November 29, 1965

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I wish it good luck and extend to you thanks for including me in your plan.

With kindest regards

Sincerely yours,
Fidelity Onion Skin
100% COTTON
FLUORESCENT

*** THE REFUGE ***

CREATED BY MR. WHEATLEY, PRESIDENT OF
W. L. WHEATLEY, INC.
PRODUCERS OF QUALITY
AND
FROZEN FOODS
AT
CLAYTON, DELAWARE

Story by:
W. G. Anthony
Smyrna, Delaware
September, 1965
INTRODUCTION

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He built a dam - impounded the water - made a lake and included an island. He planted Sycamore trees, a score or more, along the side of the lake following the highway. Across the lake, facing the East, he added flowering crabs backed with weeping willows. In the morning sunlight those trees of themselves and by their reflection created startling beauty. Ducks and geese and a crane or two came, stayed awhile, passed on and came back again.

The grove was old and so was its tangled undergrowth; the ground was marshy, uneven, treacherous, sour.

The man widened the stream, leveled the low places, filled them with rich soil, he limed it, sweetened it, made it smooth and sowed grass seed. He trimmed the trees, thinned them to give them room and let in the sunshine, - tulip poplars, gum, walnut, red maples - there was one gnarled, weather beaten, time punished monarch one hundred years old, if a day.

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Clayton is fortunate and Clayton has other stories - that without exaggeration could be told.

The people need to be introduced to themselves.
Now - just a little about the tree - the Meta Sequoia Glyptostroboidees or Dawn redwood.

According to the book, fifteen or twenty million years ago vast forests covered most of the Northern Hemisphere and among them existed all the species that make the cone bearing trees of our Northwest the wonders of the world. Think of trees, forests of them, three hundred feet tall. Somebody has pleasantly written - "one tires looking up at the great pillars that vanish somewhere in or beyond an evergreen canopy of foliage lending an air of majesty that suggests a touch of eternity."

The five glacial periods destroyed these luxurious forests under a continuous grinding process and pressure. However, the rocks of the tertiary and cretaceous periods preserved in fossils these pre-glacial trees. Four of the species of redwoods escaped in tracks the ice sheets didn't reach, they, the Sequoia Sempervirens and Sequoia Gigantia, both evergreens, found a home in California, the only place on earth where they could and did grow wild.

Here in Delaware we are especially interested in two other members of this great family believed to have been extinct fifteen or more million years. The Bald Cypress, Taxodium Distichum, the great lumber tree of the Atlantic and Gulf States from Delaware to Texas, and the Dawn redwood, Meta Sequoia Glyptostroboidees. These trees are cone bearers but they are not evergreens and because of closely related similarities are considered sisters. Fossils show that the Bald Cypress and the Dawn redwood grew over
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There is more -

And there is more about this great tree, if you are interested more on the practical side.

The Dawnredwood prefers a light, slightly acid, moist soil but well drained in full sun. Being a deciduous tree the best time to transplant it is from late fall after it has dropped its leaves until very early spring before the growth buds have begun to expand.

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In considering all trees, it might be well to remember it takes a big top to make a big bottom, and it takes a big bottom to make a big top; the top can be too big for the bottom but the bottom can't be too big for the top - bear it in mind when you trim, especially at transplanting time.

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