

# Arbor Day Tree-Planting Drive Closes With Dedicator Program

## High Officials Attend Ceremony Friday Afternoon

Birmingham's 1941 Arbor Day, which will long be remembered as a climax of an unusual tree-planting campaign, closed Friday afternoon with a ceremony at the intersection of Woodward avenue and Hunter boulevard for the dedication of one tree, symbolizing the 11,000 trees flowering in the city.

Several high state officials were present at the invitation of the Birmingham Branch, Woman's National Farm and Garden Association, which sponsored the ceremony. The program, lasting one hour, was broadcast over Station WCAZ. Among the speakers were: Dr. Eugene B. Lott, Superintendent of Public Instruction; C. Donald Kelly, State Highway Commissioner; Earl Burke, president of Michigan Horticultural Society; and Mrs. Claude Besseguie, president of the Michigan Division of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.

The celebration started first at a gathering at the Baldwin country lounge, at which members of the Garden Club met with the city officials and with the radio. Led by the Baldwin High band, the parade left at 10 a. m. for the dedication spot at 4105 the radio program.

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## DON'T FORGET

Don't forget to water your flowering crabapple trees. This week the Garden Club, to remind recent planters of the Malus floribunda that now is the critical time for the young trees. Rainfall has been slight the past few weeks.

(The Baldwin band opened an closed the program.) Mrs. R. L. Rieckhoff, chairman of the Garden Improvement Committee, the sponsoring unit of the campaign, acted as mistress of ceremonies and she introduced Mrs. Lawrence C. Howe, president of the Garden Club, who spoke briefly, presenting the tree to the city. Response came from Mayor John P. Harris. Then the group sang "Happy Day's Tree Planting Song: 'God save these trees we plant, And all our hearts be true to them. Save them from axe and spade, Save them from joy and shade. Guarding the plantings, Mrs. Besseguie then congratulated the Birmingham Garden Club on its program, and was followed by Mr. Burke.

Dr. Elliott speaks of the children who crowded about the tree and four plantings. He said that a new newly-planted low-lying evergreens and containers of cut flowers. "If you want to love art and music," he declared, "you must associate with art and music. If you would enjoy the beauty of nature, you must get out where nature is."

Dr. Elliott continued that Birmingham's tree-planting program would help its citizens enjoy more of the beauty of nature.

"All over the state, your city will be known as the city of the flowering crabapple," he said. "Others will envy what you have."

"Where are fate's," he declared, "where people do not have the joy of living in a community where people cooperate, and appreciate the fact that a choice of beauty is a joy forever."

Kennedy Congratulates City Commission members' brief talk including the following message: "Today, Michigan is also recognized as having the most beautiful roads in America. We are naturally proud of this reputation—and what it continued. It was made possible by the assistance and support such as you are giving us here. The State Highway Department is deeply appreciative of the generous aid and hopes it will continue."

"We are rapidly completing the landscaping of U. S. 312 from the Oakland County line in the south to Pontiac. This was started in 1937 and has involved six different projects. We look forward to the day in the near future when the last remaining gaps will be completed."

"The trees you have planted along this highway will be a lasting tribute to your civic spirit. In acting to beautify your own community you have set an example for other cities of our State to follow."

Present also was Dr. Alexander W. Blaine, of the Department of Conservation.

Hubby: You must economize. Think of the future. If I were to die, where would you be? Wife: I would be here all right. The question is where you would be?—Boys' Life.

## Cats Take Heavy Toll On Birdlife

Many calls have come into this department during the past week complaining of the enormous toll of our Birmingham song birds taken by the uncheckered freedom of cats.

The house cat is one of the greatest obstacles in efforts toward increasing birdlife in suburban communities. The mere presence of a cat has a demoralizing effect on nesting birds and they entirely defeat the most energetic efforts to attract and increase their numbers. Even the best mannered cat will sever several hundred birds during one season.

The threedollar tale of the well fed or belted cat is without foundation. It is the early morning hours that play havoc with the birds and the most effective and best known method of control is to see that the cat is not allowed out at night.

An authority at the Cranbrook Institute of Science tells us that during the nesting season, a small and agile cat will kill a bird with a heavy enough coat attached to it to retard the spring, has been successful. This is because the cat and a method most owners will be glad to know of.

The picturesque ravine in Birmingham has long been favored as an ideal sanctuary for birds, but with the habitual loss of bird life in this area, the local Bird Conservation Committee has been without success.

"We therefore directly appeal to the owners of properties not to cooperate to the utmost with the Conservation Committee in preventing these casualties."

(From the Conservation Committee, 1111 North 10th St., Birmingham Branch of the Woman's National Farm and Garden Association.)

### Arbor Day Held At Adams School

An Arbor Day program, sponsored by the Adams School High School Student Congress, was held out of doors on the school's lawn last Friday.

A flag salute, led by Ann Ballantine, Congress president, opened the program. It was followed by a short talk by "Meaning of Arbor Day" by Bill Gregory, 8B student, who sang, "Trees," by Joyce Kilmer, was sung by Joan Gray, Mary K. Smith and Harriet Hinesley, all of the 7B.

The song was followed by two brief speeches, "The Significance of Trees," by Sally Gridler, 8B, and "Flourishing in the Garden of the Future," by Mary Elizabeth Cornish, 7A.

A poem given by Clyde Lebow, 9A, entitled "What Do We Plant?" was followed by the actual planting of six trees. The presentation ceremony was given by Bill Gregory, 8B student, who acted as representative of the classes, while Lloyd Harvey, 8A, represented the Council. Principal W. P. Thomas made the opening address at the school, and the program was closed by the assembly singing "Tree Planting" led by Alice Ballantine.

The students of Adams donated 12 flowering crabapple trees, 10 Russian alders, and 10 Shinarump pines—Lloyd Harvey.

The need for air in soil has been emphasized by experiment with various methods of solutions in which plants are grown with out soil. Except in California, some of the soil with air can be supplied to the roots by the use of necessary for healthy growth. A mixture composed of coarse particles allows air to penetrate.

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## Holy Name School Observes Arbor Day

Holy Name School celebrated Arbor Day last Friday afternoon with exercises on the school grounds. The flowering crabapple tree purchased by the children through the cooperation of the Birmingham Branch, Woman's National Farm and Garden Association were planted.

The program consisted of a tree-planting song; recitation by Donald Kuden; "What the Trees Do for Us," by Dorothy Flynn, Sharon Murphy and Betty Clark; recitation by Hugh Quinn; and "Arbor Day Observance" by Imelda Sullivan.

The pastor, the Rev. David J. Dunbar, closed the program with a brief talk on the meaning of Arbor Day.

## Paint-up, Fix-it, Campaign Really Saves Owner Money

Home owners today are urged to take a springtime inventory of the condition of their dwellings and make necessary repairs and alterations.

This advice to protect homes from depreciation and limit a large expense in the future came from Frank W. Hancock, chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, who pointed out that ample funds for the purpose are available from savings and loan associations, banks and insurance companies.

The Annual "Check-up, Paint, and Fix-it" campaign, which has become a tradition in America, not only are sound steps toward community betterment, but also concrete present and future savings to home owners taking part in them," said Mr. Hancock.

"In the past many people have had to put off such improvements until their properties deteriorated to the stage where remodeling was costly, simply because they lacked the necessary money. Now, with employment largely restored and ample funds available at low interest rates in every part of the country, there is no reason why the home owner need be hampered to have the necessary work done promptly."

### Definition

Eredivict—Dust shaken out of a broom into an empty shell—Ambrose Pierce, "The Devil's Dictionary."

### Advice

"History shows prolonged periods of cold intolerance, but to violence." A word to the wisepartners (anterior should be sufficient)—Milwaukee Journal.

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## Gardeners' Corner

### CRABAPPLES

Stover told the Birmingham Garden Center more about Crabapples. Since so many have been planted in Birmingham, the information she gave should be of interest to all. The first place to look for them is in the garden. Crabapples, Malus floribunda, is the least likely to just, that Lansing has a necessary for crab that are susceptible, that combinations of Malus floribunda with the related sanguinea or dumosa crab are likely to be more successful. Besides these two trees, Mrs. Stover recommended the following as very successful white:

Malus argentea (Sargent Crab)—5 to 6 feet, rounded crown, broader than tall, flowers large white, fruit dark red and attractive to birds. Best your newly planted trees.

### TULIPS

Tulips are well up and some of the early double ones already in bloom. Have you ever thought of going to Holland, Mich., to plant tulips? The festival there is to be held May 15-24 and we are promised the sight of two million tulips.

Armod (Craai)—10-20 feet, upright, semi-double pale pink, fruit yellow, good for jelly.

Malus floribunda (Craai)—15-20 feet, most picturesque in form, white, rounded crown, broader than tall, flowers large white, fruit dark red and attractive to birds. Best your newly planted trees.

### Scotts Save a Lawn

A little attention with Scott's Turf Builder keeps your lawn green and healthy. Scott's Turf Builder is a complete lawn fertilizer. It contains all the elements your lawn needs to grow thick and green. It is easy to use and saves you money.

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Scott's Turf Builder (Liquid) 1 gallon \$1.25; 5 gallons \$5.75

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## ROCK GARDENS

Rock gardens need careful picking and clearing up as the flowers are apt to be smothered or some of the smaller ones lost if the is careless. This is the season of active growth and the plants need enough water. Perhaps a batch of leaf mold and some chips would improve the drainage and replace soil washed away during the winter. Weed carefully, and do hand. Weeds in mats of thyme or any of the creeping plants will run the show if left to their own devices. Watch to see that less rampant plants are not being submerged by more vigorous neighbors.

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