A beautiful June afternoon was all the incentive we needed to abandon our typewriters and head for the Rose Lake Plant Materials Center—our bosses had promised to show us what they do. After a picnic under a mammoth old oak (older than the Constitution we later discovered—it must have been some acorn) we listened to an explanation of soil classification, mapping, composition, profiles, and whatnot by Sheldon Holcomb, Michigan's Tri-County Soil Survey Party Leader. Then he said, "Any questions?" and we sure did have. We