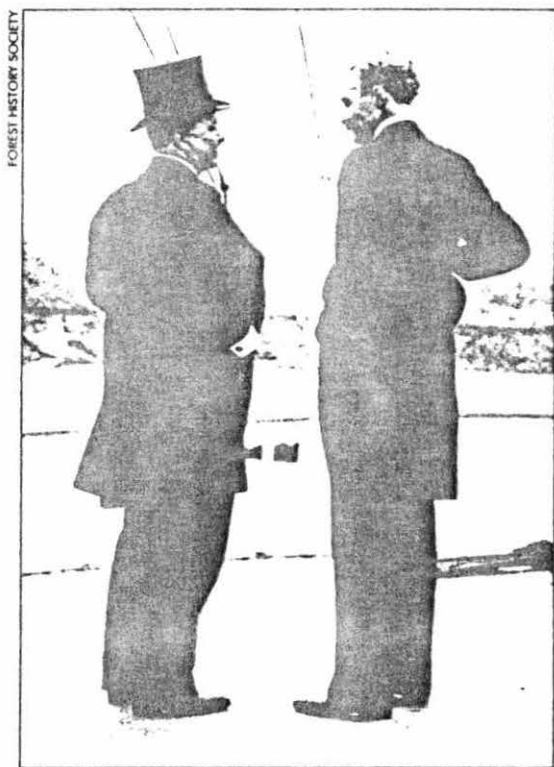
had been able to retire to the pursuit of good works at the age of forty-four. His mother, Mary, was the daughter of Amos Eno, a Manhattan real estate tycoon whose Fifth Avenue Hotel was so valuable a property that his estate was able to sell it after his death for the staggering figure of \$7,250,000.

The Pinchots figured prominently, if sedately, in society and traveled ambitiously in England and on the Continent. Gifford, his younger brother, Amos, and their sister, Antoinette, all grew up able to speak French and snatches of German at early ages, and Antoinette, in fact, would become Lady Johnstone, wife of the British consul in Copenhagen.

Altogether it seemed an unlikely background for a man who was to spend much of his adult life with trees. There was not at the time a single American-born man and precious few men of any nationality in this country practicing anything that could remotely be described as forestry. Nevertheless, "How would you like to be a forester?" Pinchot's father asked him in the summer of 1885, as the young man prepared to enter Yale. "It was an amazing question for that day and generation," he remembered, "how amazing I didn't begin to understand at the time." In his travels the elder Pinchot had become an admirer of the kind of scientific forestry practiced in France, Germany, and Switzerland and had even written a few articles on the subject.

The son proved open to his father's enthusiasm. From childhood Pinchot had been active in the outdoors, fond of hiking, camping, and, especially, trout fishing. Since there was nowhere yet in the United States to study his chosen profession, after graduating from Yale he took himself back to Europe, where for more than a year he studied forest management at the French Forestry School in Nancy and put in a month of fieldwork under Forstmeister ("Chief Forester") Ulrich Meister in the city forest of Zurich, Switzerland.

Back in this country he was hired by George W. Vanderbilt in 1892 to manage the five-thousand-acre forest on his Biltmore estate in North Carolina, a ragged patchwork of abused lands purchased from numerous individual farmers. While nursing this wrecked acreage back to health, the young forester persuaded Vanderbilt to expand his holdings by an additional one hundred thousand acres of nearly un-



Pinchot confers with President Theodore Roosevelt aboard the steamer *Mississippi* in October 1907.

touched forest land outside the estate. This new enterprise became known as the Pisgah Forest, and it was there in 1895 that Pinchot introduced what were almost certainly the first scientific logging operations ever undertaken in this country.

By then the young man had made a secure reputation in the field; indeed, he *was* the field. In December 1893 he opened an office in Manhattan as a "consulting forester." Over the next several years, while continuing his work for Vanderbilt in North Carolina, he provided advice and research work on forest lands in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and New York State—including the six-million-acre Adirondack Park and Forest Preserve, established in 1895 as the largest state-owned park in the nation. He could—and doubtless did—take satisfaction from a description given of him by a newspaper columnist as early as 1892:

"Contrast the career of this Yale graduate with that of certain young men of Gotham who flatten their noses against club windows in the morning, and soften their brains with gossip, champagne and the unmentionables at other periods of the day and night."

There was nothing soft in this graduate's brain, and since he lived most of his time at home with his mother and father, there was even less that could be called unmentionable in his behavior or experience (his first fiancée died in 1894, an event that so devastated him he did not marry until twenty years later, after his mother's own death). By the turn of the century he was fully equipped by temperament and experience to assume the task that would soon be given him: the intelligent management of more forest land than had ever been placed in the control of any single individual.

It would be difficult to find a more convenient symbol for the dark side of American enterprise than the state of the nation's forest lands in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. Restrained only by the dictates of the marketplace, the timber industry had enjoyed a free hand for generations, and the wreckage was considerable. Most of the best forest land east of the Mississippi had long since been logged out—sometimes twice over—and while generally humid conditions had allowed some of the

land to recover in second and third growth, erosion had permanently scarred many areas. Unimpeded runoff during seasonal rains had caused such ghastly floods as that leading to the destruction of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, in 1889.

The land of the Mississippi and Ohio valleys was almost entirely privately owned; west of the Mississippi most of the land belonged to the nation. It was called the public domain, its steward was the federal government, as represented by the General Land Office, and for years it had been hostage to the careless enthusiasm of a tradition that looked upon land as a commodity to be sold or an opportunity to be exploited, not a resource to be husbanded. About two hundred million acres of this federal land were forested, and much of it, too, had been systematically mutilated. In addition to legitimate timber companies that consistently misused the various land laws by clear-cutting entire claims without even bothering to remain around long enough to establish final title, many "tramp" lumbermen simply marched men, mules, oxen, and sometimes donkey engines onto an attractive (and vacant) tract of public forest land, stripped it, and moved out, knowing full well that apprehension and prosecution were simply beyond the means or interest of the understaffed, over-committed, and largely corrupt General Land Office. As early as 1866 such instances of cheerful plunder had gutted so many forests of the public domain that the surveyors general of both Washington Territory and Colorado Territory earnestly recommended to the General Land Office that the forest lands in their districts be sold immediately, while there was something left to sell.

The forests were not sold, nor did they vanish entirely, but they did remain vulnerable to regular depredation. It was not until 1891 and passage of an obscure legislative rider called the Forest Reserve Clause that the slowly growing reform element in the executive branch was enabled to do anything about it. Armed with the power of this law, President Benjamin Harrison withdrew thirteen million acres of public forest land in the West from uses that would have been permitted by any of the plethora of lenient land laws then on the books, and at the end of his second term, President Grover Cleveland added another twenty-one million acres. Since there was virtually no enforcement of the new law, however, withdrawal provided little protection from illegal use; at the same time, it specifically disallowed legitimate use of public timber and grasslands. In response to the howl that arose in the West and to give some semblance

of protection and managed use, Congress passed the Forest Organic Act of June 1897, which stipulated that the forest reserves were intended "to improve and protect the forest . . . for the purpose of securing favorable conditions of water flow, and to furnish a continuous supply of timber for the use and necessities of citizens of the United States."

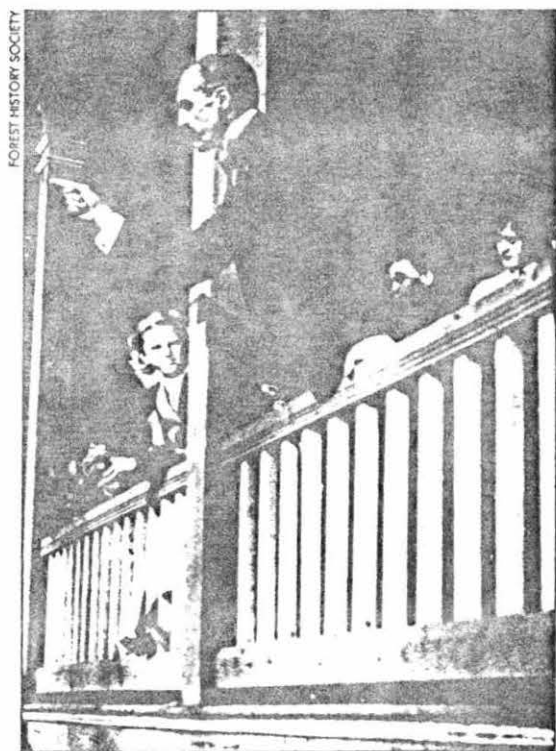
Gifford Pinchot, the young "consulting forester," was the author of much of the language of the act. In the summer of 1896 he had distinguished himself as the secretary of the National Forest Commission, a body formed by President Cleveland to investigate conditions in the nation's public forests and to recommend action for their proper use and protection, and it was the commission that had put forth the need for an organic act. No one knew more about American forests than Pinchot did, and he seemed the only logical choice to head the Department of Agriculture's Forestry Division when the position of director fell vacant in May 1898.

On the face of it, Pinchot's new post was less than prestigious. The Forestry Division was housed in two rooms of the old red-brick Agriculture Building on the south

side of the Mall in Washington, D.C. It enjoyed a total of eleven employees and an annual appropriation of \$28,500. And since the forest reserves remained under the jurisdiction of the Interior Department, the Forestry Division had little to do beyond advising private landowners on the proper management of their wood lots and forests. This was anathema to an activist like Pinchot, and he was soon honing the skills that would make him one of the most persistent and effective lobbyists who ever prowled the cloakrooms and cubbyholes of Congress.

**H**is ambition was not a small one: He wanted nothing less than to get the forest reserves transferred to Agriculture and placed under his care in the Forestry Division and then to build the division into the first effective agency for the management and conservation of public lands in the history of the nation. It did not hurt his chances when he became intimate with another early American conservationist—Theodore Roosevelt.

Roosevelt had spent much of his youth killing and stuffing birds and was to spend much of his adult life shooting bigger and better animals, which he had other people stuff for him. Nevertheless, when he assumed the Presidency in 1901, he became the first Chief Executive to play an informed and



The chief forester lectures to a crowd around the time he was getting himself fired by President Taft, in 1909.



He crafted the Forest Service into an agency whose dedication to the ideal of service to the public was nearly unique. By 1909 its domain had been enlarged to 148 million acres and it was one of the most respected government organizations in the nation.

active role in the conservation movement. With George Bird Grinnell (editor of *Forest and Stream* magazine) he had been a cofounder of the Boone and Crockett Club, an exclusive gathering of conservation-minded hook-and-bullet men whose influence had gone a long way toward preserving the wildlife in Yellowstone National Park and toward slowing the wholesale commercial slaughter that had exterminated the passenger pigeon and was well on its way toward wiping out several other species. During his Presidency Roosevelt would establish the first federal wildlife refuges, support the expansion of the national park system, back passage of the Reclamation Act of 1902, and use the full power of the Antiquities Act of 1906 to designate no fewer than eighteen national monuments, including Grand Canyon, in Arizona.

Nor was Roosevelt indifferent to forests. "The American had but one thought about a tree," he once wrote, "and that was to cut it down." While governor of New York, he had sought forestry advice from Pinchot, and they had hit it off from the start. "There has been a peculiar intimacy between you and Jim [James R. Garfield, his Secretary of the Interior] and me," Roosevelt wrote Pinchot in later years, "because all three of us have worked for the same causes, have dreamed the same dreams, have felt a substantial identity of purpose as regards many of what we three deemed the most vital problems of today." Pinchot's own feelings bordered on adulation, although Roosevelt maintained that the younger man admired his predatory instincts above all else. "He thinks," he told Archie Butt, his personal assistant, "that if we were cast away somewhere together and we were both hungry, I would kill him and eat him, and," he had added with that carnivore's grin of his, "I would, too."

The two men combined almost immediately in an effort to get the forest reserves into Pinchot's care. The public lands committees of both the House and Senate, however, were dominated by Westerners, many of whom had vested interests in the status quo, and it took more than three years of public campaigning and artful cajolery, Roosevelt himself bringing the full weight of the Presidency to bear on the point, before Pinchot was given his heart's desire: passage of the Forest Transfer Act, on February 1, 1905. In addition to



The party awaits Roosevelt's reaction to Pinchot's dismissal in a cartoon from the *Philadelphia Record*.

bringing over the forests—which now totaled more than sixty-three million acres—the new law provided for the charging of fees for cutting timber and grazing cattle and sheep, and this was followed by the Agricultural Appropriation Act of March 3, a section of which gave federal foresters "authority to make arrests for the violation of laws and regulations relating to the forest reserves. . . ."

The government was now in the tree business with a vengeance. Shortly the name of the reserves was changed to that of national forests, the Forestry Division to that of the U.S. Forest Service, and Gifford Pinchot was solidly in place as the nation's first chief forester, a position he would hold officially only until his resignation in 1910 but would hold in his heart for the rest of his life.

With his President's blessing, Pinchot crafted the young agency into a public body whose dedica-

tion to the ideal of service to the public was nearly unique for its time (or our own, for that matter). It came directly out of Pinchot's own convictions. "It is the first duty of a public officer to obey the law," he wrote in *The Fight for Conservation*, in 1910. "But it is his second duty, and a close second, to do everything the law will let him do for the public good. . . ."

It was an elite corps that Pinchot created, built on merit and merit alone, one in which both competence and stupidity were swiftly rewarded—and little went unnoticed by the chief forester ("I found him all tangled up," Pinchot wrote to a lieutenant about one hapless employee, "and generally making an Ass of himself, with splendid success"). William R. Greeley, one of the twenty-five hundred foresters who served under Pinchot (and who later became chief forester himself), caught the spirit of Pinchot's influence precisely: "He made us . . . feel like soldiers in a patriotic cause."

The system this exemplary body of men administered was carefully structured by the chief forester. Individual forests were divided up into management units, each with its own ranger or ranger force, and administrative headquarters were established in the six districts across the West where most of the forests were grouped, from Missoula, Montana,





The principles Pinchot put to work would become one of the roots of the sensibility we call environmentalism. It was called conservation then, which, he wrote, "means the wise use of the earth and its resources for the lasting good of men."

to Portland, Oregon. Pinchot gave his district supervisors a great deal of autonomy and encouraged them to give their rangers similarly loose reins in the field—whether selecting stands of harvestable trees, supervising a timber sale, regulating the number of cows or sheep that might be allowed on a piece of grazing land, or fighting fires. The first step in proper administration, he said, "was to find the right man and see that he understood the scope and limits of his work, and just what was expected of him"; then "the next step was to give him his head and let him use it."

The chief forester did not remain aloof. He was given to unannounced field trips, poking his prominent nose into every nook and cranny of the system to see what was what, and he maintained a body of field inspectors who reported regularly to him and him alone. "To get results," he remembered, "we had to revise, common-sensitize, and make

alive the whole attitude and action of the men who had learned the Land Office way of handling the Reserves. . . . We had to drive out red tape with intelligence, and unite the office and the field. Next . . . we had to bring about a fundamental change in the attitude and action of the men who lived in or near the Reserves and used them. We had to get their cooperation by earning their respect."

That respect did not come easily. Those individuals and corporations that had become accustomed to unrestricted access to Western resources did not remain silent during all this, nor did their politicians. At one point in 1908 the *Rocky Mountain News* featured a cartoon showing "Czar Pinchot and His Cossack Rangers." Others declared that the Forest Service was subverting the pioneering instinct that had built the country. "While these chiefs of the Bureau of Forestry sit within their marble halls," Sen. Charles W. Fulton of Oregon intoned in 1907, "and theorize and dream of waters conserved, forests and streams protected and preserved throughout the ages and the ages, the lowly pioneer is climbing the mountain side where he will erect his humble cabin, and within the shadow of the whispering pines and the lofty firs of the forest engage in the laborious work of carving out for himself and his loved ones a home and a dwelling place."

Despite such cavils, by the time Roosevelt left office in



At home in Pennsylvania with his wife, Cornelia Elizabeth Bryce, soon after their 1914 wedding. He was forty-nine.

March 1909, the national forest system had been enlarged to 148 million acres, and the Forest Service had become one of the most respected government services in the nation—reason enough for the historian M. Nelson McGeary's encomium of 1960: "Had there been no Pinchot to build the U.S. Forest Service into an exceptionally effective agency, it would hardly have been possible to report in 1957 that 'most' of the big lumber operators had adopted forestry as a policy; or that the growth of saw timber has almost caught up with the rate of drain on forest resources from cutting, fire, and natural losses. . . ."

Nor, it is safe to say, would there have been much left of the forests themselves. The principles Pinchot put to work would inform the management of the public lands throughout most of the twentieth century and become one of the roots of the sensibility we call

environmentalism. It was called conservation then, and Pinchot always claimed that he was the first to put that use upon the word. "Conservation," he wrote, "means the wise use of the earth and its resources for the lasting good of men. Conservation is the foresighted utilization, preservation, and/or renewal of forests, waters, lands, and minerals, for the greatest good of the greatest number for the longest time."

Wise use was the cornerstone, and Pinchot and his followers had little patience with the still-embryonic notion that the natural world deserved preservation quite as much for its own sake as for the sake of the men and women who used it. John Muir, a hairy wood sprite of a naturalist whom Pinchot had met and befriended as early as 1896, personified this more idealistic instinct, tracing the roots of his own inspiration back to Henry David Thoreau's declaration that "in Wildness is the preservation of the World." For a time, the two men were allies in spite of their differences, but the friendship disintegrated after 1905, when Pinchot lent his support to the efforts of the city of San Francisco to dam the Hetch Hetchy Valley in Yosemite National Park for a public water-and-power project in order to free the city from a private power monopoly.

Muir, whose writings about Yosemite had brought him a measure of fame, had founded the Sierra Club in 1892 largely

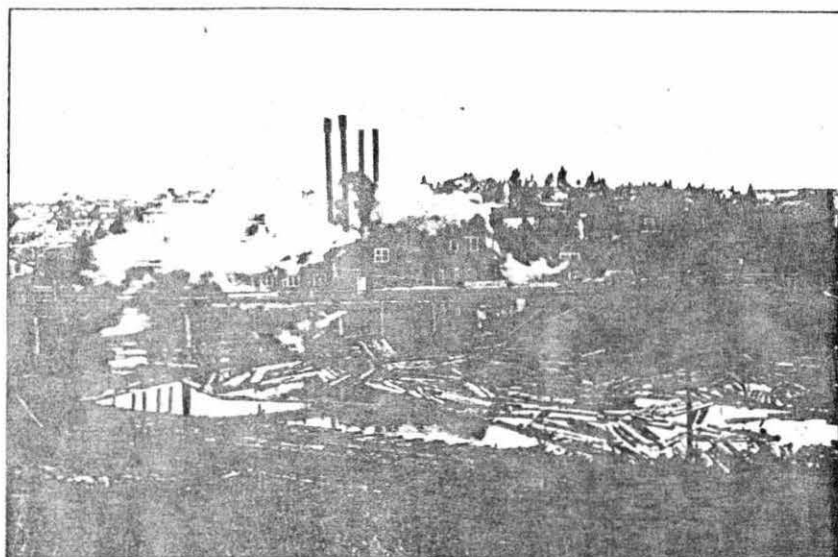


as a tool to protect the glorious trench of the Yosemite Valley and other pristine areas in the Sierra Nevada. Among these was the Hetch Hetchy Valley, which these early preservationists maintained was the equal of Yosemite itself in beauty. The reservoir that would fill up behind the proposed dam on the Tuolumne River would obliterate that beauty. But this was exactly the sort of public power-and-water project that spoke most eloquently to the deepest pragmatic instincts of Pinchot and his kind, who argued that every measure of conservation as they understood it would be fulfilled by approval of the project. "Whoever dominates power," Pinchot wrote, "dominates all industry."

Both sides in the argument faced off energetically in this first major conflict between the utilitarian and the preservationist wings of the conservation movement, and it took nearly ten years, the approval of two Presidents, and the passage of special legislation by Congress in 1913 before San Francisco obtained permission to build its dam. "The destruction of the charming groves and gardens, the finest in all California," Muir wrote to a friend, "goes to my heart. But in spite of Satan & Co., some sort of compensation must surely come out of this dark damn-dam damnation." Pinchot had no doubts and no regrets.

**P**inchot's devotion to the principles of conservation went beyond the immediate question of use versus preservation. Monopoly was evil personified, and monopoly, he believed, stemmed directly from the control of the natural world. "Monopoly of resources," he wrote in *Breaking New Ground*, "which prevents, limits, or destroys equality of opportunity is one of the most effective of all ways to control and limit human rights, especially the right of self-government." With this conviction to guide him, it did not take him long to find his way from the world of conservation to the world of politics, where, like thousands of his class, he found his imagination seized by Progressive Republicanism.

## LUMBERING BEFORE PINCHOT



A riverful of timber floats down to the Babcock Lumber & Boom Company in 1909.

**W**hen the Europeans first saw the New World, their overwhelming impression was of trees, an endless forest covering a continent. And even in the boundless timberland that was eastern North America, West Virginia's Land of Canaan was extraordinary, for it contained the finest stand of climax red spruce in the world.

The canoe-shaped Canaan Valley itself, 150 miles west of present-day Washington, D.C., was not big—little more than 14 miles long and 3 miles wide. It was boxed in by three rugged mountain ridges, shrouded in misty fog, and utterly silent. The novelist Rebecca Harding Davis, writing in 1880, called the region's absolute stillness "strange and oppressive as noonday" and wrote that "human voices were an impertinence in the great and wordless meanings of the woods."

To the lumbermen who rode in with the railroad half a decade later, the meanings were clear enough. A good stand of hardwood timber in

The short,  
loud death  
of Canaan  
Valley

by Jack Vaughn

West Virginia yielded fifteen thousand board feet per acre. Exceptional stands would yield as much as twenty thousand. The finest stands of white pine in the great northern forests of Michigan and

Minnesota produced forty thousand. From parts of Canaan Valley the lumberjacks would haul eighty to a hundred thousand board feet per acre of red spruce.

For four hectic decades the boom times the lumbermen thrust upon this stillness were to rival the gold and silver rushes of the West in brawling intensity and in return on investment. And when it ended, Canaan Valley and its surroundings would be utterly destroyed.

It would have been an outcome inconceivable to the awed members of the survey party that discovered the valley. On Monday, October 13, 1746, a group that included the thirty-eight-year-old Col. Peter Jefferson, Thomas Jefferson's father, climbed to the top of Cabin Mountain and looked down on Canaan's forest for the first time. The next day the

It took a bit more than a generation to reduce the Canaan Valley to stumps.

After the clearing, fires would smolder for months.

party plunged into the valley itself.

A surveyor named Thomas Lewis wished he had never come. He wrote in his journal that "from the . . . time We Entred the Swamp I Did not See ap-lain Big Enough for aman to Lye on nor a horse to Stand."

The party encountered a vast clutching understory of eight- to ten-foot-high "loral" (rhododendron) that twisted across the forest floor, "all most as Obstinate as if Composed of Iron. Our horses and often our Selves fell into Clefts & Cavities without seeing the danger Before we felt the Effects of it."

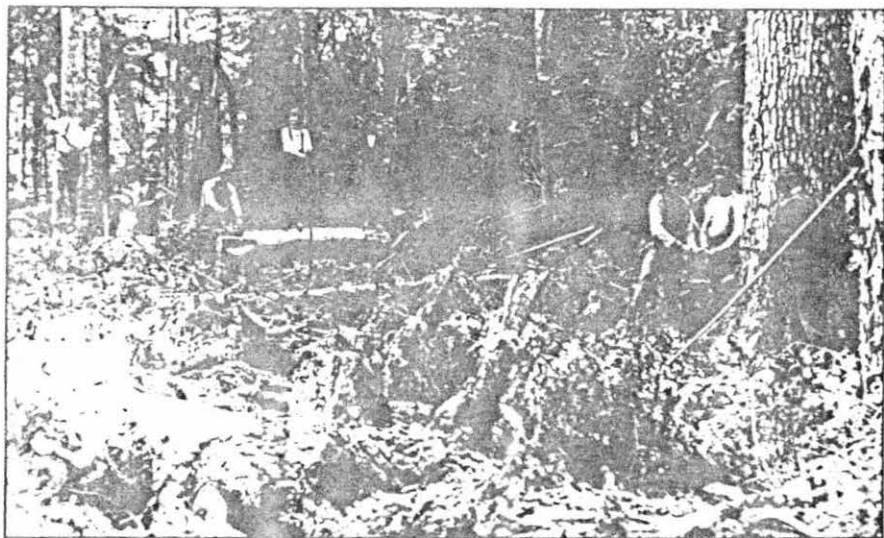
On leaving, Lewis made a last entry: "Never was any poor Creaturs in Such a Condition as we were in nor Ever was a Criminal more glad by having made his Escape out of prison as we were to Get Rid of those Accursed Lorals."

Many early settlers felt the same way. A century later one wrote that the valley was "as perfect a wilderness as our continent contained . . . a howling wilderness of some twenty or thirty miles' compass, begirt on all sides by civilization, yet unexplored."

The valley was a relic of the last glacial age. When the Wisconsin ice sheet had crept down from the North to within a hundred or so miles twenty thousand years before, Canaan became a frost pocket, high and cold—perfect for red spruce.

Nobody knows how the valley got its name, but in time, under the battering of West Virginia usage, the biblical "Cane-un," with its accent on the first syllable, became "Kah-nane," with the accent hard on the last syllable.

As late as the mid-1880s, on the eve



A team of sawyers and axmen take a break from the grueling work of laying the valley bare.

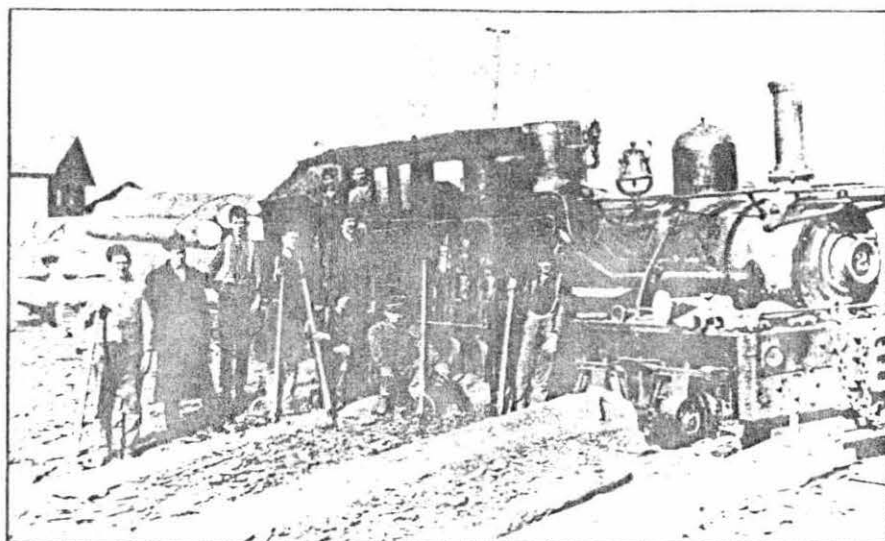


Loggers and their families enjoy a picnic surrounded by the devastated forest at Shingle Mill.

of its destruction, the forest was virtually as Lewis had seen and hated it.

Henry Gassaway Davis changed that. In 1866 Davis, a railroad man and politician, convinced the West Virginia legislature to incorporate his Potomac and Piedmont Coal and Railroad Company with powers, rights, and franchises to do almost everything. By 1881 Davis, then a U.S. senator, had involved so many of his colleagues in his enterprises that the line working its way toward Canaan Valley came to be known as the "senatorial railroad." On November 1, 1884, the last spike was

pounded into the stretch of the senatorial railroad that ran into the brand-new town of Davis on the rim of Canaan Valley. Not long afterward a Pennsylvania lumberman named Jacob Leathers Rumbarger built a band-saw mill on the Blackwater River between Second and Third Street. The first of some thirty-one miles of logging railroads began to push their twisting way into the once impenetrable valley. From a population of two in 1884, Davis swelled to four thousand—a town that in time came to include seven churches, an equal number of



A lumber-company locomotive and the men who will unload the logs behind it, around 1905.



Stacks of the product crowd the single railroad track at a lumberyard in the valley in 1905.

saloons, a tannery, two banks, a second major sawmill, two butcher shops, two undertakers, five doctors, two dentists, five restaurants, and four hotels.

In the mid-nineties, a twelve-hundred-seat opera house went up on the corner of Henry Avenue and Second, within easy hearing of the sawmill's exhaust engines. Under the illumination of that pale and flickering novelty, the electric light, audiences watched *Uncle Tom's Cabin* and *Ten Nights in a Bar-Room*.

The short-lived lumber camps that

fed the boom hung uncertainly to the slopes of plunging hillsides, and they lasted only as long as the lumber lasted. But while they did exist, they were microcosms of a special kind of life. Far from the reach of any recognizable police force, they were ordered by a code of conduct all their own. The men worked from dawn to dark and were generally too tired to raise hell even if they wanted to.

The lumberjacks came in from all across the Eastern and Northern forests. When the Blackwater Boom and Lumber Company bought out Rum-

barger in 1887, it imported French Canadians from the North, who were expert at riding the floating logs that sometimes filled the Blackwater River from bank to bank for twenty-five miles.

Jacks in their suspenders, their Wisconsin cork shoes, and their Richie shirts swarmed into the valley from Pennsylvania, New York, Virginia, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, and from as far away as Austria, Italy, and Sweden.

True to Napoleon's dictum, this army moved on its stomach. The most important job in the lumbering camps of Canaan, next to the foreman himself, was the cook. He pulled top wages—three dollars a day for a seven-day week. If he was good, he was more than worth it. A cook could make or break a camp overnight.

The typical dinner menu at the talkless tables in the camps ran to boiled or roast beef, port, or steak, tomatoes, turnips, potatoes, beans, hash, cornbread, two different kinds of pies (quartered), and cake and cookies. Breakfasts were no less prodigious: flapjacks, hot biscuits, steak, fried eggs, fried potatoes, oatmeal, cake, doughnuts, and all the Arbuckles—coffee—a man could drink.

A full complement of lumberjacks included swamper (road builders), a cutting crew of sawyers and knot bumpers who felled and trimmed the trees, teamsters who drove the horses that skidded the logs to the road or river, grab drivers to secure the trail of logs, and a blacksmith and a saw filer (both well paid, as much as \$2.50 a day—just below a cook's wages).

Presiding over these crews, which in a typical camp might number sixty men, was the foreman, perhaps the most important man in the conquest of the forest. The autocrat of the camp, he did the hiring and the firing, and nobody questioned his judgment. He was responsible to the woods superintendent, but a good foreman





A barrens created by total deforestation and the fires that followed, near Davis, 1912.

would buck even the super in the interest of his camp.

It took such men a bit more than a generation to reduce Canaan Valley to stumps. Shorn of the tall spruce that had kept it dark

for centuries, stripped of its ironlike rhododendron understory, the dense valley floor lay open to the sunlight. It dried. And fires followed, enormous raging fires that burned to the bottom of the humus layer and smoldered for months.

**O**ne blaze broke out on the thirtieth of May, 1914, in the woods of Blackwater Canyon, three miles above the small lumber town of Hendricks, and burned for months. A man sitting on his porch in the town at midnight that summer could read the afternoon paper by its light.

The waste that attended the obliteration of the forest was staggering. When the large stand of hemlock that coexisted with the spruce ceased to sell during the Panic of 1893, hemlock bark went to the tanneries, and the huge peeled

The waste that attended the obliteration of the spruce and hemlock forest was staggering.

logs were left to decay. Despite the waste, the Canaan region yielded up more than three billion board feet of lumber. Its one hundred thousand acres were only about one-eighth-fifth of the total virgin forest cut in West Virginia in the hectic fifty years of the last and first quarters of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. But its output represented one-tenth of the thirty billion board feet the state produced in those years. It was a prodigious pocket of timber. And finally it was gone.

"We didn't leave a stick standing," one company official boasted.

The lumbermen moved north or west, Davis faded away to the quiet community of eight hundred people that it is today, and the Canaan Valley was left again to silence as profound—if not as awe-inspiring—as the one the lumbermen had first disturbed just forty years earlier. ★

Jack Waugh is a free-lance writer who lives in Elkins, Virginia, not far from the Canaan Valley.

The movement had been distilled from more than forty years of what the historian Howard Mumford Jones called "exuberance and wrath" following the Civil War. Its followers saw themselves and their values caught in a vise: threatened on one side by an increasingly violent and potentially revolutionary uprising on the part of the great unwashed—largely represented by the Democratic party—and on the other by a cynical plutocratic brotherhood—largely represented by the regular Republican party—which brutally twisted and subverted American institutions for purposes of personal greed and power.

Imperfectly but noisily, Theodore Roosevelt had given these people in the middle a voice and a symbol to call their own, and when he chose not to run for a third term in 1908, they felt abandoned. Prominent among them was Gifford Pinchot, and there is some evidence to suggest that he engineered his own dismissal as chief forester by President William Howard Taft, whom Roosevelt had groomed as his own chosen successor. The opportunity came in 1909, when Pinchot learned that Taft's Secretary of the Interior, Richard Ballinger, was determined to honor a number of coal-mining claims on lands in Alaska that Roosevelt had earlier withdrawn from such uses.

When Taft backed his Interior Secretary, Pinchot chose to see it as the beginning of a wholesale repudiation of all that Roosevelt had done to champion the public interest. He made no secret of his conclusions, and Taft was certain that more than bureaucratic integrity was behind Pinchot's loudly voiced concerns. "I am convinced," he wrote his brother, "that Pinchot with his fanaticism and his disappointment at my decision in the Ballinger case plans a coup by which I shall be compelled to dismiss him and he will be able to make out a martyrdom and try to raise opposition against me."

Taft resisted as long as he reasonably could, but when Pinchot violated the President's direct orders to maintain silence by writing an open letter to a Senate committee investigating





The essential legacy of this committed, driven man, this public servant, this prince of rectitude, is the national forests themselves. There are 191 million acres of them now, spreading over the West, still threatened and mismanaged and loved.

the Ballinger matter, he decided he had no choice. Calling the letter an example of insubordination "almost unparalleled in the history of the government," Taft fired the chief forester of the United States on January 7, 1910. Pinchot rushed home with the letter of dismissal and waved it at his mother, crying, "I'm fired!" "My Mother's eyes flashed," he remembered, in *Breaking New Ground*; "she threw back her head, flung one hand high above it, and answered with one word: 'Hurrah!'"

**D**espite these memories of triumph, the most effective and rewarding part of Pinchot's career had come to an end. It certainly would not have seemed so to him at the time, however, as he joined in his friend Roosevelt's 1912 campaign to unseat Taft as a third-party candidate. Pinchot had been promised the State Department if Roosevelt won, but Roosevelt lost and, losing, split the Republican party and gave the Presidency to Woodrow Wilson. All Pinchot got was the satisfaction of seeing Taft humiliated—which nonetheless was "something to be proud and happy about," he crowed.

There followed years of politicking, all with his old vigor, but with mixed results and mostly confined to the state of Pennsylvania, where he served a couple of stormy, largely unproductive terms as governor.

It all took him too far from the forests that were his abiding interests. He had never lost sight of them, of course. In 1937, at the age of seventy-two, he undertook a five-thousand-mile trip sponsored by the Forest Service through the national forests of Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and California, sleeping out in the open, flying in Forest Service planes, and generally re-creating the delights of his youthful days on the old Forest Commission. "What I saw gave me the greatest satisfaction," he wrote upon his return. "The service is better than it was when I left and everywhere the forests are coming back. What more could a man ask?"

He was a good deal less mellow when FDR's Secretary of the Interior, his old friend and colleague Harold L. Ickes, opened a campaign to have the national forests taken out of the Department of Agriculture and placed back in Interior—an effort that earlier Interior Secretaries had supported and



The old forester and ex-governor, in his late seventies, chats with another Pres. Roosevelt in the early 1940s.

to which Pinchot had taken predictable umbrage. This time, however, the invective he launched against the idea was more than matched by that of the self-described curmudgeon Ickes, as the two old Progressives attempted to outdo each other in vitriol.

"What is behind all this?" Pinchot asked the assembled members of the Izaak Walton League in April 1937. "The man who has been my friend for more than a quarter of a century has allowed his ambition to get away with his judgement," and Ickes's great power had "bred the lust of greater power." Ickes countered that "Gifford Pinchot, who is a persistent fisherman in political waters, exemplifies more than anyone else in American public life how the itch for public office can break down one's intellectual integrity." The character of the debate between the two men rarely rose above this level until the begin-

ning of World War II rendered the question moot. The forests stayed in the Department of Agriculture.

Appropriately, much of Pinchot's remaining years were spent in the writing of *Breaking New Ground*, which remains one of the central documents of the American conservation movement. That was a legacy worth the offering, and it is a pity that he did not live to see its publication before his death on October 4, 1946.

But the essential legacy of this committed, driven man, this public servant, this prince of rectitude, is the national forests themselves. There are 191 million acres of them now, spreading over the mountain slopes and river valleys of the West like a great dark blanket, still the center of controversy, still threatened and mismanaged and nurtured and loved as they were when the son of a dry goods merchant first walked in an American wood and wondered what could be done to save it for the future. ★

T. H. Watkins, a former senior editor on this magazine, has been editor of *Wilderness*, the magazine of the Wilderness Society, since 1982. He is the author or coauthor of nineteen books, including the recently published *Righteous Pilgrim: The Life and Times of Harold L. Ickes*, which has been nominated for a National Book Award and from which portions of this article were adapted.



A solitary pine tree adorns the original badge of the U.S. Forest Service, which was founded by Gifford Pinchot at the beginning of the century. An article inside reveals the highborn, zealous father of conservation.

U.S. D.A. FOREST SERVICE GREY TOWERS NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK