Iowa Greenkeepers Re-elect

By H. L. LANTZ

THIRTY-SEVEN MEN of the Iowa Greenkeepers Assn. attended a one-day session on June 20. This meeting, held at Des Moines, drew greenkeepers from Dubuque, Davenport, Muscatine, Council Bluffs and Fort Dodge and from towns closer in. Why do they come? The answer probably lies somewhere near a central fact that these boys know that the program for the meetings are planned to give constructive information. For example, Pres. Wm. Keating and Sec. Ted Adams arranged several practical demonstrations. At the Waveland GC, Ted demonstrated the use of a syphon-proportioner in applying ammonium sulfate quickly and without burning. Ted also showed how to use a scarifier blade on the greens mowers once every week or ten days to prevent matting and to reduce the need of too frequent top-dressings. Extra top dressings cost money these days when labor is short. The care, adjustment and maintenance of old machinery was discussed and proved to be of general interest.

Dinner was served at the Des Moines G&CC. This was the annual meeting. President Bill Keating presided. The nominating committee which recommended retention of present officers. Those re-elected were: Pres. Wm. Keating; Des Moines G&CC; V. P., E. F. Johnson, Iowa State College course, Ames; Sec.-Treas. T. E. Adams, Waveland course, Des Moines.

the tickets; the Kansas City Canteen received the money, and the gallery enjoyed a good show.

The Kansas City Golf Assn. has been sponsoring Red Cross Tournaments which are held at member clubs twice each month. Each player drops a "Buck in the Bucket", which is the entry fee. During 1943, $1,200.00 was raised and the goal for 1944 is $2,400.00 ($1,060.00 to date), towards the purchase of a Disaster Unit to be donated to the Red Cross.

Recently, C. E. McBride, Sports Editor of the Kansas City Star, received a letter from Capt. Jack Launder, disabled veteran at the Oliver General Hospital in Augusta, Ga., asking if something could be done through Mr. McBride's column toward getting used golf clubs and balls for the convalescent soldiers there, as there was a course on the grounds owned by the government. The government had hired Mickey Gallagher as the golf pro, but there were not enough golf clubs to go around. Mr. McBride quoted Capt. Launder's letter in his column, with some forceful comments of his own, and Kansas City golfers immediately responded with donations of over 500 golf clubs, 60 bags and 100 extra putters, which were sorted and shipped by Lowe & Campbell Div., Wilson Sporting Goods Co.

To get used balls for these boys, Les Freeburg, Wilson's City Manager, suggested that at each Red Cross Tournament every player should drop a ball in a bucket. This was approved and sponsored by the Kansas City Golf Assn., and up to the present over 300 balls have been sent to the Oliver General Hospital. The KCGA Breakfast Club, a smaller group of golfers at Hi'crest GC, have adopted the plan and have sent several dozen balls with more to follow every two weeks.

Golfers in Kansas City are very happy about the way the good fellowship of the game is a strong factor in preserving a home-tie with our men who are away and in contributing to their high morale, with pleasant thoughts of happy days that they enjoyed on Kansas City courses—happy days that will return, we pray, soon. And Kansas City golfers are happy too that the friendly spirit of the game has enabled us to extend our hospitality to those in the armed service who are stationed in or near our city.

Bill and Ted are not far apart and can work together easily. This close association of its key officers is a big factor in the success of the Iowa Greenkeepers Association. Ted Adams' treasurers report showed a greatly balance in the treasury.

H. L. Lantz, in charge of the cooperative experimental turf garden, gave a brief report on the bent grass work at Ames. He also outlined some experiments in weed control through the use of Ammato (DuPont). Preliminary experiments at the Ames G&CC, gave 90 to 95 percent kill of dandelion and plantain. In these tests, ½ pound per gallon gave as good results as ½ pounds per gallon. Ammato dissolves readily and is sprayed on the weedy areas. Following the use of this chemical, the spray equipment must be thoroughly cleaned.

Following the noon meeting, some played golf and the others followed Bill Keating around the course, in a study of greens construction, disease control, fertilizer discussions, and watering. This golf course lies comparatively high, is well drained, and had suffered little from the great rains this spring. Bill has 18 perfect greens, all Metropolitan. He believes in and practices frequent topdressing. The topdressing consists of equal parts sandy loam, sand and peat. This year four applications of topdressing have been applied. Brown patch and dollar spot were being kept under near perfect control by Thiouan applied at the rate of two pounds per 6000 square feet.