

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 crowd of about 1,000 people gathered at the southern intersection of Woodward avenue and Hunter boulevard for dedication of one tree, symbolizing the 17,000 flowers, shrubs and plants which were planted. 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. Holt, Superintendent of Public Instruction; G. Donald Kennedy, 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.

Met at Library
The celebration started first at a gathering at the Baldwin variety lounge, at which members of the Garden Club met with the city officials and with the press. Led by the Baldwin High band, the parade left at 12:30 p. m. for the dedication spot at 4:05 the radio program

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DON'T FORGET

Don't forget to water your flowering crabbapple 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 Club 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 let all nations praise their name. 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
Dr. Elliott's address was directed principally at 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 tree-planting program would help its citizens enjoy more of the outdoors. "All over the state, your city will be known as the city of the flowering crabbapple," he said. "Others will copy what you have done here. It is a fine thing when people cooperate, and all appreciate the beauty of a city."

Kennedy Congratulates City

Committee chairman's 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 our highways. The State Highway Department is deeply appreciative of the generous aid and hopes it will continue."

They were rapidly completing the landscaping of U. S. 312 from the Oakland County line on 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 unscrupulous 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 of bird and ornithologist alike. When the best mannered cat is allowed too much freedom, it will average several hundred birds during one season.

The thighbone tail 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 noisy cat, if not kept under a heavy enough control attached to it to retard the spirit, has been known to take a cat's life and a method most owners will be glad to know of.

Arbor Day Held At Adams School

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

A flag salute, led by Ann Ballantyne, Congress president, opened this year's Arbor Day, followed by a short talk by "Meaning of Arbor Day" by Bill Gregory, 8B student, and a song, "Trees," by Joyce Kilmer, was sung by Joan Gove, Mary K. Smith and Harriet Rife, all of the 7B.

The song was followed by two brief addresses, "The Status of Flowers in the United States," by Sally Gridler, 8B, and "Flowers," by Mary Elizabeth Cornish, 7A.

A poem given by Clyde Lebow, 9A, entitled "What Do We Plant?" was followed by the actual planting of many trees, with the presentation ceremony given by Bill Gregory, 8B student, and the song, "Trees," by Joyce Kilmer, was sung by Joan Gove, Mary K. Smith and Harriet Rife, all of the 7B.

Holy Name School Observes Arbor Day

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

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

Home owners today were 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 loss of value was given by the Birmingham branch 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.

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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 crabapples is the leaves. They are bright yellow with red veins. The fruit is green when young and turns red when ripe. The tree is a good shade tree and is very hardy.

TULIPS

Tulips are well up now and some of the early double and already in bloom. Have you seen thought of some to Holland, Michigan? The festival there is held May 15-24 and anyone interested in the right of two tulips...



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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 soil is not available. Pick your flowers from the actual flowers and order early.

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