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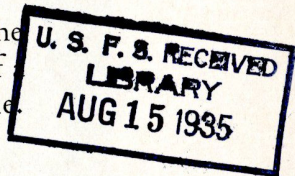
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This Department of The American-German Review is for Discussion of the Special Activities of The Oberlaender Trust, an Integral Part of Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation

Editorial Note: The main activity of The Oberlaender Trust during the past summer was in the field of Forestry. This is the beginning of work which we hope will be of great value to the American people.



What We May Learn From German Forestry

By HENRY S. GRAVES

DURING the past summer a group of American business men, representing the lumber and pulp industries, visited Germany and Austria, to study the problems of forestry on private lands and the results obtained through many years of experience. This visit, conducted under the auspices of the Oberlaender Trust, was very significant in view of the present effort of foresters and lumbermen to introduce in the United States a better handling of private forest lands. It indicates the genuine interest of the leaders of our forest industries in the new movement of private forestry, and their desire to learn from the experience of other countries such facts as may be helpful in working out practical problems on their own lands.

The influence of the German-speaking countries in the field of forestry has been very great throughout the world. They were among the earliest of nations to develop the practice of forestry and have always been leaders in scientific research, experiment, and education. Forestry has been practiced on an extensive scale for more than a century, and there are individual forests which have been under scientific management for a

much longer period. It is natural that in the initiation of forestry in new countries German influence should play a prominent part. Carl Schurz was a stalwart advocate of forestry, and during his service as Secretary of the Interior, from 1877 to 1880, fought for reforms in the handling of the forests on the Public Domain. B. E. Fernow, a German forester, who was Chief of the Division of Forestry of the United States Department of Agriculture from 1886 to 1898, made a conspicuous contribution in laying the first foundations of forestry in this country. Other early leaders of German birth and training were Filibert Roth and C. A. Schenck. Moreover, a number of Americans who entered the field before the establishment of our own schools of forestry studied at German institutions and in German forests. One could also point out the part played by Germans and their institutions in the early history of forestry in British India and Japan, and in Great Britain and other countries of Europe.

After the turn of the century and the development of numerous forest schools in the United States, there grew up a belief that our conditions

were so distinctive that little of practical value could be learned from abroad. Some even criticized our early efforts in forestry as being too much influenced by theories derived from Germany. In recent years this sentiment has changed very radically among leaders in forestry. The change is due to the enlargement and intensification of scholarly research and practice and the realization that, though the application of forestry must vary enormously in accordance with the varying character of forests and economic conditions, the principles of science and, too, of economics are universally applicable. Hence, of late years, our foresters have more and more looked to other countries, to study their methods, in research and practice, in search of experiences which would be helpful to us in our own work. It is now discovered by our foresters that there is a great deal that can be learned abroad, that many of the same difficulties in forestry are encountered in Germany and other foreign countries as in the United States, and that their approach to the solution of practical problems is of value to us, even though not wholly applicable in detail.

At the present time we are confronted by the fact that our timber resources have been depleted over a wide area and that many communities, and even whole regions, formerly supported by these resources, have been gravely injured through the depletion of the merchantable timber or the destruction of the forest cover. It is clear that the restoration and building up of forests must play a very important rôle in the enlargement of local industrial activities in rural sections, in encouragement of part-time farming, in restoration of land values, in control of soil erosion, in the lessening of freshets and upland floods, and in the whole economic and social problem of readjusted and orderly land use.

There are two major problems in forestry from a public standpoint; first, to handle the remaining timber resources in a way that will build up and sustain the regions where the forests exist, rather than liquidate the timber without reference to later supplies for use and thereby break down and impoverish local communities; and, second, to build up the depleted and degraded forests so that they may contribute to local industrial life as well as supply the needs of the country generally with raw material. The accomplishment of these purposes, intelligently carried out, will permit the realization of other values from forests, such as control of run-off and of erosion, recreation, and other public benefits.

Some of these purposes can be achieved only through public ownership of forest land. But we

have not reached the point where we must acknowledge that there is no place for private forests, including those handled industrially on a large scale. Hence it is important to private owners and industrialists, as well as to foresters in public employ, to secure all the information that may be of possible value from the experience of Germany and other European countries.

The first lesson that can be learned from Germany is what may actually be accomplished in the way of production of timber of high quality and yield. One of the greatest problems in this country is that a very large portion of the second-growth forests is degraded in composition, in form of trees, and in yield of material of potential value. Many of our better species are capable of very rapid growth and, with proper management, of large yield of products of good quality. The very inspection of forests that for years have been well handled, such as are found in Germany, is an inspiration to find the way to secure similar results in this country.

A second lesson from Germany is the illustration of the results of forests managed on the basis of sustained yield. The objective of sustained yield has always been recognized in the management of our public forests. The conception is comparatively new to private owners in this country and there are many who even today do not fully grasp its significance and its possibility as applied to private lands. It is the antithesis of timber liquidation. It involves not only provision for forest replacement after cutting, usually by natural reproduction, but also the leaving of immature trees as a basis for succeeding cuttings.

Sustained yield means permanence of industry. It means permanence of industrial activities and employment in forest regions. One may find in Germany many examples of private properties which for years have been under a sustained yield management, with results of great value to the owners. In some cases the forests are large enough to yield regular returns each year and to sustain independent manufacturing establishments. Smaller forests may yield continuous quantities of timber for sale to local mills, or the cuttings may be made periodically. If all the forests in a locality are managed on a basis of annual or periodic sustained yield, the local industries are supplied with timber, employment is uninterrupted and the community receives full benefit from the resources. We need a great deal more specific information regarding the effect of well-managed forests in Germany on the permanence and prosperity of local communities, regarding the way in which small private forests contribute to community life, and

regarding the decentralization of the industries which manufacture lumber and fabricate wood products. Such information would be of great value in connection with the regional planning that is being undertaken today in many sections of the country.

The lumber and timber products industries in this country have undertaken to introduce, on their lands, measures of protection and woods practices which are essential in the conservation of the forests. This is a coöperative undertaking. The Federal Government has made certain concessions relative to the application of the Anti-Trust laws and proposes to assist the owners in various other ways; the private owners are undertaking to do their part in applying the principles of forestry in the handling of their forest properties. So far this plan is wholly on a temporary basis. If the principles of the National Industrial Recovery Act are made permanent, there will arise many questions regarding the relationship of the Government to the handling of private forests, particularly in the enforcement of such code regulations as may be established. The question of requirements by the state in woods practices on private lands is one of vital current interest in Germany. The problems in Germany and other European countries, as contrasted with our own, and the manner of approach to state aid and to state regulations designed to insure good woods practices, merit our most serious study. It is not only a question of the wording of laws, but also how the coöperative and regulatory features are organized and how the policies work in practice.

One feature of public coöperation with forest owners concerns the establishment of a sound system of taxation. The present system in this country, with its inconsistencies and uncertainties, constitutes one of the great obstacles to the practice of forestry. The Forest Service has already assembled information regarding the general system of forest taxation in Germany and elsewhere. There is need of further interpretation of the practical application of the system. This suggests the desirability for work on the ground by one or more Americans familiar with our own taxation problems. An immense amount of educational work is needed in demonstrating to private owners the woods practices suited to their special requirements. The Federal Government and the States have been doing this type of work on an extensive

scale, especially with farmers and other small owners. The organization of extension teaching in Germany differs somewhat from that used in this country and is believed by some to be more effective in practice. Further information in regard to this type of coöperation with private owners, as practiced in Germany, is desirable.

Still again there is an extensive field of inquiry in the utilization and marketing of forest products. We often mistakenly assume that the problem of markets in Germany and the neighboring states is simple and that uniformly high prices are regular and certain. It would be of great value to the lumber industry and to foresters to know more specifically about the problems of marketing timber in Germany, the trends in prices, the difficulties in disposing of inferior products, the use of by-products, the development of laminated structural timbers, the relation of prices and markets both to private and to public forest management, the organization of lumber manufacturing and distribution, and the like.

The foregoing are only a few of the features in which the experiences and practices in the German-speaking countries would be of interest and value in meeting our present-day problems in forestry. One might enlarge on the value of more specific information in regard to silvicultural practices, methods and results of research, methods of education in forestry, collection and testing of seed for forest planting, development of high-quality strains of various species, control of erosion and torrents in mountain areas, public control of protection forests, regional service of forests in recreation, conservation of wild life, combating of insect and fungous pests, and recent developments in logging. The list might be expanded almost indefinitely.

It is gratifying that the Oberlaender Trust has interested itself in the field of forestry and has undertaken to aid the people of this country to obtain the benefit of the experiences of Germany and other German-speaking countries in matters which present problems analogous to our own. We are seeking to bring about in this country a readjustment of some of our old ideas and of our former practices in order to strengthen, on a more permanent basis, our economic, industrial, and social life. I believe that we can find many things in the experience of Germany in forestry that will help American forests to contribute to this end.

Foresters and Lumbermen Visit Germany and Austria

TWELVE men, representing various phases of the lumber industry in the United States, were invited by the Oberlaender Trust to make a brief study of forestry conditions in Germany and Austria during the past summer. The group was composed of the following:

W. R. Brown, Assistant Treasurer,
Brown Company, Berlin, New Hampshire.

P. R. Camp, Vice-President and General Manager,
Camp Manufacturing Company, Franklin, Virginia.

Wilson Compton, Secretary-Manager,
National Lumber Manufacturers Association,
Washington, D. C.

George F. Cornwall, Editor,
The Timberman, Portland, Oregon.

J. J. Farrell, President,
Farrell Lumber Company, Poland, New York.

Robert B. Goodman, Secretary,
Goodman Lumber Company, Marinette, Wisconsin.

C. H. Guise, Professor of Forest Management,
Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

L. K. Pomeroy, President,
Ozark Badger Lumber Company, Wilmar, Arkansas.

John Raine, President,
Meadow River Lumber Company, Rainelle, West
Virginia.

Lee Robinson, President,
Mobile River Saw Mill Company, Mount Vernon,
Alabama.

Theodore S. Walker, Resident Manager,
Red River Lumber Company, Westwood, California.

John W. Watzek, Jr.,
Crossett Watzek Gates, Chicago, Illinois.

The party sailed on July 26th. Arriving in Germany, they spent a few days in Berlin, and then motored to forests in Germany, in Czechoslovakia, and in Austria.

Dr. Franz Heske, Director of the Forstliche Hochschule at Tharandt near Dresden, and his assistant, Dr. Reinhard Trendelenburg, were in charge of the group.

The reports submitted by members of the party are too voluminous to be printed in full. A few extracts, however, will serve as a report and as a commentary on some of the points raised by Dr. Henry S. Graves in his article, *What We May Learn From German Forestry*.

Dr. Cedric H. Guise:

"August 13th and 14th—One of the highlights of the tour was the trip made on these two days to the 60,000 acre forest of Count von Arnim at Bautzen. Here is a property on which are combined agriculture, forestry, mining, wood utilization (sawmill and paper mill), and tile manufacture. The industrial and management phases are completely and effectively centralized under a general director, with heads for each of the principal undertakings. Count von Arnim had planned carefully for the American visitors and prepared distribution maps and statistical material dealing with his operations. Opportunities were provided for visits to representative sections of the forests, the sawmill, the paper mill, the 2,000 acre park—Pueckler Park, one of the most famous in Europe—the areas given over primarily to game, and the castle, over one thousand years old. The party were entertained by the Count at dinner on the 13th.

"As with the other forest properties visited, this one is operated on a sustained yield basis and all operations are controlled by a forest working plan, which is revised every ten years. On this property were forests with trees of extraordinary size and development. A fire-protection system, with ten towers, has been established there.

"It is possible to grow forests of high quality and heavy yield, exactly as agricultural crops are produced, if the proper technical attention is devoted to their management. At the same time it is apparent that economic factors are of the greatest importance in making possible sustained yield management. To me the entire problem resolves itself into a question of land and forest ownership in relation to capital values, and the political treatment accorded to the owner by the state. It is noteworthy that every forest visited was in the hands of a prince, a count or a baron. These properties were acquired in many cases in feudal times, and there is no thought of capital values on the part of the owners. They regard them as so much property which produces, through the integration of forestry, agriculture, and, in some cases, other enterprises, an annual net income sufficient to give them a fair living and sustain the entire

Homes of Forest Workers



A German Tree Nursery



The Result of a Forestry Plan



Fuel and Fencing Poles—Some of the first products of a German Sustained Yield Forest



property in productive form. This in itself constitutes an object lesson and reflects a point of view of tremendous and far-reaching value to our own forest owners, regardless of the economic structure of their own organizations. Particularly is this true in view of the present economic trends in the United States.

"Distinct social problems are involved, whereby the owners recognize the obligation to provide a livelihood for a considerable number of families who live and work on their estates; at all of the estates the owners would tell of the number of families whom they regarded as integral parts of the joint enterprises, and explain that they felt a definite obligation to see that these people had the opportunity to gain a living."

W. R. Brown:

"It is one thing to face a desperate situation involving only oneself, but it is still another thing to see a situation clearly when it affects our children and our country and to act with some degree of altruism and at some personal sacrifice for the future good. The latter has been a characteristic note abroad for some hundreds of years and is the effect of inheritance, environment, and training. The results are to be seen on every hand, magnificent forests covering every acre of land not specially suitable for agriculture; tall, straight, well spaced, clear of underbrush, traversed by good paths and roads, from which a few trees a year are gleaned when mature, or where their removal is justified by further improvement to the surrounding stand, and the interstices where cutting on a larger scale has been done, promptly filled in by young growth naturally or artificially encouraged. Around this system of sustained yield has grown up a personnel of professionally trained foresters, with assistants, and forest rangers, that have a place of high honor in the nation, comparable to the officers in the army. In its ranks are many cultured individuals, who think and live forestry to the exclusion of all else, and work conscientiously under plans laid out many years before by their predecessors, by means of which the forest cover is changed and improved in small, definite areas toward the theoretical ideal. Each year painstaking records are made of cut and change, and every five or ten years an inventory is taken and plans checked over and modified.

"Great strides have been made in surveying and mapping the forests. At Tharandt Forest School we were shown what was said to be the most perfect and accurate machine in the world for interpreting and recording on paper, automatically, by the

pantograph method, serial aerial photographs. By this machine the contour of the ground is ascertained to an accuracy of ten inches and the size, height, volume, species and density of the trees thereon, to an astonishing degree of accuracy. Estimates made this way have been proved by repeated trials to be more reliable than those made on the ground by the usual methods. The principle of the stereoscopic angle is made use of by two overlapping photos, taken by airplane in succession at a given height and at a known speed, in a perpendicular manner; these photos, when placed in the machine, one on the right and one on the left side, and coordinated in a central picture, show to the eyes a certain depth of forest, which is the height of the trees. This the machine accurately measures and records by the pantograph as the operator follows the contours of the trees, and from the size and character of the top foliage the volume of the bole of the tree can be gauged by rules that have been proved by experience to be correct. The stand per acre is arrived at by counting the tops of the various species. This form of aerial estimate is much cheaper than the usual ground method, especially for great areas, and those which are relatively inaccessible."

Wilson Compton:

"This trip has opened up excellent opportunities, developed fine contacts with leading German forest owners and foresters, and focused thought on German forestry experience in many directions useful to the United States. I should think that further development of this field by the Oberlaender Trust might well take the form of a more explicit and exhaustive investigation of specific phases of Germany's forestry and forest economics, such as financial operations, forest and forest industry taxation in all its forms, organization of forest administration, forestry laws and their administration, and forest utilization.

"We have much to learn from Germany in the planning and administration of forest properties. Germany, I think, can learn much from us in the utilization of forest products, especially the technology."

J. J. Farrell:

"There are valuable lessons to be learned, not only from the standpoint of German forest practice but from the manner in which Germans live and make the best of conditions that are imposed upon them—conditions that, I believe, few countries of the world could stand up under."

Robert B. Goodman:

"At the last meeting of the group the general situation was carefully reviewed and we came to the unanimous conclusion that in addition to the statistical data we have taken, which is to be corroborated by a memorandum that Dr. Heske and Dr. Trendelenburg are now preparing, there should be a thoroughgoing summary of forest operations in Germany and in Czechoslovakia, with particular reference to the management plans of the forests we visited. Dr. Heske and Dr. Trendelenburg have volunteered their services in its compilation and can obtain some sample 'revier' maps, and the photographs which we have made can be drawn upon for illustration.

"While many individual American foresters are familiar with European forest practice, particularly in the Scandinavian countries and in the Black Forest, few foresters, except those who have traveled in Saxony, in Silesia and in Bohemia, are familiar with the general developments of natural reproduction in sustained yield management in these regions. Few, if any, foresters or timber owners have a definite understanding of the forest economics, the forest '*politik*,' the silviculture, or the utilization obtaining in Central Europe."

L. K. Pomeroy:

"Among the first facts impressed upon us was the efficient manner in which the land use problem had been solved in the countries visited. Our first big lesson was that lands could and should be segregated for the best uses to which they are adapted and then devoted strictly to producing for the needs of the population of the nation as a whole.

"The land of Germany is divided as follows: 46% is devoted to agriculture, 27% to forestry, 11% to meadows, 5% to grazing, and 11% is taken up by roads, rivers, recreational parks, and miscellaneous uses.

"15.3% of all forests in Germany are community-owned. These provide healthful recreational facilities for the people and revenue for local government through the sale of products grown. Most important, they provide work for the community during the depression periods.

"In America all properties (forests) are held as the exclusive possession of the present owner.

"In Germany all properties are regarded as belonging not merely to the present owner but to future generations and are only under the management and protection of the present owner.

"Forest crops have been continuously harvested and enjoyed without depleting the aggregate forest stands.

"We were also informed that the forest owners, including those owning small wood lots as well as those owning large estates, have been the most secure and generally prosperous of all classes during the uncertainty of the past two decades.

"It was interesting to see that nearly all forestry workers lived in comfortable homes and had from five to eight acres of tillable land (subsistence homesteads) on which they raised their food.

"As we traveled through the country, we saw many small, well-kept towns and villages inhabited by people of robust and healthy appearance. Some of these were villages of forest workmen but many were just ordinary villages and small towns such as are found all over America. We learned that in many instances these communities supported themselves at all times and through even major economic calamities without serious unemployment and without huge relief expenditures or doles. This enviable condition was brought about, we were informed, largely by the forests.

"When these communities encounter a period of unemployment, there is no dole nor serious relief problem. The unemployed report to the local officials and are put to work immediately planting or thinning, or harvesting the timber crops by cutting fuel, pulpwood, or logs.

"As a rule, seeds are gathered from trees selected for their suitability as progenitors of future generations of trees. These seeds are planted in nurseries and raised with the utmost care until they are from two to three years old. They are then transplanted to either clear-cut areas or used to fill in blank spaces that have developed within the forests because of heavy utilization or other causes. In contrast with the American policy of leaving seed to naturally re-seed cut-over areas (which is a limited practice in itself) the German system of intensive planting insures a fully stocked acreage at all times and causes every available foot of land to be productive.

"An interesting and significant fact that we learned in Germany, especially in view of the greatly depreciated values of timber in the United States of late, was that, because of the excellent care and fine upkeep of the forests, combined with their complete utilization, European bankers rate timber among the highest of all forms of investment."

T. S. Walker:

"The thing which perhaps impressed me most, especially by way of contrast with conditions in the United States, was the spirit of tradition and responsibility which seems to permeate each one of the forest owners. Apparently, even aside from any

question of state regulations, these owners would no more think of cutting off their forests than we would of taking out insurance on a building and then burning it for the insurance. I think they would consider both actions in precisely the same category.

"We also found that in Germany they have a tax setup without which, in my opinion, sustained yield in private forests is almost, if not entirely, impossible; and I do not see how there can be much progress in the United States until the tax situation is remedied, as the burden of carrying timberland is now so great that, in my opinion, it is not good business for any individual to undertake it, except perhaps in the most favored sections of the country, where the growth is extremely rapid, and as to even there I have serious doubts."

John W. Watzek, Jr.:

"Although the intense way in which forestry is practised abroad was a revelation to me as well as an inspiration to do better work in America, the one outstanding lesson that I learned on the trip was the sense of responsibility the German-speaking forest owners feel toward their fellow men. We in America have much to learn in regard to the social aspect of forestry. It is an inherited tradition among all of these foreign forest owners that only after they have carried out their social responsibilities not merely to their fellow workmen but also to their families, can they enjoy the fruits of ownership.

"There are more lumbermen in the United States than one might imagine who would like nothing better than to operate their properties on a sustained yield basis such as generally obtains in Europe. These owners realize their responsibilities to future generations, but many of them have been prevented from carrying them out because public opinion has not been aroused sufficiently in this country to the necessity of radically changing our methods of taxation, and also, what is particularly true in the South, to the great damage that occurs annually from light woods fires. In Germany and in Czechoslovakia this question of taxation has been settled for centuries. The major tax that forest owners pay is a yield tax and an income tax. The *ad valorem* tax on the property itself is very slight. In addition to this, everyone is fire-conscious and fires simply do not occur.

"If the Oberlaender Trust decides to publish an account of this year's trip to Germany, I believe that no greater good could be accomplished than by having it stress the necessity of solving our fire problem. These two matters are possible of attainment once the American people know the whole

story, and it is for this reason that no effort should be spared to acquaint Americans with these two fundamental facts."

Municipal Government

During the summer of 1933 the Oberlaender Trust sponsored the study trip of seventeen leading officials from American cities, representing various branches of municipal government. These men observed the methods of administration in several German cities, and acquainted themselves especially with the functions of the German officials whose positions corresponded to their own.

As a further step in promoting an exchange of experience in this field, the Oberlaender Trust this year made it possible for seven executives of the American Municipal Association and state Municipal Leagues to visit Germany, after attending the Conference of the International Union of Local Authorities at Lyons, France. Social insurances, housing, the relation of universities to public administration, and training for public service were some of the subjects to which most attention was paid. The high professional quality of German officials and certain enlightened features of the tax system aroused the interest of the Americans.

The members of this party were Paul V. Better, Executive Director of the American Municipal Association, through whose offices the arrangements were originally made; Louis Brownlow, Director of the Public Administration Clearing House, Chicago; Harold D. Smith, Director of the Michigan Municipal League and President of the American Municipal Association; Morris Lambie, Executive Secretary of the League of Minnesota Municipalities; Walter Nelson, Jr., Director of the League of Texas Municipalities and Mayor of Wichita Falls, Texas; Frank C. Higginbotham, Director of the Oklahoma Municipal League; and Frank Bane, Director of the American Public Welfare Association.

A more intensive examination of local government problems was made by Mr. Howard P. Jones, Executive Secretary of the National Municipal League. Under the auspices of the Trust, Mr. Jones spent the past summer in Germany studying particularly the professionalization of the public service.

City Planning

"We in the United States have much to learn from Germany and neighboring countries on the harmonious occupation of the countryside," writes Professor Arthur C. Comey, of the Harvard School of City Planning, after several weeks spent in

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Francis Daniel Pastorius

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the overture was regarded as a troublesome matter. "It was judged not to be so proper for this Meeting to give a Positive Judgment in the Case, It having so General a Relation to many other Parts, and therefore at present they forbear It."

The agitation thus begun by the Germantown Friends continued slowly for many years but gradually gathered momentum. Eight years later the Yearly Meeting and Friends were advised not to encourage the importation of any more Negroes. Sentiment grew slowly, but it was not until two generations later, through the efforts of Anthony Benezet, a French Friend, John Woolman, and others, that the Quakers of Pennsylvania and New Jersey placed their official stamp of disapproval on the system; later numerous members who declined to manumit their slaves were disowned from membership.

Pastorius died in Germantown, February 27, 1719, and was undoubtedly buried in the Friends' burial ground connected with the meeting house at Coulter and Main Streets. No stone marks his grave.

No portrait of him or of any member of his immediate family is known. It is a pity that his next-door neighbor, Dr. Christopher Witt, who produced what is thought to be the first oil portrait made in the Colony, that of the famous hermit of the Wissahickon, Johannes Kelpius, did not try his hand with Pastorius as a sitter. The latter says of himself in one of his fragmentary notes that he "is of a melancholy choleric complexion and therefore gentle, given to sobriety, solitary, studious, doubtful, shame-faced, timorous, pensive, constant, of a slow wit with obliviousness."

"If any do him wrong
He can't remember 't long."

To this self-depreciative description and as a suitable epitaph let us add the testimony of William Penn, who pronounced Pastorius a sober, upright, prudent and pious man.

City Planning

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studying from the planner's viewpoint the esthetic control of village and open-country constructions. Professor Comey's observations bear on a field that is coming into prominence in this country as the trend toward decentralization of population in-

creases, and it is therefore of interest to know that after motoring through several countries Professor Comey declared that the conditions in Germany and other Northern European countries were particularly relevant to American tendencies.

Agricultural Biochemistry

In the vitamin field chemical research by German institutions is far in advance of the nutritional phases, according to Prof. R. Adams Dutcher of Pennsylvania State College School of Agriculture. Dr. Dutcher's objectives, on a five months' study tour of Germany, included general educational programs and also specific research work in agricultural biochemistry.

Public Recreation

A study of the use made of natural resources for public recreation took Mr. Charles Downing Lay, landscape architect of New York City, through Germany, Austria, and surrounding countries last summer. Mr. Lay has designed the new Marine Park for Brooklyn, and his observations on the trip were made with that park especially in mind. He found the absence of amateur park management, especially in designing, responsible for many of the features of German recreational parks that most favorably impress the American visitor.

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DR. HENRY H. MEYER, Dean of the School of Religious Education and Social Service at Boston University, and a noted educator, was the recipient of an Oberlaender grant enabling him to gather information in Germany for the completion of his *History of Religious Education*. His visits to all parts of the country brought him into contact with the leading authorities of all the major religious groupings, as well as with the people themselves in congregations and schools. Besides publishing his book, Dr. Meyer plans to use the material gathered in lectures and articles of popular interest.

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SENATOR ELBERT D. THOMAS from Utah, member of the United States Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, visiting Germany on an Oberlaender Trust award last summer, sought to familiarize himself with German character and civilization as revealed in social and economic conditions, education, and contacts with all classes of people. Senator Thomas also had a number of opportunities to address groups of people interested in American problems.