

## A New Service for the

## Vegetation Care Industry

# The Consulting Arborist

A NEW SERVICE in arboriculture is available. Members of the American Society of Consulting Arborists now offer technical consultation on a nationwide basis. Their ability to provide appraisals and technical advice plugs a gap which heretofore existed in the non-crop vegetation care industry.

Though less than a year old, the group has members in 20 states. These members of the Society find that clients are eager to employ technically qualified consultants. Service in the horticultural field consists of identifying and advising on tree and plant diseases and insect infestations, tree appraisal work, consultation with architects on the outdoor aspects of business and municipal construction, appraisals and valuations as they apply to expropriations and claims. As governments widen streets, change highways and add new thoroughfares there is need for the opinion of the qualified consultant in arboriculture.

Clients who employ the consulting arborist include government departments at all levels, industries, utilities, insurance companies, attorneys, homeowners, and others. Because of their strict code of ethics and affiliation with a nationally organized group, Society members are finding a demand for their services.

### **Members Not Solicited**

The Society, which was some two years in developing a formal organization, does not solicit members. Prospective new members are screened carefully from

written reports and recommendations of Society members. A membership committee of the group makes formal recommendation for membership which is then passed on by the entire Society.

President of the group, Henry Vaughn Eames, a veteran arborist of Stockton, N. J., points out that Society members are a highly selective and qualified group of individuals who are available for special consultant services. Membership is based only on ability as an arborist and members need not belong to any formal group such as the International Shade Tree Conference or the National Arborists Association. Vaughn Eames points out that the group was created because of the need for highly qualified and unbiased opinions for new developments, help in organizing shade tree commissions, surveys, and legal work.

A veteran Canadian consultant, Norman J. Scott, president of the Canadian Horticultural Consulting Company of Willowdale, Ontario, has been helpful to the group. Besides visiting with them at an earlier session prior to organization, he met formally with the group at their recent meeting held in conjunction with the International Shade Tree Conference at Chicago.

Scott who has been practicing in Canada as an individual for a several years finds that he cannot alone meet the demand for his services. He regularly employs university staff personnel to assist him on a fee basis.

At the Chicago session, Scott



Membership Committee of the American Society of Consulting Arborists, left to right: George W. Goodall, Portland, Me.; Walter P. Morrow, Sewickley, Pa.; H. M. Van Wormer, Richmond, Va., chairman of the committee and also vice-president of the Society; and Riley R. Stevens, Portland, Ore.

told the Society members that the one thing they had to sell was their individual professional reputations and their personal integrity. He warned the group to build their Society only by the quality of the individual. He urged members to seek professional help in related fields as needed to arrive at a proper solution to any problem presented them in their work as consulting arborists.

#### Washington Headquarters

Clarke W. Davis, executive-secretary of the National Arborists Association, has been named to serve in the same capacity for the new Society. Headquarters for Davis and the group is 616 Southern Building, Washington, D. C. Officers besides Vaughn Eames who is president are: H. M. Van Wormer, Richmond, Va., vice-president, and Ray Gustin, Silver Spring, Md., who serves as secretary-treasurer.

Also at the Chicago session, Society members formally ap-

proved their official code of ethics. Besides requiring that every appraisal or consultation for any purpose include a written report signed by the consultant, the

code sets out the specifics of such a report. Every consultant report, for the benefit of the client, must include an adequate description of the trees or plant

President of the American Society of Consulting Arborists is Henry Vaughn Eames, Stockton, N. J., left, and with him, Ray Gustin, Silver Spring, Md., secretary-treasurer of the group.



material appraised, a statement of any special assumptions upon which the report has been based such as the completion or projected public or private improvements, or the validity of legal, engineering, or auditing opinion used if the consulting arborist

has reason to doubt them, the date, amount of loss value, a definition of the value estimated, and a statement of any present or contemplated interest in any plant materials involved if such interest exists.

Preamble for the Society

states that the group was founded to elevate and improve the standards of the consulting practices of the arboricultural profession, and pledges Society members to maintain a high level of trust and integrity in their practice.

## American Society of Consulting Arborists

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