

ORIGIN, OBJECTIVES, AND MEMBERSHIP OF NEFTIC

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Our Program Chairman, Mr. H. Cedric Larsson, has requested a brief statement on the origin, objectives, and membership of NEFTIC. The Northeastern Forest Research Advisory Council sponsored the first Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference (held at Williamstown, Massachusetts, in 1953) to bring together research workers, practicing foresters, forest owners, and representatives of wood-using industries interested in better trees for our future forests.

The participants in this first meeting constituted themselves the Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference and set up the machinery for a permanent organization by the following Resolution:

WHEREAS at the call of the Northeastern Forest Research Advisory Council, the first Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference has assembled at Williamstown, Massachusetts, on August 25-26, 1953; and

WHEREAS this Conference has been a most interesting and stimulating gathering; and

WHEREAS the need for a permanent organization to carry on our work is apparent; therefor

BE IT RESOLVED:

That those present hereby constitute themselves the Northeastern Forest Tree Improvement Conference;

That this Conference select an Organization Committee to consist of a Chairman and two other members, to serve until the next Conference;

That this Organization Committee, in consultation with the Northeastern Forest Research Advisory Council, be empowered to appoint such other organization and technical committees as it may deem necessary;

That this Committee arrange for the publication of suitable minutes of this Conference;

That this Committee arrange for a second Conference, to be held in 1954.

The 2nd NEFTIC Conference was held at Mont Alto, Pennsylvania, August 24-25, 1954. Bylaws drafted by the Organization Committee were adopted by unanimous vote of the members at the Mont Alto Conference. Article 2 of the Bylaws recognized the undesirability of provincial limitations on membership.

Article 2. Membership - There shall be no regional limitation on membership. Any person interested in forest tree improvement may become a member by attendance at a meeting, or by election by the Executive Committee.

Since our forest trees do not recognize political boundaries, NEFTIC has always welcomed Canadian members. We are meeting here in Toronto because we recognize that eastern Canada is part of the Northeastern Forest Region.

¹Executive Secretary, NEFTIC.