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Mass. Short Course
Concluded With Conference

A most successful two day turf conference was held at the University of Massachusetts in conjunction with the graduation of the 18th annual Winter School for Greenkeepers. The conference was under the general chairmanship of Prof. L. S. Dickinson and G. Cornish, of the Section of Agrostology. Visitors were present from all the New England states, New York and New Jersey.

During the graduation exercises, Director R. H. Verback of the Stockbridge School presented certificates to the 24 members of the 18th annual Winter School, who had successfully completed the course. Papers were given by two members of the class. The first of these by Charles Reeves of Syracuse, N.Y., dealt with the pros and cons of topdressing. The second paper delivered by Glenn F. Welsch, of Erie, Pa., put forward the idea of sub-surface irrigation for putting greens.

The annual banquet was held at the Lord Jeffrey Inn, Amherst. Entertainment was featured by the University Chorale under the direction of Prof. Doric Alviani.

Papers presented at the Conference are outlined as follows:

Who Run the Golf Course? This was an informal debate between Profs. L. S. Dickinson

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and G. Cornish with the audience asked to give their ideas. It was decided that once the club had selected a greenkeeping superintendent, he was the doctor and it was his responsibility to decide what was best for all the members insofar as the grass is concerned.

Chlorosis—By Dr. T. K. Kozlowski, Department of Botany, University of Massachusetts. Dr. Kozlowski pointed out that the term chlorosis in regard to bent putting greens is a relatively new one, but chlorosis of plants in general has long been recognized by the plant physiologist. The greenkeeper will learn much about his problem by studying the work already completed by men in other fields.

Winter and Spring Kill—by Prof. L. S. Dickinson. Prof. Dickinson observed that the term winter-kill is really a misnomer in that cold seldom kills grass. Disregarding the fungus disease snowmold, the major causes are: poor drainage, surface drying, conditions of root, rhizome, stolon areas, grass starting too early in spring.

Dickinson pointed out that these causes are aggravated by the accumulative effect of bad influences related to: previous summer watering program; failure to note late fall weather; unfortunate choice of fertilizers; heaving and thawing; the greenkeeper not examining his turf during thaw periods in the winter months.

The speaker made many practical suggestions on how to reduce losses by winter-kill.
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Report on Putting Green Soil Survey—Prof. G. Cornish. This was a report on the work already completed and the work to be carried out in the future by the Section of Agrostology in the preparing of a complete index to compile information on each putting green in Massachusetts.

Chlordane for Control of Insects—Dr. J. C. Schread, Asst. Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. The lecturer dealt with the new insecticide, chlordane. A great number of questions were asked by the audience.

Reaction and Residual Effect of Chemicals Used in Turf Culture—by Dr. Dale Sieling, Head of the Department of Agronomy, University of Mass. Dr. Sieling stated that each new chemical that is introduced is another weapon in the hands of the greenkeeper, but his responsibilities are increased with each new weapon he receives, rather than decreased. Before using any chemical for any purpose, the greenkeeper must make numerous considerations, because there are disadvantages as well as advantages to their use.

In addition to the papers, two question panels were held. The first of these dealt with general questions concerning turf. The second concerned equipment and supplies and the panel consisted of the leading supply and equipment men of New England and New York.

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