

Williamson and George Sargent should be given every cooperation in putting over the next convention.

The program of the last convention was so generally satisfactory that it is impossible to criticize. It might be suggested that various greenkeepers throughout the country be asked immediately to concentrate their individual attention upon separate problems so as to be able to present their findings at the next convention. Perhaps short debates on important subjects would be of general interest.

The enthusiasm generated at these conventions is very helpful. The door is being opened to intelligent greenkeeping and it is impossible to ignore the march of progress.

Louisville Golf Show and Convention

By BOB FARMER



THE Fourth Annual Convention of the National Greenkeepers of America was held in Louisville, Kentucky. It would hardly be fair to speak of such a meeting without giving a word of praise to the choice of location. Louisville is centrally located and affords many conveniences for any convention held

in February. The climatic conditions were excellent with the exception of two days of rain. Birds were singing and the grass was getting greener each day. Sight-seeing trips were made possible, due to the fact that the schedules for the educational programs were limited to the afternoons, which left the mornings free.

The outstanding feature of the convention was the display of equipment. Anything that is "bigger and better" demands attention. The satisfied smile that seemed to crop out upon all the faces of the equipment dealers was self explanatory of the appreciation of the efforts of the Show Committee.

Jefferson County Armory had plenty of floor space for a unified display of this kind. It was closely situated to the Kentucky Hotel which was another ideal factor. The rectangular arrangement of the equipment booths

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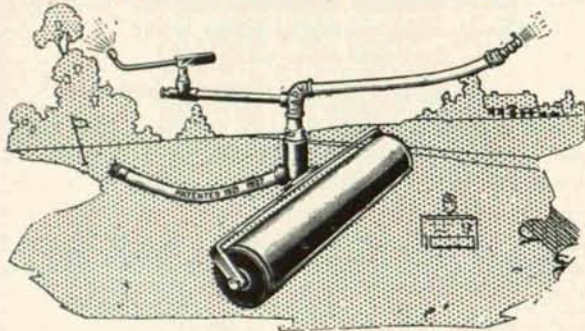
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was good. All dealers were adjoining each other and had sufficient room to display their wares.

The equipment display of the Golf Show was by far the largest of the National Greenkeepers' Conventions thus far, which is an achievement well worthy of mention. The efficiency of loading and unloading of equipment in such a building was increased considerably over previous locations.

Putting Green Contest Interesting

THE Putting Green Contest was a very interesting feature. Many of the greenkeepers had a few sleepless nights in the dead of winter over this rival competition. The classification of the East vs. West tended to create a pride of the greenkeepers in the contestants' workmanship representing their respective localities. Such demonstrations of building model putting greens to scale teach the observer the art of building, moulding and perfecting greens.

Many one shot holes have been designed and laid out and completed which, when finished have oriented the aerial routes of well-played wood and iron shots of our better golf-

ers of today. However it takes genius, labor and determination to duplicate such a feat even on a small scale when the architect knows that never a click of the iron will be heard at the tee, nor will he hear the plunk of the ball into the cup on the green.

All this Mr. George Davies did at the Fourth Annual Convention of the National Greenkeepers. He wasn't satisfied to use artificial grass so he took some blue grass sod to the greenhouse, where the necessary factors heat, light and water could be procured to keep the grass green for such an occasion. This uniquely laid out hole was short lived, but it most assuredly made a lasting impression.

The Educational Conference was very interesting throughout. All talks were educational and were applicable to the trains of thought that run through a greenkeeper's mind during the season. Some of the talks referred to soils and its constituents, some to fertilizers and its effects on weeds and some to seeds and grasses or the plant pathology concerning their diseases. All more or less pertained to Agriculture, which concerns a large part of our

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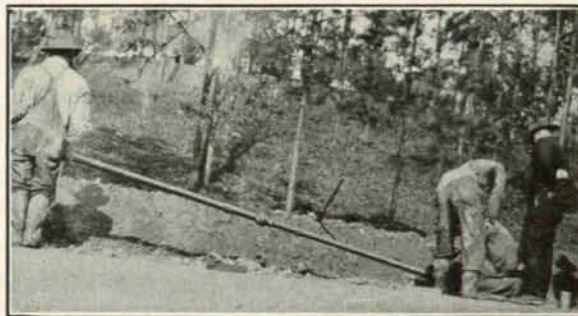
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work, but in order that the National Association of Greenkeepers may vary their educational speeches, why don't we include many of the other departments of education which are instrumental in greenkeeping.

There are many architects of today who would be willing to give information regarding course construction which would be useful to the greenkeeper who takes charge of a new course. The greenkeeper of today who is expected to take charge of a new course under construction, is also expected to check costs of the various operations of construction for his club. Water systems, cost comparisons of gravity and electric controlled pumping units vary. Which is the better and what are the factors that enter into such a decision?

Managerial problems could be discussed in such a meeting. Greenkeepers employ from 12 to 20 men and should strive for the highest degree of efficiency of handling these men at all times. Where should the barn be located? Do you approve of sectional tool sheds or boxes? Professor Dickinson from Amherst offers some very good and practical suggestions



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in his managerial course of study for the 18-hole golf course.

The field of greenkeeping, being so broad, it would be well to avoid repetition in our programs. The proximity of the lecture room area to the golf show display was harmonious and very agreeable.

During a convention there must be entertainment, and that we did have. The hospitality of the southern people is hard to beat. The menu announced in the "National Greenkeeper" was not explanatory of the good food we enjoyed at the banquet. Who could not laugh, and laugh heartily at the many jokes told by our after dinner speaker? His "negro mammy tunes" were indeed amusing. The very fine and talented entertainment given us after the dinner seemed to be enjoyed by all.

In the course of the evening there also happened a most impressive incident, which was when the Governor of Kentucky sent a representative to our convention to crown our worthy and honorable president Mr. John Morley, a Kentucky Colonel. This honor was bestowed upon Mr. Morley because of his work

and sense of duty, having given unselfishly of himself to promote the interests of golf and of the Greenkeepers of America and Canada today.

From the Old Arm Chair

By LEWIS M. EVANS

THE trip home from Louisville is over and I am back again in Mudville and evening finds me in the old arm chair looking out of the window at the evening shadows lengthening.

My thoughts carry me back to Detroit and the old Fort Shelby hotel and I sit and draw a mental picture of the Show and Convention held by the National Association of Greenkeepers. I walk through the lobby meeting old friends and new and then I go down the stairs to see the golf course equipment, etc. Wonderful. That doesn't explain it and to think that all the details pertaining to it had been handled by fellow greenkeepers. It doesn't seem possible and as I walked around the ground floor and that small balcony it seemed as if I was dreaming.

The Convention and Committee meetings took up much of the time and the last day

soon arrived and I headed homeward convinced that I had witnessed the most wonderful Convention and Equipment Show that had ever been held and I questioned if I would ever see one as wonderful again. I shall always keep a warm spot in my heart for Detroit for I am convinced that it was there that the plant of fraternalism became deep rooted and it brought across the line our Canadian brothers whose friendship we are so proud of today.

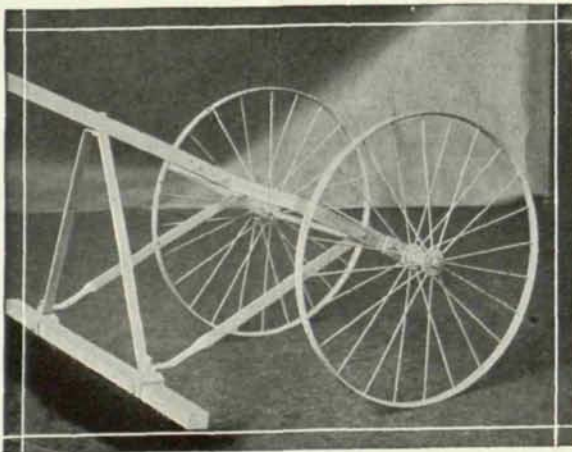
The hand of time moves quickly and a year has elapsed and I arrive in Buffalo and go to the Statler hotel the Association's headquarters for the Convention and Show. I know that the speakers for the Convention are all that one could desire but how about the Show!

The morning for its opening arrives and I prepare myself to be disappointed, "It can't compare to the one in Detroit last year," I said to myself. I start through the lobby and stop many times to greet my old friends and those who are attending a Convention for the first time. Finally I go into the Show and the sight was simply startling. The equipment wonderfully arranged in that beautiful Ball Room and Foyer and there amid all that splendor I couldn't help but murmur, "Surely Fate has been kind to us."

Again that last day arrived all too soon and as I bid "good bye" to my friends with the usual "hope to see you next year" I headed toward Mudville once again. The trip home gave me many hours to thoroughly go over the happenings of those wonderful days, the wonderful show, the wonderful speakers, the wonderful entertainment provided in fact I should have covered the entire subject with the one word "wonderful." We have reached the top I said to myself and this was the finest Convention and Show that I shall ever see or any other greenkeeper for that matter. I was a better greenkeeper when I came home from Detroit but I am still a better one for having gone to Buffalo.

Another year has rolled around and time finds me with the old carpet bag packed and headed for Louisville. Enthused? No. Oh it might be a good Convention and Show, about on a par with Detroit but it can't touch Buffalo that I am sure. It was in the cool gray dawn

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