

The greenkeepers' association is beginning to attract new members from the distant corners of the state and is interesting the greenkeepers not reached previous to this time. Practically all courses are reporting a moderate to heavy increase in play over last year. Everything bodes well for a good season of activities among the Iowa greenkeepers. The only pressing problem at present is the long continued drouth.

John Shanahan, Brae Burn Vet Greenkeeper, Is Honored

PERHAPS IT'S significant that the aristocratic golf clubs have been most active in honoring their veteran employees. Brae Burn CC (Boston district) is the latest to pay tribute to one of the fellows who has served it faithfully and ably. On June 13 "John Shanahan day" was observed at the club and the veteran Celt was guest of honor at a club dinner. He was presented with a token of appreciation of his services to the club.

John's 31st year of service to Brae Burn was further signalized by the New England Greenkeepers' *Newsletter* devoting an issue to him.

The *Newsletter* said about John:

"John Shanahan was born in Temple-derry, County Tipperary, Ireland, in 1864. Coming to this country at the age of 24, he worked for some fifteen years as a stonemason for the J. Burke Contracting Company. This company was employed by Brae Burn in changing the nine-hole course to eighteen. During the reconstruction, Mr. Burke died, and John was chosen to complete the work, and afterwards to become greenkeeper. Since that time, John has become known internationally as the dean of New England greenkeepers, and his greens have often been cited as some of the best in the world.

"In 1924, when the Greenkeepers Club of New England was organized, John was one of the most earnest workers, and was its first president, holding that office for five years. During all the years of the club, John has done more than any other to promote the best for the club and for golf. To this friend of all, and especial friend of all greenkeepers, we are honored to pay tribute."

Shanahan also was honored by an editorial in the *Boston Post*, which is one of the very few times a living greenkeeper

Iowa Greenkeepers Hold Big June Meeting

By V. T. STOUTEMYER

BETWEEN 45 and 50 greenkeepers were present at the annual business meeting of the Iowa Greenkeepers' Association, held June 12 at the Wakonda Club, Des Moines. The attendance broke all records for the monthly meeting of the association. Seven new members were taken in, bringing the total membership up to 61.

The morning was spent in going over the course and also in inspecting the newly installed turf garden of the USGA Green Section located on the grounds. In



Leaders in Iowa Greenkeepers' Group (left to right): Joe Benson, Jack Welch and C. G. Yarn.

spite of an unfavorable season, these plots have made wonderful progress and nearly all are in good shape. Fertilizer experiments are already showing striking results, and the superiority of the heavily fertilized plots over those fertilized either lightly or not at all is very noticeable. The Wakonda course is faring very well throughout the drouth period because of the large number of irrigated fairways. The greens are in perfect condition, which is quite the usual thing at this club.

At the business meeting Jack Welch, pro-greenkeeper of the Wakonda Club, was re-elected president of the organization; Joe Benson, Cedar Rapids CC, was elected vice president; C. G. Yarn, Woodside GC, Des Moines, and Ed White, Davenport Muni Course were re-elected secretary and treasurer, respectively. At the business meeting a plan was partially worked out for the forming of regional organizations within the greenkeepers' association. Under this plan there will be five or six districts in Iowa with regional offices. This has been considered advisable because of the great size of the state.

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has achieved a spot in newspaper editorial columns.

Under the heading, "Well Deserved," the *Post* printed:

"An unusual honor was paid the other day to a loyal, efficient employee who looked upon his job as one to be done well, when the members of the Brae Burn Country Club feted John Shanahan. As greenkeeper for the famous golf club, Mr. Shanahan has given 31 years of service, and earned the respect of everyone from the club president to the newest novice among the caddies. Fittingly enough, a special tourney was put on in his honor.

The key to the character of the honored greenkeeper was found in his response to speeches of praise, in which he said that he was most pleased to be known as an honest man. A man like Mr. Shanahan is richer by far than many with millions."

M&BCGA and WMGA Hold Joint Meet at Lansing

A CLIPPING from an unidentified Lansing (Mich.) newspaper, sent in by Herb Shave, indicates considerable activity this season by the members of the Michigan and Border Cities Greenkeepers' assn. and the Western Michigan Greenkeepers' assn. Says the clipping:

"Seventy-five sun-tanned, weather-beaten veterans of a peacetime war that never ends met on a miniature battlefield recently, an unusually peaceful appearing battlefield, consisting of nothing more than a huge oblong of smoothly cut green turf.

"The huge oblong was marked off into a series of squares, and even to the uninitiated, though the squares were all one continuous piece of turf, there was a difference noticeable between the turf in the various squares.

"It was a joint meeting of the Michigan and Border Cities Greenkeepers' Association with the Western Michigan Greenkeepers' Association, more than a score of Michigan cities being represented. The miniature battlefield was an experimental turf plot on the grounds of Michigan State College at East Lansing, Mich.

"A day of reckoning was at hand for the oblong turf plot represented three years of peaceful warfare. On it has been fought many of the problems that make a greenkeeper's task nearly a 24-hour-a-day job and requires expenditures of sums running into thousands of dollars on every well-kept golf course.

"The experimental plot, C. Ernest Millar, professor of soils, went on to state, offers a vast source of valuable information available to the greenkeepers and golf course operators throughout the state.

"William Smith, of Red Run, president of the Michigan and Border Cities Greenkeepers' Association, and William Phillipson, of Blythefield, Grand Rapids, president of the Western Michigan group, heartily indorsed this view and 75 sun-tanned, weather-beaten veterans of a war that never ends, showed they concurred by attending."