Again This February and Every February Thereafter

BY JOHN MORLEY
President, The National Association of Greenkeepers of America

A CORDIAL invitation is extended to every greenkeeper and Green committee chairman in the United States and Canada to attend our 4th Annual Golf Show and Conference of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America at the Jefferson County Armory, Louisville, Kentucky, February 4-7.

It is an Exposition made to order. At this Exposition is shown golf and country club products of the leading manufacturers of the United States and Canada. It provides a competitive market place of convenience for the up-and-doing greenkeeper to inspect in three days more modern and efficient equipment than he would see in a month of travel and expense. Everything in golf course maintenance under one roof.

That Green committee chairmen and golfers generally are taking a keen interest in the National Greenkeepers' Conference, Convention and Golf Show is evidenced by a recent letter from one of the chairmen of one of the leading district Green Sections who says, "Many of the chairmen of Green committees of my district will be more than pleased to attend the Convention, Conference and Golf Show, and I am quite sure will be glad to lend any small assistance possible to make your meetings and gatherings a success."

The program of papers to be read and discussed is attracting nation-wide attention and golf clubs in all parts of the country advise that they will send their greenkeepers to Louisville at the club's expense. Last year the Green Section of the United States Golf Association recommended all clubs to send their greenkeepers to the New York and Chicago shows. This year we will be the only ones to stage a Golf Show. We will have on exhibition four times as many exhibitors as there were at the Chicago and New York shows, besides giving to those who attend the benefits of all the latest thoughts and discoveries pertaining to soils, grasses, fertilizers and various turf diseases, given by the best talent of these various subjects available.

Greenkeepers Should See the Light

A GREENKEEPER should remember practical knowledge along with efficient experience is power and the wages of a greenkeeper are usually based upon these facts. It has been stated that the welfare of one is the concern of all, yet do we realize that it may be considered unfair when we take into consideration the fact that three-fourths of the greenkeepers of America who are members should have to give their knowledge and experience to the other one-fourth who are eligible to become members, but who hold aloof and stand idly by and criticize. To the latter let me say, we are trying to make
conditions better for you but we hope you will see the light sooner or later.

Each year we endeavor to make our meetings more instructive and educational because we realize that modern science has changed the world and that in order to keep ahead we must keep step with the times. You have observed some of the golf architect’s methods of constructing a putting green and you have also observed that often, in a very short time, a number of these putting greens have been reconstructed by the chairman of the Green committee and the greenkeeper. It will be worthwhile to spend the time and expense to observe the contest at the Golf Show between the greenkeepers from the East and the greenkeepers from the West showing, according to the lay of the land, the most modern methods at the least possible cost.

Last year at Buffalo our attendance was above the average, yet we were a little disappointed in not having more members to attend the Convention. This was probably due to the fact that we tried to crowd too many attractions in so short a period of time. A number of members brought their wives and families and were tired out and desired to return home.

Louisville Has Improved Program

This year at Louisville we are endeavoring to avoid this condition. So we are starting the Golf Show and Conference one day earlier and instead of listening both morning and afternoon to able speakers we feel that you will enjoy and digest what they have to say by having only one session each day. This will give you a better opportunity to go shopping and sight-seeing. We do want you to be present at the first session, Tuesday afternoon, which opens at 2:00 P. M. sharp, for the reason that we are favored for the first time in our history in having three presidents of the leading golf clubs in the district of Louisville to extend to us words of greeting.

If there are any greenkeepers or in fact anyone who is desirous of seeking information along any particular line, I would suggest in order not to disturb the speaker before or during the time he is giving his address that they write it down plainly on a sheet of paper and give it to the chairman, Professor George M. McClure who will see that the speaker gets it in plenty of time and at the close of his address he will be able to answer your questions more satisfactorily.

Again we noticed the absence from the Convention of a few of our shy members who think their presence is not needed. Let me express to you these facts—give me a member who is usually shy and avoids the limelight, has little to say in public or at any of our meetings, but is always in his place on the sidelines. It is he who gives the officers confidence and encouragement. His face is a beacon, always in its proper position and pointing out the safe channel into the harbor. He is a living evidence that our association is not an intangible something but a sound and enduring structure. Such a member attracts esteem as a magnet draws a needle. He may never be able to make a stirring address but he furnishes the inspiration for all addresses which are truly moving. It is for him and those like him that the leaders of our association actually work.

Convention on Friday Forenoon

Our Convention will be held on Friday forenoon, February 7. This will give you an opportunity to remain and witness the midnight show, which as per usual will be a stag affair. George Davies, chairman of the Entertainment Committee has selected a fine program for this event. You can observe therefore that we have planned and made all arrangements so that we can all depart for our respective homes Saturday morning.

I might also state that we have also taken a rough corner off the annual banquet program which will be held Thursday evening. We believe that three days of listening to speakers, no matter how entertaining their subjects are is enough. There should be a limit to everything, so at the coming banquet there will be no speech making for we have substituted a musical program instead. According to Mrs. Julia Varn Hagen, president of the Wives of National Greenkeepers there will be a large number of ladies attending.
I have for this occasion appointed a committee on Reception and I want this committee to be active and introduce all members and even those who are not members and endeavor to make them all feel at home.

Register First

Upon arriving at Hotel Kentucky which is to be our headquarters at Louisville, inquire or else tell them the price of room you desire for all of the large up-to-date hotels have standard rates and various priced rooms according to locations, etc. If you should find the prices too excessive for you consult one of the Committee on Registration who will direct you to a lower priced hotel. Immediately after engaging your room proceed to the Armory which is only two blocks from headquarters and register where you will be furnished with an official badge of the association and a copy of the program.

The officers and chairmen of the various committees have about completed their labors. They have done their best to give you four days of enjoyment along educational and recreational lines. They now expect each member to do his duty by being present and cooperating with them. For we are often reminded of the convincing statement, ‘He lives a full life that serves’.

N.A.G.A. Committees for 1930

Committee on Golf Show
Fred A. Burkhardt, Chairman, Cleveland, Ohio; Grange Alves, Cleveland, Ohio; George Davies, Louisville, Ky.; Lewis M. Evans, Philadelphia, Penna.; Victor George, Lafayette, Indiana; Emil Loefler, Pittsburgh, Penna.; John MacGregor, Chicago, Ill.; John Morley, Youngstown, Ohio; Walter C. Reed, Saint Louis, Mo.; Captain David L. Rees, Purchase, N. Y.; Herbert S. Shave, Detroit, Mich.

Committee on Finance
Christopher Bain, Chairman, Cleveland, Ohio; John Morley, Youngstown, Ohio; Wm. J. Rockefellow, Toledo, Ohio; Alex McPherson, Detroit, Mich.; Grange Alves, Cleveland, Ohio; Ford Goodrich, Flint, Michigan; George Sargent, Columbus, Ohio.

Committee on Law
John Pirie, Chairman, Southport, Connecticut; W. D. Chinery, Eglington, Ontario, Canada; C. G. Barton, Toledo, Ohio; Hugh C. Moore, Brunswick, Georgia; E. J. Claire, West Boylston, Mass.; R. G. Sheldon, Cleveland, Ohio; Robert Henderson, Buffalo, New York.

Committee on Death Benefit Fund
John Pressler, Chairman, Sewickley, Penna.; Ralph C. Martin, Shanopin, Penna.; Alex McCallum, Scarborough, Ontario, Canada; Louis Barkdull, Kokomo, Indiana; Fred Kruger, Matterson, Illinois; Charles Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.; George Wellin, New Britain, Conn.

Committee on Registration
Harry A. Burkhardt, Chairman, Amherst, Mass.; M. J. Fox, Cleveland, Ohio.

Committee on Benevolence

Committee on Reception

Committee on Permanent Organization
Herbert E. Shave, Chairman, Detroit, Mich.; Joe Valentine, Philadelphia, Penna.; Alex Pirie, Chicago, Illinois; H. Lloyd, N. Toronto, Canada; Elmer F. Affeldt, Great Neck, L. I., New York; Frank W. Ermer, Cleveland, Ohio; Victor George, Lafayette, Indiana.

Committee on Meeting Place
Robert J. Hayes, Chairman, Pelham, N. Y.; Joseph Williamson, Columbus, Ohio; Fred A. Burkhardt, Cleveland, Ohio; Fred Kruger, Matterson, Illinois; H. Hawkins, Port Credit, Ontario, Canada; John Pressler, Sewickley, Penna.; Lewis M. Evans, Philadelphia, Penna.

Committee on Appeals and Grievances
James Muirden, Chairman, Cincinnati, Ohio; Joseph P. Mayo, Pebble Beach, California; H. Hawkins, Port Credit, Ontario, Canada; E. E. Snyder, Hartsdale, Ohio; Anthony G. Wagner, Rock Island, Illinois; Alex Binnie, Chicago, Illinois; A1 Schardt, Buffalo, N. Y.

Committee on National Greenkeeper