

## PROMONTORY NEAR THE TAPPAN ZEE

*Lee Slonimsky*

From here the glistening Hudson's wider than  
the salt veined tidal flows off Rockaway  
that slowly surge their way to New York Bay:  
and just as much a sea as this hill's land.

The Dutch were so impressed by Tappan's span,  
they sealed the name of "Zee" to its vast way;  
the sailor who proposed more modest "lake"  
was shouted rudely down for being bland.

Spring's right for splashing sounds this wind awakes,  
as lilacs vein the air with purple scent:  
few oceans are so fringed by woods in bloom!

And gold's the sign of summer, coming soon,  
but not the sort explorers hunted, spent:  
noon's liquid brilliance brightens waves winds make.

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