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Automotive Differential and Axle Assembly — 600 x 6 4-Ply Tires — Width, Overall ... 43" — Length, Overall ... 87" — 36-Volt Electrical System — Six 175 Amp H.D. Industrial Batteries — 3 Speeds Forward and Reverse.

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and course in Stehekin Valley at head of Lake Chelan, Wash. . . . Course will be 9-holes and will be over 3,600 yards long.


Pontchartrain CC, New Orleans' Negro course, opened . . . It has 18 holes and excellent clubhouse . . . George Rolfs, a contributor and not a staff member, doing great job for golf through columns he writes for New Orleans Item . . . Jack Pizzano, physical ed director for city of New Orleans, puts golf program into 25 parish Junior and Senior high schools, making it mandatory that kids take six hours of instruction a year . . . He plans to expand to take in elementary grades.

Ulysses (Bo) Ourso, who has put a

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March, 1958
Par 3 into play recently in Donaldsonville, La., is behind group that is building regulation course in that city. Nine holes are practically ready for play and work is soon to begin on clubhouse. Ourso is retired Air Force sergeant who pushed golf programs in service. Covington (La.) CC, 9-hole private, now in play.

Dick Mayer, winner of the 1957 World's, turned down $50,000 touring for George S. May because he wanted to continue to play pro circuit. Mayer would have agreed to play 20 exhibitions over three-month span, but May didn't want this kind of arrangement. Ground broken for 9-hole Shrewsbury (N.J.) public course early in February. Joe Dante, Rockaway River (N. J.) pro, runs indoor school during winter and does okay keeping 10 to 5 hours.

Al Renzetti now head pro at 27-hole Empire State CC, Spring Valley, N. Y. Al also is a faculty member at New York U. where he teaches golf classes once a week and coaches golf team. He got the job last fall. Riverbend CC, about 25 miles from Houston, which (Continued on page 112)
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New Attendance Record for GCSA at Washington Convention

_Labor Management, Improved Maintenance for More Economical Operation Main Themes at Superintendents’ Annual Show_

By JOE E. DOAN

The GCSA, which has been shooting for 1,500 attendance at its annual turfgrass conferences and shows for the past several years, moved in on that figure at the February conclave when 1,457 supt.s., agronomists and turf specialists registered for the five-day event held at the Shoreham Hotel in Washington, D. C.

This record was about 250 higher than the number present at the 1957 Louisville show, which had been the best attended of 28 previous GCSA gatherings. Among the Washington visitors was a large delegation from Canada.

The nation’s capital’s lure for tourists undoubtedly played a big part in bringing so many supt.s. and their wives to the 1958 conference. Yet, the continued emergence of the GCSA as a powerful force for educating the supt. and buttressing his economic well being, undoubtedly exerted even more influence in attracting him to Washington. All of the educational sessions probably were better attended than they ever had been before and the feeling around the Shoreham was that this year’s conference would have easily exceeded Louisville from an attendance standpoint even if it had been held in a city with fewer monuments and historical outposts.

Guests of Mid-Atlantic

The Mid-Atlantic GCSA, acting as co-hosts with the parent organization, served up an outstanding entertainment fare for supt.s. and their wives with almost more sightseeing trips being arranged than could be comfortably taken in. But there was little complaining on this score since

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most of the tourists felt that if the politicians can extract practically their last dollars to erect all those beautiful, rambling edifices that are seen around Washington, it was their duty to look over the architecture. A series of cocktail parties, given by several exhibitors at the conference, supplied many of the sightseers with the stamina and courage to go on.

As has been the case in the past, the GCSA presented a wisely selected lineup of speakers for the educational sessions. Agronomists from a half dozen leading universities or extension stations brought the supt.s abreast of the most up-to-the-minute developments in research and observation of phenomena associated with turf maintenance. Club pros, a club manager, a green cmn., a course architect, an accountant and representatives of manufacturing and supply firms capably filled in the convention delegates on information directly or indirectly bearing on their profession. The several supt.s, who were called upon to describe their methods of handling the practical side of gre enkeeping not only showed that they have an excellent grasp of the subjects they discussed, but the knack of putting the material across.

**Diet Too Steady**

About the only criticism of the way in which the educational sessions were handled is that there was perhaps a too steady and continuous diet of speeches. This is not to say that the speakers overextended their lines. They didn't. But one came closely on the heels of another and after this went on for three or four hours, the length of the individual sessions, the audience was definitely restless. Perhaps if a part of each session were to be thrown open to discussion and questions from the floor at future conventions, persons attending them would get more out of what they heard.

---

**Improvement in Management Is Keynote on Opening Day**

The theme of the first day's meeting, held on Feb. 3, was "Better Golf Course Management." Paul Weiss, retiring GCSA pres., Milo Christiansen, of the District's recreation dept., and L. R. Shields, pres. of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA, presided at the official opening of the conference and the welcoming of delegates.

Following this, O. J. Noer of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission and Stan Graves, supt. at Westwood CC, Rocky River, O. teamed up, in what's becoming quite famous in GCSA circles as an Alphonse and Gaston act, in introducing celebrities. Those who took bows included Gen. Floyd Parks, who made the Armed Services conscious of golf; Ed Gallagher, Washington sports announcer; Wiffy Cox, Congressional CC pro; Johnny Welaj, former major league baseball player who now holds an executive position with the Washington Senators; Ed LeBaron and Norb Hecker, Washington Redskin football stars; Fred Williams, the first paid employee of the USGA green section; and Mrs. John Mancus, Mrs. James Swink and Mrs. George Noble, all of whom play important roles in Washington District Golf Assn. activities.

Following this, Harry Obitz, pro at Shawnee Inn, Shawnee-on-the-Delaware, Pa., speaking with the polished prose of a man who has earned a living playing Hamlet, humorously contrasted the generally inexpert supt. of 1933 with the businesslike course manager of today. Then, in deference to his audience, Harry portrayed the pro of the early era with his present day counterpart and the effect was equally amusing. Harry also got in a pitch for Helen F. Lengfeld's USV Swing Clubs, of which there are 1,200, asking the supt.s, for their support of this worthy organization.

**Contrast in Costs**

The meeting got down to serious topics with the introduction of Arthur E. Iredell, a New York CPA whose firm, Harris, Kerr, Forster & Co., audits town and country clubs. Iredell produced some rather startling statistics in comparing cost-per-hole maintenance for 50 clubs scattered throughout the U. S. On a regional breakdown, these amount to $2,350 in the South; $2,700 in the East; $2,500 in the Midwest and $3,125 in the Far West. Citing the fact that 1957 course maintenance costs were more than 33 per cent above what they were in 1952, the New York accountant recommended that supt.s bear down on the budget in every way possible and be particularly zealous in investigating wide deviations in item costs from year to year.

Col. Dick Daley, pres. of the CMAA,
Mr. Superintendent Goes to Washington

These shots at the Shoreham of activity at the 29th GCSA turfgrass conference were caught by Warren Bidwell, Absecon, N. J. supt., who also is a commercial photographer.
also dwelled on budget problems. He said that since the club managers have adopted a uniform system of accounts far better control of operations at individual clubs has been noted. Daley suggested that annual budgets are fine as far as they go but not nearly so effective as those prepared on a month to month basis. He also told the supts. that about 90 per cent of them probably will be asked to give more service this year than ever before on maintenance allotments that won't be quite as fat as they once were.

"The big trouble with budgets and related problems," said L. V. Freudberg, green chmn. at Woodmont CC, Rockville, Md., speaking for club members, "is that the persons who want to do most of the cost cutting are those who expect the most out of a course." Freudberg lamented that this species is a hardy one and probably never will be eliminated.

Wants to Have Figures

To cope with these people, the Woodmont chmn. asked that supts. make an extra effort to keep complete and accurate cost records so that the chairman will be armed with actually more tools than he needs, if that is possible, when he appears before the club board to pry money loose for course maintenance. Then, pointing up the shortcomings of the supt., Freudberg said that as far as he knows, many of them are weak in planning their work, and that a large number of fellows who are doing superb jobs at their courses are a little reticent in developing a good public or members relation policy.

"Don't be shy on this count," the Woodmont man added. "When a bank or business establishment in your city does something outstanding you invariably hear about it. Why, they even employ specialists just to keep the natives informed!"

Taylor Boyd, supt. at the Camargo Club, Cincinnati, the final speaker on the Monday program, showed figures to prove that it actually cost more for a golfer to play a round of golf in 1933 than it does today. When a buzz of skepticism arose from the audience, Boyd cited the fact the number of persons playing golf in 1957 was so much greater than it was 24 years ago that the cost-per-round average last year was definitely lower than it was in 1933.

Boyd, who spews digits like an IBM machine in an internal revenue office on Apr. 15, declared that the fellow who can't make up a budget shouldn't be a supt. He added that there is nothing like record keeping to help pull a fellow out of trouble, especially when there is wide variance in expenditures for similar items from year to year. Boyd concluded his remarks by advising the supts. to set up cost standards for every possible maintenance operation and then see that they are closely adhered to.