

Buffaloes and Trees

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to rest from the cares of the city. They propose to keep for us a beautiful countryside through which we can drive, or pause in shade or shadow, to camp or rest along the way.

The plan has everything for it and nothing against it. It reduces the fire hazard because, in the parks, snags and fire traps will be removed. It will not take any appreciable sum of money from the tax roll. Most of the land can be acquired by donation from the owners who are becoming mindful of the great need. Or it could be acquired by outright purchase for reasonable sums.

The main benefit which overbalances any expenditure is the spiritual value, the moral uplift and physical improvement the average person will experience, be he a native or visitor who uses the parkways along the highways.

If we must measure such things in terms of dollars, the advantages in favor of roadside parks as compared with fields of stumps and snags is one hundred to one. The advertising value alone is far greater than any possible cost of acquisition and maintenance plus loss in taxes.

The original American Indians lamented the passing of the buffaloes. May we never find ourselves lamenting

the passing of the wooded lands after making no effort to save them.

Every person who packs a camp kit or picnic basket, who fishes our streams or hunts in our fields and woods, or tramps our trails, everyone who likes nature for what it is and does for us, who loves the State in which he lives, should rise in his might and demand the building of a park system along every feasible portion of our highways. Future generations will praise him for it. Let us not forget that he who cuts a tree should plant another.

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