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David T. Mason to be banquet speaker at a forestry conference

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David T. Mason, consulting forester from Portland, Ore., will be the banquet speaker at a forestry conference scheduled Oct. 10 and 11 in celebration of the MSU School of Forestry's 50th birthday, Dean Arnold W. Bolle announced.

The dinner featuring Mason's address on "Historical Highlights of American Forestry" will be at 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Missoula Elks Club. Dr. Frank C. Abbott, academic vice president of MSU, will be toastmaster.

The speaker, a member of the firm of Mason, Bruce and Girard, has been in private practice as a consulting forester in Portland since 1921, except for a four-year stint in the '30's as manager of the Western Pine Association, a trade organization.

After earning a civil engineering degree at Rutgers College and a forestry degree at Yale, Mason worked in the field and in the national office of the U.S. Forest Service for several years. He was supervisor of the Deerlodge National Forest in 1910-11 and assistant regional forester in charge of forest management at Missoula from 1912 to 1915.

From 1915 until he opened his own office in 1921, Mason was a member of the original forestry faculty at the University of California. He was on leave from the faculty in 1917-18 to serve as a major with the U.S. Corps of Engineers' Forestry Regiment in France, and in 1919-20 to organize the Timber Valuation Section of the U.S. Bureau of Internal Revenue.

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