

Davey Field Men Attend School of Hard Knots

Knowledge of ropes and knots are important to tree men who must move about in tall trees. Ropes must be in good condition at all times and knots must be tied properly to minimize the chance of an accident.

Davey Institute of Tree Service, the only school of its kind, recently graduated 29 students following an intensive five week program in the care and perpetuation of shade trees. During the course, tree care men from 11 states received instruction and training in tree feeding, moving large trees, pruning, cabling and bracking, tree identification, landscape planting, tree surgery, control of insects and tree diseases, first-aid and safety.

W. A. Jeffers, Institute director, says that students Davey field men further their education in laboratory, classroom and field courses at this school founded in 1909. They learn the latest techniques available including a working knowledge of ropes and knots.

Sixty years ago, tree men worked with nothing more than a length of rope and a hand saw, says Jeffers.

Today they must know how to handle power tools, 70 foot cranes, skyworkers and all kinds of other mechanical equipment.

One of the newer sections in the course is insect control in conifers.

Davey students learn the latest methods for controlling cankerworm or gypsy moth, the leaf-eating worms that have caused extensive damage throughout the Northeastern U.S.



Practice makes perfect and these men associated with the Davey Institute are getting first hand experience in knots. They are: (l-r) J. L. Hutson, Greensboro, N.C.; H. W. Fielder, Yonkers, N.Y.; W. A. Jeffers, Institute Director; and L. E. Thompson, Denver, Colorado.

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