

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE UTILIZATION OF FOREST PRODUCTS

SECRETARY WALLACE, of the Department of Agriculture, has issued a call for a national conference on the utilization of forest products, to take place in Washington on November 19 and 20, which will mark the first comprehensive attempt to consider the economic use of existing timber supplies in the forestry conservation program.

Premises on which conference is called

1. We are faced with the momentous problem of perpetuating a supply of forest products sufficient to meet the needs of the greatest wood-using nation in the world.

2. Our national forest policy and plans for reforestation, now in the formative stage, must be shaped so as to meet the basic requirements of use; at the same time, wood usage must be greatly modified to conform to the present under-supply, and eventually to the accomplishments possible through reforestation and protection.

3. Diminished forest resources will, within the next generation, have a radical effect on wood using practices, manufacturing enterprises and living conditions in this country. It is imperative that the existing supply be conserved and apportioned as effectively as possible.

4. Approximately two thirds of the present forest cut is lost in the processes of conversion and through inefficient use. Approximately one third of the loss is now preventable if available knowledge can be generally applied; one third is not now preventable, but continued research can probably determine how prevention may be accomplished; one third will probably remain permanently unpreventable.

5. Effective accomplishment in better utilization demands the joint efforts of federal, state and private interests in the development and execution of adequate plans for the following three types of activities: (1) application of research findings, (2) direction and coordination of economic tendencies, (3) further research.

Purpose of Conference

1. To obtain national recognition of the foregoing premises, and of the fact that better utilization of forest products ranks with forest protection and timber growing as one of three essential elements of an effective forestry program.

2. To establish a nationally representative advisory committee to assist the Secretary of Agriculture in formulating and carrying out adequate measures to insure the most efficient development and use of our forest resources.

Program of the Conference

The speakers and subjects will be selected with the

following objects in view:

1. To present a comprehensive idea of the nature and extent of the present preventable wastes, how the findings of research show prevention to be feasible, and how better utilization is retarded not only by economic conditions, but by failure to apply available knowledge.

2. To present a comprehensive idea of the nature and extent of the present unpreventable wastes, and how an enlarged program of research will develop means of prevention.

3. To promote discussions of policies and measures which might be supported and executed by industrial, professional and governmental agencies, both singly and jointly, to insure the most efficient development and use of our forest resources.

4. To expedite action by the conference in creating a permanent advisory committee on utilization of forest products.

Representatives at Conference

The Secretary of Agriculture has asked all associations and organized interests concerned to select delegates to represent them at the conference. It is his desire that the conference be truly representative, and all interested are cordially urged to attend.

MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

THE forty-fifth annual meeting of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers will be held in the Engineering Societies Building, New York City, from December 1 to 4. For the third consecutive year the meeting will be held coincident with the Power Show.

The technical program includes joint sessions of the machine shop practice division of the society with the special research committee on cutting and forming of metals, the special research committee on lubrication and the management division, respectively; a session on oil burning sponsored by the power and fuels divisions and a session on the handling and storing of oil sponsored by the materials handling division.

A paper on the Zoelly Turbo-locomotive, by Dr. Henry Zoelly, of Switzerland, and a paper on the petroleum situation in the United States by Dr. Julian D. Sears, administrative geologist of the United States Geological Survey, will be included in the program.

New officers for 1925 have been elected as follows:

President, Dr. William F. Durand, Stanford University, Calif.

Vice-presidents, Professor Robert Angus, Toronto, Canada; S. F. Jeter, Hartford, Conn.; Thomas L. Wilkinson, Davenport, Iowa.

Managers, John H. Lawrence, New York City; Edward