NAGA CONVENTION SOON

Toronto Gets Set to Welcome Greenkeeper’s Show, Feb. 4-7

NINTH annual convention and exhibition of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America will be held at Royal York hotel, Toronto, Can., Feb. 4 to 7, inclusive.

Wm. J. Sanson of the Toronto GC is president of the organization and it is in recognition of the work the Canadians have done in the organization that the greenkeepers meet outside the U. S. boundaries for the first time since they formed a comprehensive body.

Early reports indicate the prospects of a surprisingly large attendance at the convention. Skeptics have made an advance guess that the mere mention of a meeting place outside this country would sharply curtail attendance, especially in view of the narrow personal budgets under which greenkeepers have been compelled to operate for the past few years. However, investigation of rail fares and auto routes to Canada has been responsible for a number of course superintendents deciding to make the trip. Canadian hotels have not had much convention business since repeal in the States and on that account rates attractive to greenkeepers will be in effect at the Royal York, convention headquarters.

F. W. Ermer, Ridgewood GC, Brooklyn station, Cleveland, O., is chairman of the show committee. Rates on exhibit spaces range from $65 for 7 x 10 booths to $200 for 10 x 20 spaces flanking the entrance. Many of the smaller spaces already have been taken and as usual the larger spaces have been promptly snapped up, so the exhibit looks like it’s going to be pretty much of a sell out.

Shopping Interest Revives

Repeal in the United States unquestionably will have an effect in stirring buying interest and action at the convention. It also may help greenkeepers to get convention expenses paid by their clubs. In the Middle West especially, repeal has brought clubs profits that will permit replacement of course equipment that long since has outlived its usefulness. The necessity of cautious and extensive buying by many clubs makes a shopping tour to the convention exhibit a smart use of funds.

Advance estimates of requirements made by many greenkeepers set about 20% of the year’s budget as the amount needed for equipment and supplies. That’s what the greenkeepers figure privately but most of them are scared to death to ask for what they actually need on the course because it costs money and when money is mentioned the officials are liable to say, “sure, we’ll take it out of your salary.” This attitude, however, is changing now. Greenkeepers with professional reputations to maintain are beginning to ask boldly for what they need. They will do some thrifty shopping at Toronto.

During the time that equipment buying has been lagging, there have been marked improvements in maintenance machinery design and construction. Performance records of these improved devices now are available on such an extensive basis that greenkeepers visiting the exhibit will be able to get accurate close-ups from greenkeepers who have used the new models.

Special convention rates will apply on round trip rail tickets, the fares being as follows: From New York, via N. Y. Central and Canadian Pacific, leaving 7:45 p. m., Feb. 3rd—$22.00; lower berth, round trip, $9.00. From Chicago, via Canadian, Pacific leaving 7:30 p. m., Feb. 3rd; $23.65; lower berth, round trip, $11.26. From Detroit, via Canadian Pacific, leaving 2:10 a. m., Feb. 4th (berths available at 9:30 p. m., Feb. 3rd)—$10.35; lower berth, round trip, $6.00. Fares from other points are proportional.

Program Lining Up

On thing that has kept the greenkeepers association weathering the storm has been a practical character of convention papers. As usual, the educational program of the convention will be impressive, with well known authorities addressing the gathering on a wide variety of greenkeeping and allied subjects. The program:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

Control of Grubs and Pests in Turf Grasses: By Prof. Caesar, Guelph College, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Major Greenkeeping Problems in Can-
Here’s Table for Budgeting Course Labor Cost

Compiled by WM. H. ASTON, Detroit

There is always an element of uncertainty when preparing a budget of labor costs. The length of the work day may vary in spring, summer and fall, and there are holidays, half days on Saturday, and some rainy weather to be taken into consideration. In order to simplify this, I have prepared this schedule. As the rate paid for labor may vary from year to year, I have taken the hour as a basis and figured an average of 24 full working days to the month.

As an explanation of how the scale works, assume you wish to employ 8 men for any one month on a 9-hour day. Notice by the schedule that you set up 1584 hours for that month; multiply this by the hour rate you contemplate paying and the result shows the labor cost for that month.

Night Watering of Fairways

Based on one man for 10 hours per night, 39 nights—average of 270 hours per month—if 2 men are employed double the hours.

Sunday Morning Work

Raking traps, mowing greens, etc.—3 hours per man—6 men each Sunday—Average 11 hours per man per month.

Entries of pros and their partners should be made to Ray McCarthy, 10 E. 40th st., New York. There is no entry fee.

Schedule Showing Total Labor Hours per Month

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<th>Man</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
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<td>960</td>
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National Pro-Amateur Meet at St. Augustine, March 14

FIRST ANNUAL national pro-amateur championship will be played at the St. Augustine (Fla.) links, March 14-17, inclusive. There is $2,500 in cash prizes for the pros and trophies for the amateurs. Entries of pros and their partners should be made to Ray McCarthy, 10 E. 40th st., New York. There is no entry fee.