SOIL SURVEY EXHIBITS AT THE EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION.


In a discussion of the soil survey exhibits at the Eastern States Exposition, I deem it best to confine this paper to a brief outline of the most successful one of these, and to bring out some points that may be of assistance to others in putting on exhibits.

The exhibit of 1921 (shown in picture), may be considered the most successful from a standpoint of creating interest. The officials of the Massachusetts State Department of Agriculture, with whom we are cooperating, and to whose assistance I owe much of the success of the exhibit; seemed well pleased with the result. Two leading papers of Springfield wrote up the exhibit and one mentioned it editorially.

Our space, in the Massachusetts building, at the exposition grounds, was 7x14 feet, railing in front and wall at back. In this space two tables were placed end to end against the wall, covered and draped to the floor with green burlap. The wall to a height of 9 feet was covered with the same material. This furnished the background. The soil samples, 24 representative soils of Massachusetts, were placed for exhibit in refractory glass jars, 18 inches tall and 3 inches in diameter. The samples were placed in the jars by sections, \( \frac{1}{3} \) of the actual depth of a soil section being used. The jars were arranged upon the table in a half moon formation. The parent material or rocks from which the soils were derived were put near the base and in front of the jars. In front of the rocks, a soil auger with a yard stock to visualize length. In the front center of the table a small mound of raw glacial till was placed; with a set of soil separates and sieves on one side, and color standards in vials, on the other.

Pictures 8X12 inches, enlarged from kodak pictures taken in the field, were used to illustrate the soils. These pictures showing; soil, sections, topography, and crop usage, were grouped upon the wall on each side of a published soil map. At the top center, upon the wall a large sign was placed:

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\text{(SOIL SURVEY OF MASSACHUSETTS)} \\
\text{(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)} \\
\text{(AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)} \\
\text{(CO-OPERATING.)}
\]

On either side and slightly lower, were signs bearing the name of each cooperating agency:

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\text{(DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)} \quad \text{(U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE)} \\
\text{(DIVISION OF)} \quad \text{BUREAU OF SOILS} \\
\text{(RECLAMATION, SOIL SURVEY AND FAIRS)}
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