he was persuaded to buy a mountain and "to build on it a summer refuge for tired authors, musicians, actors, singers and teachers." A company was formed to carry out the venture known as WILDACRES, on a peak under the shadow of Mount Mitchell. But the land boom collapsed in 1929, and Dixon again lost every dollar he had.

Dixon, though, was philosophic about such matters. "In my relation to material property," he said, "there has always been a screw loose in my make-up. I've always been able to make money but never tried to hold it. When times got hard, I've always been able to say to myself: "Cheer up, old boy, you'll soon be dead!" And what of it? If I should die tomorrow, with my last breath I'd say: 'My love to the world. I have lived a great, beautiful, thrilling adventure called life. The cycle ends. A new one begins. For I shall live again!"