

Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, *Secretary*



H. E. STODOLA
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Association of Golf
Course Superintendents.*

THE first meeting of the New Year was held in the new clubhouse of the University of Minnesota's golf course. Our genial host was Art Anderson, the greenkeeper of this modern course. It consists of 132 acres of heavily wooded rolling land, and is an ideal site for a sporty golf course.

The U. of M. course was just recently reconstructed. The facilities of the University were used. Mr. Zelner of the Engineering Department surveyed the entire course. Mr. Roe, head of the Agricultural Engineering Department planned all the tile lines. Now he is working on a California hoseless system for watering. Dr. Rost, of the Soils Department, analyzed the soils. With Art Anderson on the job, work was done very efficiently. Incidentally Anderson is a graduate of the famous Minnikahda course.

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One feature about the course is the way the greens are constructed. First, the grade and pitch of the green was obtained. Then four or five inches of good soil was applied. Then six inches of peat with a thin layer of sand. On this was applied eight inches of good soil. This was deeply disced and doubly disced until a good mixture was obtained.

All over the green there is a good soil bed as deep as a cup is ever cut. The beauty of these greens is that after fifty thousand rounds of golf they are soft to the tread and hold a pitch nicely without being water-soaked. Also they promote a very good growth of grass.

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As to the type of grass on the greens you might say this course is a veritable experimental plot. The University has been experimenting with bent for many years and had many square feet of bent sod of different varieties. This sod was transplanted to the newly prepared greens. So they have Washington bent, Metropolitan, Erickson, Vermont and Cocoos. According to Anderson's observation, Washington is good, Metropolitan has too much nap, Virginia never gets real fine, Erickson bent is good, and Cocoos does well with little attention.

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One noticeable thing about their traps is the white sand which they used. The best thing you can say about it is that it looks good in a picture. Outside of that it discolors easily and also blows away when dry.

They use power mowers on the greens and like them. The course is about the best any University can boast of. This coming summer the Big Ten Championship will be held there.

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Art Anderson has worked hard and intelligently and a fine course is his reward. Mr. W. R. Smith of the University Athletic Department is manager of the course and a very capable one.

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When Leo Feser called the business meeting, he introduced Mr. Smith, who outlined a short course for greenkeepers to be held at the University in February. The course will be open to all those interested in turf culture. Announcements will be sent to all Minnesota, western Wisconsin, northern Iowa, and the Dakotas' golf clubs.

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One of our Minnesota members has taken over a golf course in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and he had many interesting things to say. He is Joe Benson, formerly at Alexandria, Minn. He showed the members some pictures of his course, and said he has many new problems to contend with.

After the business meeting, Mr. Anderson served a good luncheon and then cards were played. With the National Convention in January and the Short Course in February, this Association is very busy and the next meeting will be announced later.

Baltimore News

By WILLIAM E. DUNT, *Secretary*

Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers

FOLLOWING is a report of the annual meeting and election of officers of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Greenkeepers, held at the New Howard hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, on January 4.

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The following officers were elected for 1932: R. D. Gedding, president, Gibson Island Golf Club, Pasadena, Maryland. Tom Fischer, vice-president, Burning Tree Golf Club, Bethesda, Maryland. William E. Dunt, secretary, Sherwood Forest Golf Course, Annapolis, Maryland. Richard Scott, treasurer, Rolling Road Country Club, Catonsville, Maryland. Publicity committee for Washington, D. C. R. P. Hines, and for Baltimore, R. D. Geddings.

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Owing to the mild weather in this section golfers are making use of the courses, keeping our greenkeepers busy. In some cases greens have been cut owing to the exceptional growth of grass at this time of year.

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Several of our members attended the Annual Greenkeepers' Convention in New York.