

DISTRICT 9 GROUP MEETING - CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

JOHN W. MCMANMON, *Coordinator*

(Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire,
New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont)

JUNE 26-27-28

The following report covers District 9 meeting of landscape engineers held on June 26, 27, and 28 at the New Hampshire State Highway Department Building in Concord.

Each State was represented as well as the Public Roads Administration by Mr. Giddings.

Mr. Everett, Commissioner of the New Hampshire State Highway Department, welcomed the men and also expressed his interest in roadside development.

Survey outlines: The outline of the surveys which were distributed to the various landscape engineers of this district was reviewed to clarify preparation of the report.

Flight strips: Questions regarding flight strips along the highways were discussed. In Maine, Vermont, and also New Hampshire, topography seemed to be the major problem. The men representing these States, namely, Mr. Gardner and Mr. Brown, stated it would have to be limited to definite areas satisfactory for the use of planes as their highways are located through semi-mountainous regions.

Maintenance: Everyone was interested in the question of maintaining the roadsides and agreed that there was need for the development of more uniform methods of maintenance and plantings. In order that this district might have a definite program of maintenance this point was stressed in regard to maintenance costs.

The importance of spraying roadside trees at the present time was emphasized because of the abundance of the elm leaf beetle and the gypsy moth. The State of Connecticut sprays its roadside trees with its own equipment; Rhode Island contracts for spraying its shade trees; and Massachusetts does what spraying is possible with its four machines and contracts for the balance of the work.

Consideration of other shade tree problems in this section was also emphasized.

A great deal of discussion was given to the matter of incorporating the landscape features of the highway into the original design and to what limits this should be done in the general construction. However, it was brought out that effective results are dependent upon a synthetic appreciation of the

value of landscape work by the designing and construction engineers. Consideration of roadside problems is especially important in the construction of many of the "defense" highways.

Safety turn-outs: Wayside areas seem to be popular throughout this section with each State making progress in the construction of these sites. It is necessary, however, that some consideration be given to legislation in the various States regarding land takings for this purpose, also proper policing of these areas.

Mulching: New Hampshire uses a hay mulch placed over the slopes 2 to 4 inches in depth. Mulching of roadsides in this area will have to be carefully planned where hay or straw is used in order to prevent fires. The mulch should be covered with 2 inches of topsoil with a compensating reduction in topsoil under the mulch.

A short field trip was made through a part of the White Mountains as arranged by Mr. Gardner of New Hampshire.

New England at the present time is under a very heavy airport program which will cause adjustments to be made in the road system.

Roadside development properly financed will incorporate what can be handled in the general construction of the highway. This should include turn-outs, waysides, grading, drainage, and seeding, if possible.

The results of a questionnaire sent to the landscape engineers of the States in this district are summarized in the table on the next page.

ψ

ψ

ψ

DISTRICT 2 - AS REPORTED BY LETTER

H. DANA BOWERS, *Coordinator*

(Arizona, California, Nevada)

JULY 1

Due to inability of representatives of all States to attend, the scheduled meeting was canceled. The coordinator reported that copies of the *Collaborative Outline for Survey of Roadside Development Practices by Districts* were furnished each State for completion and will be forwarded to the executive secretary as soon as they are returned to him.

A completed copy of the *Outline* covering practices in California has been received by the secretary. Similar copies from Arizona and Nevada are to be furnished.

ψ

ψ

ψ