

son why they first noted the greenkeeper's needs? Many times in the past five years we have traced the invention of a piece of equipment for the improvement of golf courses back to its inspiration, and found this to be so. There are few manufacturers and dealers in the golf course field who do not play golf every time they get a chance to do so, and this includes hundreds of salesmen as well as company officials.

Commercializing an inventive genius to the end of reducing labor expense and speeding up the production of good turf is a genuine service to the greenkeeper. Indeed, frequently a new piece of equipment is written up in red ink on the books of the manufacturer for more than one season, while demonstrations, sales and advertising, and other expense necessary to introduce the item to the attention of the clubs is going on.

AFTER reading the foregoing paragraph, every greenkeeper and Green committee chairman is respectfully requested to devote their good attention to the market place pages in this issue.

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DOWN in Georgia there is a new eighteen-hole course, located on St. Simon's Island, which Hugh C. Moore is whipping into shape. Read his story in the coming March issue, after you have met him at the annual meeting.

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THE greenkeepers in and near New Britain, Connecticut, fourteen out of fifteen of whom joined the association last year in a bunch, are getting ready to attend. Some of them will be in Detroit as early as Tuesday, February 21.

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Notice to Chairmen of Green Committees

The program which will be presented at the coming annual convention of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America is of vital interest to you and to your greenkeeper.

You are cordially invited to attend the meetings of February 23 and 24 at the Hotel Fort Shelby, Detroit.

Local Associations Hold Fruitful Meetings

LOCAL groups of greenkeepers in many sections of the country are making arrangements to attend the convention this month at Detroit. Encouraging reports of "We'll be there" have been received, and in several instances this applies to practically the whole membership.

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Re-elect Officers of Western Pennsylvania

THE splendid work which has been done by the 1927 officers of the Greenkeeper's Club of Western Pennsylvania culminated in their re-election for 1928.

The father of greenkeeping in the Pittsburgh district, John Pressler, will continue to lead the flock. Mr. Pressler's course, the Allegheny Country Club, was constructed in the days when hunting was much more popular than golfing. When construction was in progress people often inquired, when looking at the tees, "What kind of hurdles are these?" How times do change.

Two new members were accepted at the January meeting, Perry Delvecchio of the Greensburg Country Club, and Frank Richardson of the Shady Side Academy Golf Club. Mr. Delvecchio is one of the best golfers of the district, and a qualified greenkeeper as well.

The association is now taking steps to increase its membership, by sending out invitations to join to greenkeepers throughout the section who are not yet affiliated.

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Cleveland Discusses Sand Traps

DESIGN, maintenance and drainage of sand traps was the subject presented to the Cleveland District Association of Greenkeepers by Burdette G. Sheldin, oldest local greenkeeper, in charge of the Country Club course at Bratenahl. In discussing drainage, he said:

"LET'S GO!"

Says Jacobsen Salesman

HERE is Mr. Einer Brown, representative of the Jacobsen Manufacturing Company, of Racine, Wis., starting out in his new territory through West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and District of Columbia.

Greenkeepers and Green committee chairmen in states named can see how Jacobsen power mowers operate before grass has started to grow this spring, for he has with him a special moving picture projector showing these mowers in action.



"Water will always find its own level," said Mr. Sheldon, "and all drainage ditches, before laying tile, should be tested for high spots with a good flow of water." Mr. Sheldon advised turning a hose into the ditch, watching to see that the water flows freely the whole length. "After you have found the level of your drain," Mr. Sheldon went on, "then start to lay the tile at that outlet and follow back. If there are any laterals to lay these should be dug before the main line of tile is laid. I use sewer tile for connections."

Mr. Sheldon had considerable trouble in the early days at the Country Club, as original lines were laid with ordinary farm drain tile, but for twenty-five years the sewer tile he installed to replace it has done the work with practically no repair.

"Sand traps should be constructed with a view to economy of upkeep," said Mr. Sheldon, "and natural lines should be followed wherever possible." Tile should be laid at least eighteen inches below the surface of the trap, and covered with first a good layer of coarse cinders, and then a layer of fine cinders on top, trench filled to level and tamped. "This depth is safer in this locality," said Mr. Sheldon, "as the frost will gradually raise the tile each winter a little closer to the surface."

"Few sand traps have sufficient sand placed in them to justify the use of the word 'sand,'" said Mr. Sheldon. "I use four or five inches, and three inches on the surface is a small allowance."

The construction of sand traps was discussed at length, to the effect that in general traps should have many of the high spots taken out of the surface and placed on the face. This, it was acknowledged, would not be relished by all the playing members, but wherever possible it should be done in order to reduce the cost of maintaining the trap.

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What We Hear From Detroit

THE Entertainment committees for the annual convention, appointed from the membership of the Detroit District Greenkeepers' Association are working overtime just now completing arrangements to welcome National Association members and their wives during convention week. William Smith of Red Run, chairman of the Men's committee is ably seconded by Mrs. Smith, who is setting the wheels rolling to entertain the women. It is a close family corporation of good-will, ability and energy.

At the Detroit Golf Club, Alex McPherson finished sodding eighteen greens to bent this past fall, which is some cutting up and laying down.

One of the new courses contemplated for the outlying Detroit district will be a nine-hole course on Put-in-Bay Island. This is being sponsored by Mayor T. B. Alexander, and financed by residents of the island. We understand the first tee will be under the shadow of the famous Perry memorial.

Mowers and Mower Service at Pennsylvania

AT a recent meeting of the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents held at the Green Valley Country Club, the matter of mowing equipment came in for considerable discussion. Quality and design, durability and service given by various makers were talked of at length.

It was decided to hold an annual elective meeting of the association in February, and submit a list of the newly elected officers to the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER for publication.

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Arkansas Valley Greenkeepers at Detroit

SEVERAL members of the new Arkansas Valley Association of Greenkeepers will be present at the convention, according to late advice from Chester Mendenhall, Wichita, president.

The temporary organization will be made permanent at an elective meeting to be held February 16, at which final arrangements will be made to send a delegation of members to Detroit for convention week. This news is particularly interesting to all National Association members. Snappy action, such as is being shown by a group of greenkeepers who were for the most part unacquainted with each other three months ago is a thing for all greenkeepers to think over.

Keeping the Greens Open in Winter

By JOHN McNAMARA, First Vice-President

ALMOST all golf clubs close off the regular summer greens and build near them temporary or winter greens for use during the winter months. The contention of many golfers is that it does not hurt the regular greens if they are played throughout the winter season.

In my experience, I have found that not only the greens but the fairways and tees suffer to a great extent if played regularly. The more playing that is done, the longer it takes in the spring of the year to bring the course up to the proper standard. The course is much more damaged if we have a mild and open winter, as in favorable weather there are quite a few more playing. My opinion is that during the soft and mild days of the early spring, all golf courses (wherever this condition exists) should be closed tight. As the greens and fairways cannot be rolled before they are fairly dry, it is very hard to get the foot-marks out that were made in the winter months. The cups cannot be changed often enough to prevent spots about them being worn out when they are left in too long.

Does it pay a club to keep the regular greens open during the winter months, taking into consideration the damage that is done? I would like to hear the opinion of greenkeepers and others on this subject.