The Right of a State to Conserve Its Natural Resources.—
In many gas producing states such as West Virginia the supply of
natural gas is becoming so depleted that statutes attempting to
conserv[e it in one way or another are not uncommon. How far
a state may constitutionally conserve such resources for the people
of the state as against extra-state consumers is a problem, dealt
with by the writer in two articles referred to in the footnote.¹

How far such resources may be constitutionally conserved by a

¹ "The Right of a State to Restrain the Exportation of its Natural Resources," 26 W. Va. L. Qu. 1, and 26 id. 224. The writer wishes to take this opportunity to correct two errors (one typographical) in the second of these articles: (a) The first sentence in the second article contains this statement: "a state may by legis-

lative or administrative 'regulation' restrain the exportation of its natural re-

sources to the extent, at least, that such restraint is necessary to compel public

utilities to render adequate service therefrom to all interstate consumers." The

italicized word is a typographical error for intrastate. (b) The last paragraph of

the second article contains this statement: "The mere fact that there is a legis-

lative or administrative action enforcing the common-law duty to render adequate

service does not change the situation and make such action a 'regulation'." The

italicized phrase and the repetition thereof in that paragraph should have been

omitted; for, while the common-law enforcement of a common-law duty is not, as

explained in the article, a "regulation" in the sense in which the word "regulate"

is used in the commerce-clause of the Constitution, still a legislative or adminis-

trative declaration of that common-law duty is a "regulation" in the sense in

which the word "regulation" is used in the commerce-clause, for it prescribes a rule

for the future. The meaning of the word "regulate" in the sense in which it is

used in the commerce-clause is fully explained in the article. The actual conclu-

sion set forth in the statement above quoted and in the paragraph in question is,

however, believed to be correct.