

# IRISH FORESTRY

---

Vol. 31

1974

No. 2

---

## Don't Slaughter your Horses Yet

ON page 171 we print a comment by an executive of the huge American Weyerhaeuser Company. While this statement was made before the recent multiplication of the price of oil and fertilizers, it still holds true, although possibly its interpretation may now be somewhat different in practice from what it might once have been.

We still need the sense of urgency, but now the emphasis may be rather less on the move towards a high level of technology in forestry work, such as has been reached in other countries. The general move in that direction in all fields is so massive and has gained such momentum that any change in its motion will be difficult to achieve. While this momentum may still lead to disaster there are signs at least of a move towards the brake lever. There are indications that people may wish for a lower level of change, for a quieter life style.

In our relatively undeveloped state we still have time to consider our options. Perhaps we might examine the so-called "intermediate technology", with equipment designed to use the minimum of energy required to get the job done, and at the same time provide more employment of a varied and rewarding nature.