

# My Impressions

By **CAPT. DAVID L. REES, Greenkeeper**

Progress Country Club, Purchase, N. Y.



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**N**O DOUBT the sparse attendance at the United States Golf Association Greenkeepers' Convention, June 4 and 5 was due to the season, many greenkeepers being really too busy to leave their courses.

Arriving at Atlantic City Country Club, the guests were warmly welcomed by Mr. Kendal Read, Green committee chairman, who has been responsible for the remodeling of the course. Mr. Read can be justly proud of the course as it is today. Formerly by no means up to grade A standard, this course is now a splendid production.

Most of the greens blend in with their surroundings in a delightfully pleasing manner, and everywhere on the course there is evidence of ingenious contouring. The traps are skillfully placed, and the unique feature about them is that they can be raked by a tractor-pulled chain-harrow. The billowy effect in the traps gave an appropriate sea-side air to this very fine course. The greenkeeper is to be congratulated, too, on the very good turf conditions prevailing.

Before partaking of an excellent luncheon, the guests took part in a kickers' handicap tournament, won by Joe Valentine, greenkeeper at the Merion Cricket Club, Philadelphia, with a score of 89 less 15, net 74.

The tour of inspection staged for the afternoon was interrupted somewhat by showers. The guests agreed that the incoming holes provided a pretty strenuous test of golf. One outstanding feature of the Atlantic City Country Club course is the very fine water system, which is capable of supplying 500 gallons a minute to fairways and greens.

## Vanderpool Opens Meeting

**A**FTER dinner, Mr. Vanderpool opened the evening meeting, and turned the chair over to Mr. Kendal Read. After distribution of the prizes won during the day, Mr. Read took charge of an informal discussion, touching on the ever-dreaded brown patch, poa annua, arsenate of lead on poa annua in bent greens, relative value of fertilizers, etc., etc. Dr. Westover and Dr. Monteith, Jr. were present, and took their usual helpful share in the discussions.

On Tuesday most of the party met on the world-famous Pine Valley course, and beyond doubt all felt that the visit was many times worth while. Norman Mattice, manager of Pine Valley, was most courteous to all guests, and busied himself in seeing that everyone had an interesting and enjoyable time. The equipment building and the splendidly furnished tool-shed were included in the morning tour of inspection, and after lunch in the Clubhouse a few of the more courageous essayed a round of golf on this masterpiece of courses. Within earshot of one notable foursome you might have heard the query "How many to that hole, Bob?" and the dogged reply "Fifteen, or maybe I was down in fourteen"!!

Altogether this meeting was most enjoyable and genuinely instructive, particularly as to reconstruction points, and it was truly a pity that more greenkeepers could not have seen their way to be present.

## Killing Moles Without Traps

By **W. D. CHINERY, Greenkeeper**

York Downs Golf Club, Eglinton, Ontario

**W**HERE moles are troublesome and it is not convenient to set traps for them, strychnine can be used to advantage.

The method we have used and found satisfactory, is to first locate their main runs or burrows. Then get some fairly large earthworms, three or four, tie them together in two places with some fine, soft string, not too tight but tight enough so that they cannot wriggle loose. Dust lightly a little strychnine over the worms.

It will be seen that on handling worms they will exude a slimy substance which will prevent the powder from falling off. As moles are credited with being both sensitive and suspicious it is well to exercise caution on placing the bait, by using gloves on the hands.

Clean out the hole carefully so as not to displace the run and with a stick place the bait in position a little way in the run. Then carefully close the hole by placing a handful of moss or grass well over and cover with soil to exclude all light.

We captured seven of these sleek little animals which were working very close to one of our greens and which is located in a cool, moist and somewhat shaded corner of our course.

## Golf Course Drainage

"The concluding number of the series 'Golf Course Drainage' will be ready for publication in the August number," says Wendell P. Miller, the author.