Twenty Years Ago
by L.R. Shields
Woodmont Country Club

Following is an excerpt from the Mid-Atlantic Newsletter in 1955 after the National Conference held in St. Louis.

A panel consisting of a Golf Professional, a Club Manager, a Golf Course Superintendent, and a Greens Committee Chairman had this to say on the subject "What can we do for each other".

James Fogerty; Vice President of PGS suggests a daily meeting at lunch between the club manager, golf professional, and golf course superintendent for an exchange of thoughts on club operations. A club retirement plan for club employees. The golf pro is in a good position to pass on to the superintendent the comments — both bad and good — that members make concerning the condition of the golf course.

Thomas C. McCuffey; Club Managers Association, made these observations: Friction occurs as a result of misunderstanding between pro, superintendent and manager. A division of responsibility is necessary for a successful operation. Each department head to his own vocation and responsibility. A pooling of information insures progress and accomplishment. Specialization brings about the need for group organizations. Loyalty demands cooperation. Superintendents should practice better record keeping also as to be able to prepare their budgets more adequately and to be able to account for all money spent. Golf courses should be made to play as easily as possible for players on weekends.

Ward Cornwell; Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, said: That trouble on a golf course can be a sign of friction in existence somewhere. A well groomed golf course benefits all departments. Superintendents have little or no contact with members and little or no chance to sell themselves on their ideas. A long term Greens Chairman insures a successful golf course operation through program continuity.

J. Porter Henry; Veteran Greens Chairman, Algonquin Golf Club, Webster Grove, Missouri, comments: That golf course superintendents have made great progress in golf course maintenance in the past twenty years. That superintendents deserve much credit for advancements made in club operations. Good greens are a matter of much care. Superintendents cannot afford to practice isolationism. Statistics are often misleading and unreliable. Committees should be kept golf minded. The golf dollar should be managed wisely. More cooperation and understanding is needed between architects and superintendents.

There are 865 species of trees native to the continental United States, including a few imports that have become naturalized to the extent of reproducing themselves in the wild state.