

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON ROADSIDE DEVELOPMENT

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THIS MARKS the fourth year of our Five-Year Program -- a program which we trust will culminate in material for a manual on roadside development.

The principal presentations at this meeting concerned "Parking Turnouts and Rest Areas." George B. Gordon, landscape architect, Bureau of Public Roads, stressed the importance of roadside turnouts and rest areas for utility and safety of the constantly increasing traffic on the highway system. Such areas not only contribute to highway safety by providing means for relaxation of weary drivers, but they also form excellent media for the display of signs of historical interest, the casual picnic table, and on larger sites, more complete facilities for larger groups.

Details on the development of and facilities for such areas will be found in a special bulletin, now being prepared, which will include Gordon's report, papers presented by four panel members, and their answers to the many pertinent questions asked by those attending the session. The panel discussed parking turnouts and rest areas from the viewpoint of:

The National Park - Conrad L. Wirth, Director, National Park Service
The State Park - Russell B. Tobey, State Park Commission, New Hampshire
The State Highway Department - Wilbur J. Garmhausen, Ohio Department of Highways
The Traveling Public - Burton W. Marsh, American Automobile Association

At the second open session of the committee, reports on latest procedures were presented, as follows:

Unit I - "Stabilized Turf Shoulders"
Unit II - "Drainage"
Unit III - "The Roadside Area"
"Erosion Control Techniques", supplemented by a report
on the use of Krilium.

Other presentations pertaining to the roadside area included "Ground Cover Plants and Plantings" and "Turf Grasses and Legumes and Turf Establishment."

A special report was made on the adaptability of certain herbaceous materials for highway slope control, covering joint research projects carried out by the Pennsylvania Department of Highways and Pennsylvania State College.

Under the subject of "Roadside Maintenance," a representative of the United States Rubber Co. gave a talk on the use of maleic hydrazide. There were also discussions on "Planning and Management of Roadside Vegetation," on "Roadside Tree Techniques", and on "Equipment for Roadside Development and Maintenance." These are included in the committee report, along with the pertinent discussion at the meeting.

The committee held a special session at Hershey, Pennsylvania, September 18 and 19. The principal subject of discussion was the outline for the proposed manual on roadside development. The following outline was agreed upon: