

T H I N G S - By Lee - - - - - Your editor has not deserted you, even though I did not write in last months' paper. But upon my return from Boston I found my work piled up to the point where I had to stick around and try to clear at least a part of this load up. My boss gives very short target dates, and accepts no excuses. I did not even make the meeting at Jim Ross' place. Anyway, right after I got home from the big shindig in Boston I started writing while the memories were fresh. I never finished the whole article, but this is what I wrote:

The Boston Turf Party is now history. Your editor was there, thanks to an invitation to be on a panel on Irrigation. It was a great experience for me since I have attended only one conference prior to this one, which was the one in San Francisco some years back. But I did not get the true feeling for this sort of convention, since I drove back and forth each day and only attended the lectures. But there is much more than that. The difference is people. You meet very interesting chaps, many of whom you may have read about in trade magazines.

The equipment show is always one I enjoy. I am just a natural-born gadget-hound, and love to browse around to find new things or things which I can use to make my work somewhat easier. By and large, the Boston show produces rather few revolutionary things. As they come to mind, I recall such machines as a new hydraulically-driven 7-gang mower by Roseman; a proto-type deep aerifier (6 inches) by R & R Industries; a new Maxi triplex mower by Locke Manufacturing Co. of Bridgeport, Connecticut. There was new maintenance equipment by both Toro and Jacobsen, and a lot of smaller things, some of them very ingenious. There were some fine turf vacuums I have never seen, and a real dandy heavy-duty rock picker, which looks like a winner for large construction projects.

The highlight of this event was not in the equipment part. For our Northern California Association it was the election of our own Cliff Wagoner to the position of Grand Imperial Potentate, and another of our illustrious members, Walter Boysen, who was given GCSAA Special Merit Award. This is the most prestigious award presented by the Association. Also, of the speakers on the program, we had 3 from Northern California. Roger Larson gave his usual competent presentation on the preparation of a course for a major tournament. Taborski, the new superintendent of the Half Moon Bay course now under construction, pitched in for architect Francis J. Duane, and showed some highly interesting slides on the progress of his course which has some real cliff hangers. And I mean this figuratively speaking. Maybe we can invite him sometime to show us some of his slides of the course when he is further along. And then last, but not least, yours truly was a panel member on irrigation. And so, as I said before, the Northern Cal group had a fine showing. After all, why shouldn't we?

But the weather! It was about 14 degrees above zero when I flew in. That is not bad, but there also was about a 20 mph wind blowing. The chill factor brought it down to about - 40 degrees. For this Californian this

this was operation "Quick-Freeze". But it was "unusual" weather! But this was not all that made me freeze. The weather just made my body freeze the Boston Graduates of the Kamikaze School of driving, who laughingly call themselves taxi drivers, made my blood freeze as well. You see, when the Second WW ended, the Imperial Japanese Air Force had not used up their contingency of Kamikaze pilots. These fanatic men, facing a very unsure future in their devastated country, decided to take out revenge against the Americans. The graduates of this school are now known as the Boston Cab driver, and Japan got their revenge against the US anyway. At least in Boston. I vote that if the GCSAA again hold a meeting in Boston in the future, they should provide two things: Private transportation for all guests, and fully paid-up life insurance.

There were a goodly number of Californians there, both superintendents, their wives, and many of our commercial members. All in all, I had a good time. I am sure everybody did too.

Lee Huang

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News from a former Northern California Superintendent, still a Class A member who is making it good. Happy to hear from you Ed Stocke

In February of 1971 I became Superintendent of the Willamette Valley Country Club in Canby, Oregon after fifteen years of Supervisory work in California. I was an active member of the GCSANC since 1958 and have served one term as a Director.

Willamette Valley Country Club is an 18 hole private club on the banks of the Willamette River in the city of Canby which has a population of 4,500. Our membership is full at 400, all avid golfers. Willamette Valley Country Club is 9 years old and plays 6,701 yards from the regular tees and can be stretched to 7,000 yards. WVCC has been the site of all the major Oregon golf tournaments. We have hosted the Oregon Open, Oregon Amateur, Oregon PGA and the 1973 Oregon Junior Championships will be held here this year. The competitive course record stands at 69, set in 1969. Our greens average over 6,000 sq. feet. There are a total of 150 acres; 3 acres in greens, 2 acres in tees and 70 acres in fairways. The remaining 75 acres are rough. Only about half the rough is mowable, the remainder is dense foliage, berries, abundant wildlife and huge boulders.

My maintenance crew consists of five year-round men and up to eleven in the summer months. The sandy loam soil makes the course playable year round. The unusually long wet season postpones watering until late in the season. July and August are the problem months for watering as the single row watering system is totally inadequate when the temperatures remains in the high 90's for days at a time. Our predominately Poa Annuua turf suffers a great deal, and a reseeding program is usually necessary in the fall.

The Oregon Superintendents have made me feel welcome here in Oregon