

# PRESENTATION OF THE DEED AND TRUST

MAURICE A. HUTCHESON, *President*

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

I believe an occasion of this kind portrays the American way of life at its very best. We are gathered here today to insure the future of a small sample of America as it might have existed at the time the Pilgrim Fathers landed.

We are not here as Republicans or Democrats, Christians or Jews, wealthy or poor; we are here as American citizens interested in seeing that our children and our children's children have an opportunity to see and know what America was like in the beginning.

When it became known that these few acres of virgin America might fall victim to the woodman's ax, thousands upon thousands of people in all walks of life rolled up their sleeves to prevent such a tragedy. They gave generously of their time and money. They worked long and hard, with no hope of personal reward or glory. In doing so they demonstrated one of the qualities which I believe makes America great—the capacity for forgetting differences and working together harmoniously for a common cause.

I doubt if anywhere else in the world this occasion could be duplicated.

What makes me particularly happy is the fact that the organization which I have the honor of heading, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, has been given the opportunity to contribute to this very worthy project.

Next to farming, carpentry is the oldest vocation in the world. Somewhere back in the dim ages before history was written some ancient man must have hollowed out a rotten log and thus became the very first carpenter. In the thousands of generations since that time carpentry has developed into a complex skill. But the close tie between carpentry and the woods has changed very little.

As a whole, carpenters have, I believe, a greater interest in our forests and woods than any other branch of society. Materials come and go, but to the carpenter, wood is king of them all. The kinship between carpenter and wood is as old as mankind.

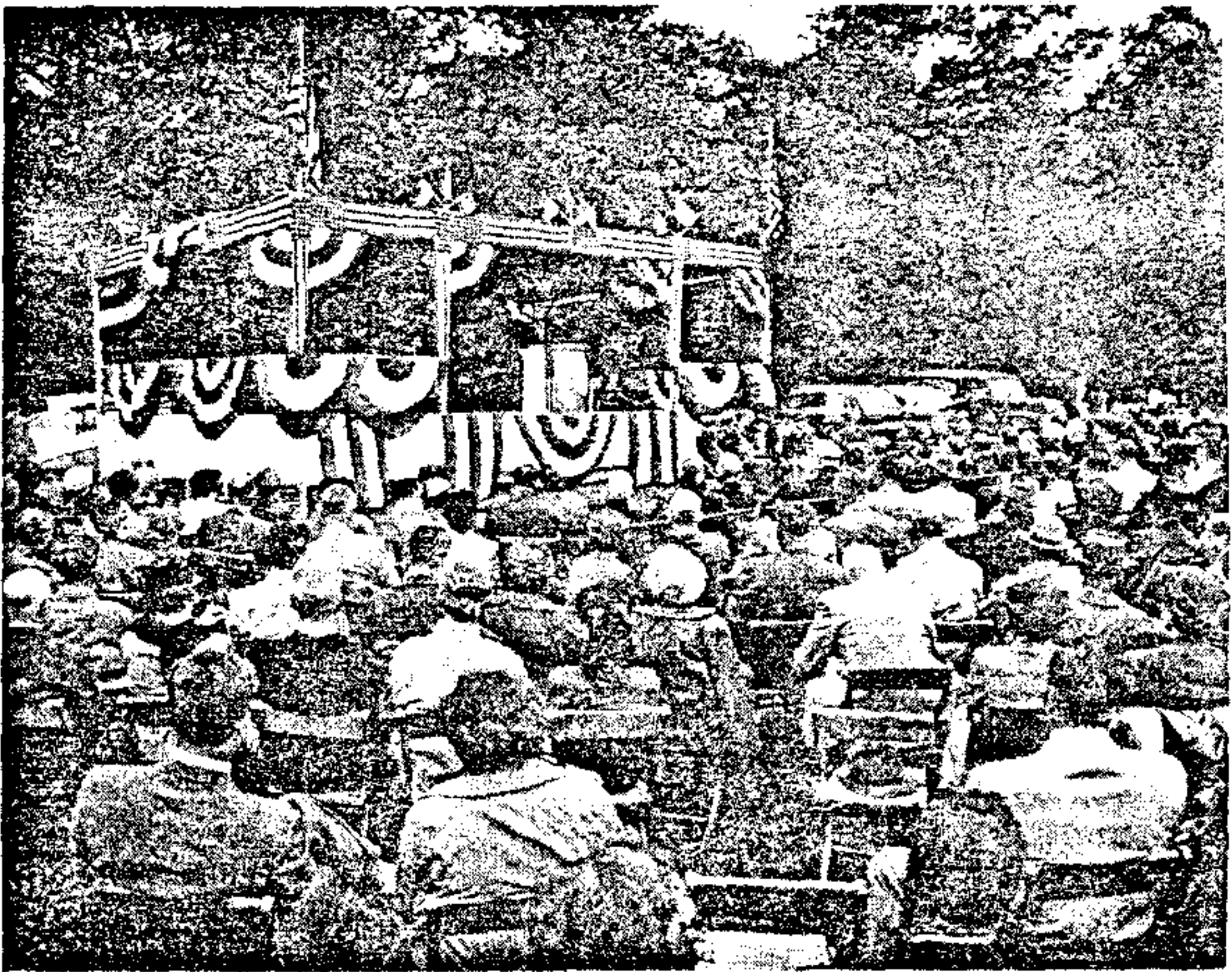
Therefore, whatever happens in the woodlands of America is close to his heart. The diseases and insects which threaten the forests are his enemies. The harvesting methods which ruin reseeding arouse his anger. The scientific advancements which promise better forests for tomorrow get his whole-hearted support. And most of all, he believes that no man can visit the woods without refreshing his spirit and rebuilding his hope.

It is only natural that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America should have a deep interest in the saving of these woods for study purposes. What scientists learn here may affect our future for generations to come.

For all these reasons it gives me great pleasure to present trusteeship in this small island of original America to Rutgers • The State University as a gift from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America in the name of one of its outstanding departed leaders, William I. Hutcheson.

I know that the University will use this heritage wisely and well. I know that under the direction of the University, it will be used to expand the horizon of man's knowledge. I am sure it can be enlisted to turn men's minds away from material things and back to things of mind and spirit.

It is entirely fitting that the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America should make this contribution to man's advancement. For three-quarters of a century the United Brotherhood has devoted all its efforts toward making life richer, happier, and fuller for its 800,000 members. On behalf of each of them I make this presentation.



*Dedication of the Hutcheson Memorial Forest, October 15, 1955*