Golf Course Architects Elect Officers

Stanley Thompson, Toronto, Can., was elected pres. and Wm. Longford, Chicago, sec'y-treas. at the annual meeting of the American Society of Golf Course Architects at Hotel Bellevue, Bellaire, Fla., Jan. 12-15. Attending the meeting were: (L to R) R. H. Lawrence, Boca Raton, Fla., Wm. H. Gordon, Boyletown, Pa., Wm. B. Longford, Chicago, Ill., Stanley Thompson, Toronto, Can., Wm. Diddel, Ormond Beach, Fla., Wm. P. Bell, Pasadena, Calif., and Robert Trent Jones, New York. The two other members attending, J. B. McGovern, Wynnewood, Pa., and Robert Bruce Harris, Chicago, were absent when photo was taken.

Problems in Turf Production as I See Them." He said the immediate problem is to provide good usable turf at all times regardless of conditions, stating that there was a greater opportunity for development in the South where so little attention has been paid to turf development. The long-time problems resolve themselves into changing practices so that the end result will be better turf for every purpose. This includes new grasses, new methods of fertilizing, mowing procedure, watering procedure, and other details. He went into detail on winter greens in the South.

He stressed the uniformity of playing conditions, encouraging the use of better bermuda strains which will produce putting surfaces that are identical with bent putting surfaces. This is a goal of the Green Section. He said further that there is no reason why bent grasses cannot be used in a large part of Tennessee for putting greens. He said also that Poa annua, if seed were available, would be an excellent substitute for rye grass for winter greens.

One of the significant statements was that Byron Nelson cited the closely mowed bentgrass fairways at Canterbury as the best he had ever played on. He did not know they were bent. At Memphis during the Amateur he said that their fairways were better than Canterbury's. They were bermuda grass heavily fertilized, treated with arsenicals for weed control, and closely mowed, with a minimum of aerification and a minimum of irrigation. He favors the association of cool-season and warm-season grasses throughout a wide belt in the central part of the country.

Conference visitors inspected the beginnings of the turf research program at the University of Tennessee, where a number of grasses have been seeded in 10-foot strips. A number of suggestions were made and the USGA Green section plans to furnish grasses and seeds to the University of Tennessee in a cooperative way on an informal basis.

Richard P. Lord, Agronomist of CAA, Atlanta, Ga., spoke on "Problems in Airport Turfing in the South." He stressed the necessity for load-bearing capacity of the soil and said that pavement and grass are identical in the respect that they tend to hold the soil in place and neither is intended to carry the loads and that neither is any better than the soil on which they are placed. Because of the tremendously reduced cost in providing a grass wearing surface rather than a pavement, there is considerable activity in the direction of studying the problems involved in providing turfed runways for the heavier types of planes. Better measurements are needed in order to achieve the goal. He stressed the closest similarity in the physical soil studies currently being conducted by the Green Section, by CAA and by other soil engineers.

Nitrogen presents the basic problem for all turf throughout the South. Phosphorus is the second consideration. Potash pre-