Green Section Annual Meet at New York, Jan. 10

ANNUAL meeting of the United States Golf Association Green Section will be held in New York City at the Hotel Biltmore on Friday, January 10, 1930. In the past few years the annual winter meeting has consisted of three sessions, two on Friday and one on Saturday morning, at each of which there have been addresses on various subjects related to golf course maintenance. This year it is planned to limit the formal program to a single session. This reduction is considered advisable chiefly because of the recent development of the summer meetings. The new experimental and demonstration turf gardens under the supervision of the Green Section have afforded a new means for presenting information of value to those interested in turf culture under widely different climatic conditions. It is felt that most turf problems can be much more effectually discussed where methods and results are available for first hand examination and comparison than is possible in assembly halls.

During the past summer the Green Section staff, through the medium of two large sectional meetings at Washington and Chicago and local meetings on its demonstration gardens, was afforded an opportunity to discuss turf problems with well over 600 individuals representing golf clubs scattered throughout the country. In addition to the large number reached in this manner the Green Section work has been carried to many hundreds during the past year through visits of interested individuals to the turf gardens at Washington and Chicago at times other than the summer meeting days; through visits to golf clubs by the Green Section staff; and by meetings of many sectional organizations at which members of the Green Section staff have been invited to discuss their work. Since this method has proved so satisfactory this year, both from the standpoint of those who attend these meetings and the Green Section staff, and since every indication points to even larger attendance at such meetings next season, it has been decided to condense the program at the indoor winter meeting.

The formal program of the Green Section meeting will begin promptly at 1 o’clock Friday afternoon. A résumé will be given of the Green Section activities for the year, together with a brief summary of the more interesting experimental results. Following the Green Section report there will be a short program by four speakers: Dr. K. F. Kellerman, associate chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, will discuss scientific agricultural developments and their application to greenkeeping; Prof. F. H. Hillman of the seed laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture, will speak on the problem of bent seed production, identification, and adulteration; Cornelius S. Lee, Tuxedo Park, New York, who is chairman of the green committee of the Jekyll Island Club, Brunswick, Ga., and Dr. T. P. Tinman, for many years chairman of the green-committee of the Druid Hills Golf Club, Atlanta, Ga., will discuss southern golf turf problems. During Friday morning and the afternoon following the program, the Green Section will have on display in the hotel an exhibit of various golf course grass seeds, fertilizers, different types and constituents of soils, and other items pertaining to turf maintenance. As at all other meetings sponsored by the Green Section, attendance is not limited to membership in the United States Golf association.

As a means of drawing high handicap and low handicap golfers into the same foursome and thus furthering club fellowship and spirit, the Butler County Country Club, Hamilton, O., each year holds an event known to them as the “Load and Lifter” tournament.

“This tournament,” describes Homer Gard, president of the club, “is a two-ball foursome. One of the players is a good player and his partner is a poor player. One is a load and the other a lifter. One is a 4-, 6-, or 8-handicap man and the other is an 18-, 20-, or 24-handicap man.

“In using a good player and a poor player together as partners in a two-ball foursome, our club has worked up the most interesting event of the whole series. It brings together players who never play with each other at any other time, and by giving extraordinary nice prizes, it is an event that is looked forward to each year with a good deal of interest.”

Preventing the development of well-entrenched cliques in a country club is most important in assuring harmonious operation, and the Load-and-Lifter tournament, properly sponsored and ballyhooed, is recommended toward this end.