President Morley Urges Loyalty and

I t affords me great pleasure to again present to you this my Sixth Annual report. We have now come to the final session of our Sixth Annual Convention which will soon have gone into history. It was a year of attainment to some, but a year of hope deferred to others.

We have now reached another milestone along the highways of life. Another year has passed with its joys and gladness, its sorrow and its care. The blessings that have been bestowed upon this organization during 1931 are plainly indicated in this annual report.

There is no use denying the fact that 1931 has been an off year for every golf club and association and the National Association of Greenkeepers of America has been no exception.

No chain is stronger than its weakest link; the weak link in our association is the membership roster. The influx of new members is the very life blood of this or any other organization. No association can survive unless it records a healthy growth reflected in a constant influx of new members. This is plain logic.

The foregoing may leave to some the earmarks of despair or loss of faith in our institution; far from it. Fear and despair have no room in the National Association of Greenkeepers of America’s dictionary. Faith, grit and pluck have always been our symbolic and dominating traditions.

The membership at large has in the past always measured up to a crisis, when the welfare of the association was at stake, especially on occasions when the sense of duty was confronted with the acid test, “To Serve.” Such an occasion to serve awaits you. Let us for the year 1932 conduct the largest and most intense “Quality” membership campaign ever undertaken.

The hopes of the present and future spring from the experiences of the past. Old 1931 has gone into history as an interesting if chaotic year. If it has been a year of trial and tempest it has also written into its records for our association a significant and shining example of achievement that raises high our hopes for 1932.

Since we have been organized we have won the friendship of the golfing world by our progressive
work. For the first time in the history of greenkeeping we have been honored by the United States Golf Association by having four of our member greenkeepers placed on the Advisory Board of the Green Section. We must all pull together with a determination that when we meet in annual session in 1933 we will be able to report that our association has more than held its own.

The year just past has to a large extent brought to me many sad and distressing letters from members who have lost their positions, appealing to me to try and secure another position for them. While we have on several occasions been able to do so the demand has been so great that it has been an impossibility to obtain positions for all. From a charitable standpoint I would recommend that our association retain all members in good standing who have lost their positions until such time as each and every one is able to secure another position.

Let us keep in close touch with all of our unemployed members so that if you find any that you know are worthy of aid to let us know. For we will not allow anyone to go hungry, especially if they have a family to support, while we have a reasonable balance in our Benevolent fund.

I am of the opinion that there are very few members who realize the amount of labor, expense and correspondence that has become necessary to stage a Golf Show, Conference and Convention. There is so much detail work to look after in order to avoid confusion and complaints. The Golf Show we have fostered has been conducted along sane and as far as possible, economical lines.

Let us sow the seed of happiness, to stoop down and consider the needs of those thrown out of employment and to remember the helplessness of some of our fellow members.

Let us hope for a new inspiration, for a better tomorrow. To put our shoulders together to make 1932 a better year than 1931, and let us be imbued with the spirit of goodwill towards our fellow greenkeepers. Then our hearts will glow warmly with the satisfaction that comes from the consciousness of duty faithfully rendered and loving and helpful acts cheerfully performed.