

THIRD ANNUAL TREE RING CONFERENCE

The Tree Ring Society met in the library of the laboratory of the Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona, April 26, 1936 at 2:30 p. m. This meeting was duly called by the president of the society, Dr. A. E. Douglass, who presided at the two sessions which were held. As customary, this meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Southwestern Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Those present at the first meeting were: Dr. A. E. Douglass, Dr. Harold S. Colton, Dr. Emil W. Haury, Mr. K. M. Chapman, Dr. W. S. Glock, Mr. Lyndon L. Hargrave, Mr. J. C. McGregor, Mr. Edmund Schulman, Mr. Thomas Hale and Mr. H. T. Getty.

The minutes of the previous annual meeting at Santa Fe were read and approved with slight correction. By request the secretary also read the By-Laws of the Society. Dr. Douglass commented briefly upon the climatological researches and publications involving tree ring results, now carried on by aid of the Carnegie Institution of Washington and the relation of such work to the Tree Ring Society and its Bulletin.

The Treasurer, Mr. McGregor, made a report on the financial status of the Tree Ring Bulletin, showing a bank balance of \$63.67 as of February 8, 1936.

It was brought to the attention of those present that since the Tree Ring Society has no library it has been the policy of the editors of the Bulletin to make no exchange arrangements with institutions and societies; the continuation of this policy was approved.

The matter of contributions for publication in the Tree Ring Bulletin was discussed. It was pointed out that these papers must be relatively short; papers are desired dealing with or related to all aspects of tree ring research, and especially those which set forth the application of tree ring information to problems of archaeology and climatology.

It was decided that associate membership in the Tree Ring Society will be accorded to everyone who pays the annual dues of \$1.50, which include the Bulletin. The following orders of membership were thereupon established.

Fellows: Those doing actual reading of tree rings; annual dues \$1.50 including the Bulletin.

Honorary: Those who have contributed materially to tree ring research.

Associate: All other members.

The following individuals were designated as fellows:

| | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Baldwin, G. C. | Haury, Dr. Emil W. |
| Colton, Dr. Harold S. | Hawley, Dr. Florence M. |
| Davis, H. Faurest | (Mrs. Senter) |
| Dewey, Mrs. G. | Lassetter, Roy |
| Douglass, Dr. A. E. | McGregor, J. C. |
| Getty, H. T. | Miller, Carl F. |
| Gladwin, H. S. | Schulman, Edmund |
| Glock, Dr. W. S. | Stallings, W. S. |
| Hargrave, L. L. | |

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Dr. A. E. Douglass, Tucson.

Secretary—H. T. Getty, Tucson.

Treasurer—J. C. McGregor, Flagstaff.
Managing Editor of the Bulletin—Dr. Harold S. Colton,
Flagstaff.

The rest of the session was devoted to discussion of some of the major problems of tree ring research as indicated by the following outline.

1. Reports upon the dating of archaeological specimens should be accompanied if possible by description of the culture associated with the tree-ring material as determined on the site; whenever possible there should be a trained tree-ring worker on the expedition staff.
2. Climatic problems: Collectors should bear in mind the need to secure all material that contributes to a picture of past climatic conditions; thus a few specimens of complacent ring records should be included; specimens of each different species of tree should be preserved and it is well to have specimens from different heights in a tree.
3. Dating in other regions.

Some other localities will probably be found where cross-dating is as strong and the building of a ring chronology is as certain as in the Pueblo areas, but places will undoubtedly be tried where these results cannot so easily be reached because the identity of the same dates in different trees will not easily be recognized. Some general policies should be accepted:

- A. Wherever possible tree-ring projects should be set up for long periods of time.
 - B. Cross-dating between modern trees is the first essential to be established, for on this depends the proof of climatic influence on the ring records. We need a quantitative figure to express the degree of correlations on which cross-dating is based, such as a "slope" index, Glock's trend index, Gladwin's increment index.
 - C. Every individual false ring or absent ring in every specimen should be placed on record.
 - D. Full sections of trees when available should be preserved.
 - E. Injuries and cycle characters sometimes aid in cross-dating.
- This first session adjourned at 5:30 p. m.

Dr. Douglass presided at the second session which was held April 27, 1936 at 9:30 p. m. in the dining room of the Monte Vista Hotel. In addition to those present at the first session, the following also attended: Dr. Earl H. Morris, Dr. and Mrs. Ernst Antevs, Dr. Florence M. Hawley, Major L. F. Brady, Mr. Paul R. Franke, Mr. G. C. Baldwin, Father V. R. Stoner.

There being no business to transact, this session, with its larger attendance, was given over to further discussion of the problems taken up on the preceding day, and in addition, the staining of wood to make examination easier was discussed. Mention was made of probable improvement of our knowledge of actual rainfall values in past climates in the Pueblo area.

It was suggested and approved that students of tree-ring classes be admitted to these sessions. The meeting then adjourned.