

NEFTIC AFFAIRS

Chairman: Edwin L. Giddings

CHAIRMAN GIDDINGS. In our first session we appointed a committee to consider reorganization of our Standing Technical Committees. I will now call on Ed Littlefield for the report of his committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON
REORGANIZATION OF THE STANDING TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

E. W. Littlefield, Chairman, H. I. Baldwin,
J. B. Carlaw, V. S. Jensen, F. Mergen

Early in July our Executive Secretary called the attention of the Chairmen of our present Technical Committees to the fact that, with the exception of the Tree Seed Certification Committee, there has been no committee activity during the past 2 years. He also requested an opinion from the Chairmen on whether their Committee should be continued.

The job assigned to this Committee seems to be that of "breaking dormancy". On the basis of suggestions and comments received from the Chairmen of our Standing Technical Committees, we recommend that rather than try to revise the dormant committees, it will be better to start over again. We therefore offer the following recommendations:

1. Continuation of the Seed Certification Committee,
2. Appointment of four new Technical Committees:
 - Committee on Basic Research
 - Committee on Improvement of White Pine
 - Committee on Improvement of Spruce
 - Committee on Improvement of Northern Hardwoods

We have selected these three species and species groups because they are of particular interest in the region; they are widely distributed; they are of high economic importance; and they apparently possess sufficient inherent variability to justify improvement effort.

We have also made recommendations, which I've passed to the Conference Chairman, with respect to the appointment of chairmen for these several committees; and have recommended that each chairman, if he accepts the appointment, select his own committee members, members who might be expected to do the most work. The committee chairmen should, of course, feel free to call on the officers or other members of NEFTIC for advice and help in organizing, their committee membership and committee work.

CHAIRMAN GIDDINGS. The following have been recommended for chairmen of the new Standing Technical Committees:

Seed Certification Committee - CLAUDE E. HEIT. (C. E. Farnsworth,, Chairman of this committee since its establishment, has asked to be relieved because he has accepted a 2-year ICA assignment to the Philippine Islands.)

Committee on Basic Research - FRANCOIS MERGEN.

Committee on Improvement of White Pine - HERSCHEL G. ABBOTT.

Committee on Improvement of Spruce - JAMES B. CARLAW.

Committee on Improvement of Northern Hardwoods - WILLIAM J. GABRIEL

GABRIEL. What is the work of the Basic Research Committee?

SCHREINER. A primary responsibility of that committee would be to stimulate interest in basic research problems on which nothing was being done; to point out basic research needs that were not covered here in the Northeast. Francois may wish to discuss this more fully.

MERGEN. This committee might also work towards the calling of a meeting where nothing but technical papers are presented. There is good work going on in forest genetics and we might get together at a national meeting where research people report and discuss their work.

SANTAMOUR. I agree with the importance of the committees that have been set up , but there are many people in the Northeast who are concerned with other species. Specifically, I might mention those working with larch, poplars, hard pines, and Christmas-tree species. I would suggest that we need a committee on improvement of other species.

SCHREINER. An excellent ideal I suggest that Chairman Giddings appoint Frank Santamour Chairman of a committee to report at the next Conference on progress and possibilities for improvement of other native and exotic species.

CHAIRMAN GIDDINGS. If there is no objection, I will ask Mr. Santamour to accept the chairmanship of such a committee.

The recommendations of the Committee on Reorganization of the Standing Technical Committees, and the appointment of a Committee on Improvement of Other Species, were approved by the Conference.

RESOLUTIONS

The Conference, by unanimous vote, adopted the following resolutions submitted by the Resolutions Committee, J. Nelson Spaeth, Chairman, C. H. Foster, and J. L. Hartranft:

Whereas research activities in forest genetics and tree improvement are expanding rapidly in most sections of the United States and Canada; and

Whereas foresters in general have little knowledge of the nature and importance of tree improvement work; and

Whereas much of the current reporting of research in forest genetics is in scientific journals not readily available to foresters; and

Whereas progress in tree improvement will be stimulated and aided when foresters as a whole appreciate its importance in the development of future wood supplies;

BE IT RESOLVED: that the Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference requests the Editors of the Journal of Forestry to schedule an entire issue., during 1958 or as soon thereafter as possible, for a symposium of solicited articles and regional reports on the progress, opportunities, and needs in this field.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED: that the Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference hereby expresses its appreciation to the University of Maine as host, and to the local Committee on Arrangements, for the fine provisions made for the comfort, convenience, and pleasure of the members of the Conference and their guests.

Orono, Maine
August 23, 1957