

## MIDWESTERN SHADE TREE CONFERENCE

The 10th annual meeting of the Midwestern Chapter of the National Shade Tree Conference will be held February 23, 24, 25, 1955, in the Chase Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri. The purpose of the organization is to encourage the planting of more trees and ornamental shrubs, to raise the standards of tree care practices by dissemination of knowledge gained through laboratory research and field work and to promote more friendly cooperation among those engaged in arboriculture. Membership is composed of commercial arborists, city foresters, park personnel, nurserymen, educators, research scientists and others interested in the propagation and care of trees and shrubs.

The convention is open to all who wish to attend. Registration of delegates will start at 8:30 A.M., Wednesday, February 23, and the first paper on the educational program will be presented at 11:00 A.M. An attendance of approximately 300 members and guests is expected.

The program is primarily directed to discussion of problems of concern to those who perform tree work in the midwest, but included also are topics of interest to arborists from all sections of the country. Following presentation of each paper there will be a period for discussion and questions. Additional opportunity for questions and discussion will be provided in the Plant Clinic session which will be held Friday morning. Various tools and supplies used in arboricultural work will be on display in the Chase Hotel throughout the convention, with representatives on hand to explain their uses. A special program has been arranged for the ladies.

Included on the educational program are the following topics and speakers:

Correlating Planting To Modern Architecture, by Stuart M. Mertz, Landscape Architect, Clayton, Missouri; Ethical Practice Is Good Business, by Leslie Prichard, Advertising Censor and Research Director, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, St. Louis, Missouri; Tree Diseases In The Midwest, by Dr. T. W. Bretz, Professor of Forestry, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri; Trace Elements and Their Effect On Plant Life, by Dr. E. R. Spencer, Consulting Botanist and Plant Pathologist, Lebanon, Illinois; Damage To Shade Trees From Construction Operations, by Gerrit A. Visser, (Shield Shade Tree Specialists, Clayton, Missouri); Concentration and Timing On Antibiotic Sprays for Control of Fire Blight, by Dr. Robert N. Goodman, Professor of Horticulture, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri; Weather Effects On Tree Growth, by August P. Beilmann, Manager of The Arboretum, Missouri Botanical Garden, Gray Summit, Missouri; Dutch Elm Disease and Elm Phloem Necrosis, a film presented by Ernie Herrbach, Horticulturist, Standard Oil Company, Chicago, Illinois.

Our old friend Ted Booterbaugh was at St. Louis. Ted is really the big man on his course, not only being the Superintendent, but Chairman of the Green Committee and the entire committee.

Bob Duguid was reported in good shape again after an operation. One of his neighbors says he saw Bob cutting a green recently, so we know he must be all right.

Billy Smith, genial Geo. A. Davis representative is getting married in the near future. We offer our congratulations and the best of happiness.

There is liable to be a big run on rocking chairs after the wonderful address of Dr. George P. (Mr. Pete) Donaldson, President of Abraham Baldwin College, given at the banquet at St. Louis. We don't know when we have enjoyed anyone as much as we did Mr. Pete that night.

## PRACTICAL MAINTENANCE HINTS

Oftentimes the Superintendent is called upon to provide ice during the winter for skating, hockey and curling rinks. Many times tennis courts are picked as the ideal site for this purpose. A number of Superintendents have in the past had a great deal of difficulty in keeping ice on tennis courts in a satisfactory condition. Excessive use of calcium chloride is one of the contributing factors for this condition, and if it is planned to use such a place for ice skating in the winter, one should be very cautious in the use of the chemical during the summer months. Sometimes a portion of the parking lot is set aside as a skating rink and if the surface is composed of an asphalt compound, difficulty is also found there. This is due primarily to the dark color of the surface on which the ice is to be made. This dark color draws the heat from the sun's rays and the ice melts very quickly when so exposed. Since it is very difficult to shade ice on large areas, a light colored surface becomes necessary if we are to have good ice. This can be done by whitewashing the surface of the rink. It is possible to do this with your power sprayer, using hydrated lime and either hot or cold water. If applied in freezing temperatures, this thin sheet of water freezes and becomes the foundation for your ice. Light sprayings follow and the ice is built up in thin layers. When done in this manner, it is not necessary to have a perfectly level surface on which to build your ice. Another very important thing is to keep your ice in the best condition possible by frequent sealing of the surface by light sprays to prevent excessive thawing in above-freezing weather.

Ray Gerber, Senior Treasurer, has turned over funds in the Treasury to Al Johnson for safekeeping. Ray feels that the money is now in good hands and relieves him of that responsibility. His action probably was prompted by the vote of confidence given Al at our Annual meeting.

Al Johnson did a nice job as acting Chairman of the Election Committee at St. Louis.

Paul Burdett and Paul Jr. had a vacation in Florida before attending the St. Louis meeting. Paul Jr. turned out to be quite a fisherman, catching three sailfish in one day on a fishing jaunt in the Gulfstream. He is having the largest of the three mounted.

Some of the Hearts Club members ran into some unexpected bad luck at St. Louis. An invited guest to one of the sessions turned out to be a city slicker instead of a country sucker. Oh well, you can't figure them right all the time, boys. Anyway, he has promised a return engagement in the near future if you can catch up with him again.

After the meeting, the Chicago representatives scattered, some to Florida, some to Texas and some returned home to take a vacation at a later date.

The Roseman Tractor Equipment Company Open House on January 6 was a big success with an attendance of 200. A number of nice door prizes were won and all reported a wonderful time.

Dom Grotti was wondering whether he should take his clubs to St. Louis. Dom has played a lot of golf this open winter.

Chuck Daugherty of Geo. A. Davis Inc. entertained 68 Chicago Superintendents and their wives at a dinner party at St. Louis. It was a wonderful dinner and was enjoyed by all who attended.

Some of the boys who ate at Stan Musial's Restaurant claim that you can get more to eat there than any place they ever ate at. It is said that even Bill Krafft would be satisfied.

Marvin Gruening won the door prize at the banquet on Wednesday night. He got a nice portable radio.

We saw our old friend Scotty McLaren at the meeting. He looks hale and hearty and says he is feeling fine.