

Columbus Meeting a Huge Success

By JOHN QUAILL, Secretary The National Association of Greenkeepers of America

THE Fifth Annual Convention and Golf Show of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America was a success from all angles. The turnout was all that could be expected owing to the business depression as several clubs could not afford to pay the way for their greenkeepers. Most of these clubs were the "payas-you-play clubs where they have to depend on the public for the revenue. The response from the private clubs was almost one hundred per cent.

The Golf Show, under the direction of Fred Burkhardt was as usual up to the high standard of past shows. The exhibitors were very profuse in their praise of the way the show was managed and all have expressed their desire and intentions of exhibiting again next year. Several of the exhibitors cleaned their total exhibits off the floor by sales and are shipping direct to the purchaser. Others told of increased sales through the show. One exhibitor claims that fifteen per cent of last year's business was done at the show and according to this year's sales he thinks he has raised this to about twenty per cent.

The conference brought forth much favorable comment. There has never in the history of golf been such a meeting. Every speaker was an expert in his line and every greenkeeper or any other person hearing the lectures surely received some good, sound advice and knowledge from the lectures. Unfortunately the program the first day was marred somewhat by the auditorium where the talks were held. The acoustics were very bad and it was difficult to hear plainly. The next day, conditions were improved and it was a lot better. The question box conducted by Prof. L. S. Dickinson on Friday brought out many interesting topics and the discussion was very lively and a lot of good was derived from this meeting.

The Annual Banquet was as fine a turnout as could be assembled. The greenkeepers and their wives enjoyed a very pleasant evening and the entertainment deserves praise. The Columbus boys and their wives surely arranged everything to perfection. The speakers of the evening were very fine and they kept the crowd in an uproar by their timely comments and humorous talks.

The Hon. J. J. Thomas, Mayor of Columbus, welcomed us all and extended the appreciation of the city to the association in favoring Columbus with our presence. The genial George (Red) Trautman, Convention Manager of Columbus, seemed to be every place at the same time aiding and assisting in seeing that everything went off smoothly. We surely owe him a debt of gratitude for the way he handled every situation.

The Midnight Show at the Elks' Club was a jolly party. It was planned to resemble a circus side show. Everyone was there from the bearded lady to the Siamese twins. (No one was seeing double.) The wrestling match with the bear was quite a novel stunt. The greenkeepers evidently have enough trouble wrestling with the problems on a golf course as no one seemed anxious to take a chance with the bear.

The business session brought out some good reports and fine suggestions.

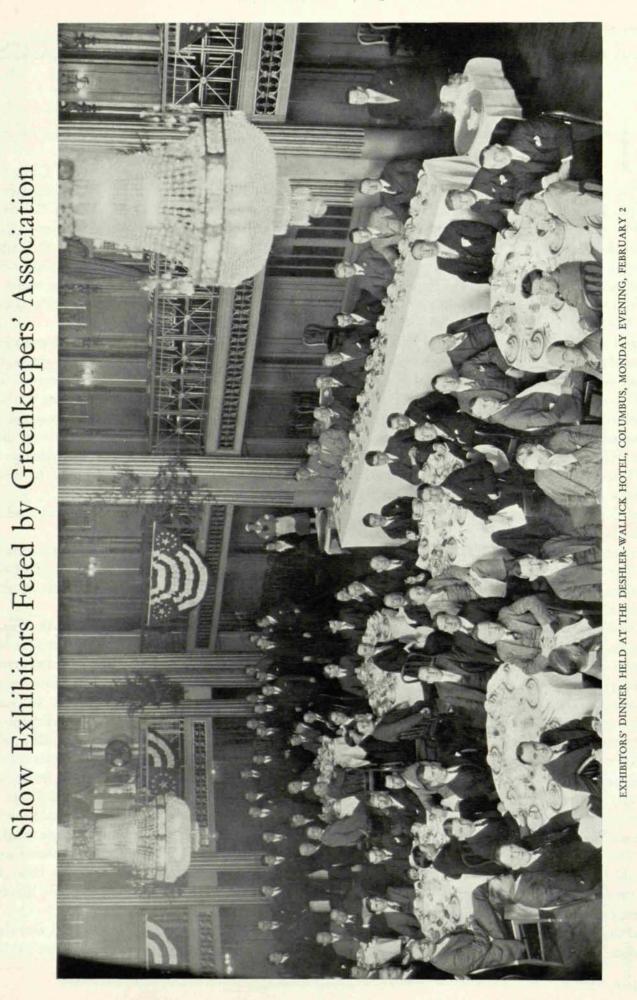
The treasurer reported a comfortable balance in the treasury. Detailed reports of the Finance Committee will be mailed to all members at an early date.

The Convention assembled approved the Executive Committees decision in selecting the next convention city as New York. New York has invited the convention for the last four years and it was the popular choice for 1932. Chicago for 1933 and Toronto for 1934 were the recommendations for future conventions with Philadelphia, Milwaukee and Indianapolis recommended as alternates in case conditions arise which would prohibit having the convention in one of the recommended cities.

The Committee on Death Benefit Fund reported that inasmuch as group insurance was not satisfactory, it was their opinion that the members should support the present plan and help to bring the Death Benefit Fund membership to one hundred per cent of the Association membership.

The Benevolent Committee reported that there has been no applications for benevolence so there

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was nothing paid out. The benevolent fund is growing and shows a nice balance.

The Committee on the NATIONAL GREEN-KEEPER presented a letter from Mr. R. E. Power, President of THE NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, whereby he outlined a plan which will be of great financial benefit to the association. For every member of the association in good standing he will make a financial return to apply toward the benevolent fund. This will be a contribution and will help to increase this fund very materially every year. Mr. Power in making this offer, has shown to the greenkeepers that he is behind the association heart and soul and a rising vote of thanks was given him at the meeting.

The officers selected for the year are as follows: President—John Morley, Youngstown, Ohio.

First Vice President—John MacGregor, Chicago, Illinois.

Second Vice President—W. J. Sansom, Toronto, Canada.

Third Vice President—Robert J. Hayes, Pelham, New York.

Fourth Vice President—George Davies, Louisville, Kentucky.

Fifth Vice President—John Anderson, West Orange, New Jersey.

Secretary, John Quaill, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Treasurer—Fred A. Burkhardt, Cleveland, Ohio.

Lewis M. Evans, formerly of Philadelphia, Pa., withdrew from the Executive Committee as he has moved from the district and is now in Ohio and felt that the east should have the representation due them.

Fred Burkhardt presented a preliminary report from the Show Committee which was accepted with applause. Mr. Burkhardt explained that as there were several items yet to be taken care of before the show closed he could not give a final report at this time. He mentioned that according to the best calculations, a good profit would be made on this show. Mr. Burkhardt was given a rising vote of thanks for the work he has done on the show.

The meeting of the District Vice Presidents brought out many good suggestions and it is the opinion of everyone that in the future, the District Vice Presidents will be an important cog in the wheel. It was explained to them just where and how

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they could be of the greatest service and help to the officers and members of the association in securing new members and in organizing new local associations. They all pledged themselves to cooperate with the officers and to build up the membership and help in all ways possible.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee on Friday night, Mr. Robert E. Power, President and Editor of THE NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, Was made an Honorary Member of the association in appreciation of his past services. Mr. Power is very much pleased with his appointment and expressed his thanks to the Executive Committee.

A committee of three, Mr. Morley, Mr. Burkhardt and Mr. Quaill, were appointed to meet with the committees of the Club Managers' Association and the Professional Golfers' Association in Pittsburgh at the time of the Annual Convention of the Club Managers to discuss ways and means to promote a closer harmony and good-will between the organizations. This is undoubtedly a step in the right direction and we feel that an understanding will be reached whereby all concerned will profit by it.

Mr. Ganson Depew, Chairman of the Green Section of the U.S.G.A., has expressed thanks to the greenkeepers for their assurance that we will cooperate with the Green Section in their work. Mr. Depew looks forward to a pleasant term in office through the assurance that both organizations will be working in close harmony for the good of the game and sport.

McKay Honored

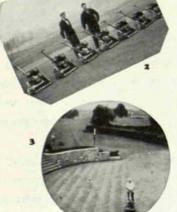
Now that the excitement of the Show, etc., is over, which I think was the best ever, I am pleased to tell you that I have been elected an honorary member of the Shawnee Golf Club.

I built and laid out Shawnee and they have made me an honorary member to show their appreciation of what I have done for the course and also for the golfers of Shawnee.

I am not sure that many greenkeepers get this honor so I thought I would let you know about it.

> A. G. MCKAY, 313 Cecil Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky.







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