Golf classes conducted by Joe Patelli at the new muny course designed and constructed by Robert Trent Jones, Jr., at Amsterdam, N. Y., have had a registration of more than 200, about 80% of whom never played golf before. The success of the Patelli classes shows the tremendous development possibilities for golf at new municipal courses, says Jones, who was responsible for the introduction of the idea at Amsterdam.

REVIVAL IS ON

NAGA Certain of Boom in Greenkeeping Activity

A n indication of how prospects in the course maintenance field look to those who have expertly surveyed the situation comes from Frank Ermer, chairman of the show committee, National Association of Greenkeepers of America. Ermer said, Dec. 14: “With only three booths left in the main exhibit floor for the eleventh annual Greenkeepers conference and exhibition, the certainty of a sell-out of space in the main hall has forced us to engage additional display space in the lobby adjoining the hall. Reports from various parts of the country promise a record attendance and indicate a great volume of business will be placed at the convention to meet the tremendous demand for equipment and supplies resulting from improved conditions at golf clubs and the buying curtailment of depression years.”

The exhibition and conference will be held at the Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D. C., Feb. 2-5.

A strong bid is being made to have golf clubs send their greenkeepers to the Greenkeepers annual sessions and set the convention expense down as a course budget item. Many of the nation’s best operated golf clubs of varying sizes have adopted this policy. It has been pointed out by GOLFDOM that greenkeepers spend approximately $50,000 annually in their self-education for the betterment of operation at their courses, and that such expense is manifestly unfair considering the generally low point of greenkeepers’ salaries and their remarkable achievements in depression maintenance, much of which is due to their lively interest in educational work.

To keep expenses down the association has arranged for standard rates at the Wardman Park of $3 for a single room and bath; $5 for a double. Lowered railroad fares since the 1936 convention and excursion rates in several territories are expected to swell attendance and reduce the expense of greenkeepers attending.

Details of space and rates may be secured from Frank Ermer, Box 2257, Brooklyn Station, Cleveland, O.

John Anderson, Essex County CC, West Orange, N.J., is president of the association. Anderson and his associates have given much thought to the preparation of a conference program that will have dollar-and-cents value to each convention attendant.

Convention Educational Program

TUESDAY—FEBRUARY 2.

“The Application of Science to Greenkeeping,” by Dr. M. A. McCall, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

“Golf Course Soils,” by Dr. James Tyson, Soils Section, Michigan State college.


WEDNESDAY—FEBRUARY 3.


“Maintaining Turf in the South,” by J. K. Hanes, Yeamans Hall Club, Charleston, S. C.

“Soil Organisms in Relation to Golf Turf,” by Dr. N. R. Smith, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

THURSDAY—FEBRUARY 4.

Japanese, Asiatic and June Beetle Control is to be covered by an expert from U. S. Dept. of Agriculture.

“Growing Seed of Golf Course Grasses,” by H. F. A. North, USGA Green Section.


Green Section Grass Dye Amazes Army and Navy Fans.

Once more Dr. John Monteith, Jr., of the Green Section of the USGA scores with his research work. His recently developed material for controlling brownpatch, which when correctly applied dyed turf a luxuriant summer green, was sprayed on the two and a half acres of the Philadelphia Stadium field the day before the Army and Navy game.

“Oh, look at the green grass!” was the exclamation of most of the 102,000 persons on arriving at the field. It was an amazing autumn sight, which was just what Philadelphia’s Director of Public Works McLaughlin decided after seeing the effect of this new material at a demonstration on Monday previous to the game.

Charles K. Hallowell, Philadelphia agricultural extension representative, had visited Monteith and the Green Section gardens in Washington the week before and had seen the effect of grass sprayed with the dyes. Monteith sent a trial lot with Hallowell to spray on a portion of the Stadium football field to show the city authorities. The result was that 600 gallons of water and $10 worth of coloring matter was sprayed on the field the day before the game.

The effect was a pleasing green turf, just what the city authorities had asked for on October 1st. It was at that time that they asked Hallowell for recommendations to improve the turf on the field. They did as suggested—used lime and complete fertilizer, seeded, and mowed the grass at a height of two inches. The response to this program was a turf 80% perfect by November 10th. Then freezing temperatures caused a discoloration. For that reason Monteith’s recently developed dyes were used to restore the color.

Club Honors Striley—Larry Striley’s thirteenth year as pro at Penobscot Valley CC, Bangor, Me., was celebrated by a party at the club. C. J. Russell, sr., club official, lauded Striley’s work on behalf of the club. Purses were presented Larry and Maynard Bartlett, caddie-master. The event marked the beginning of Striley’s thirtieth year as a pro.