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Fine Turnout at Annual New Jersey Station Summer Turf Inspection

MORE than 300 men interested in fine turf attended the annual summer inspection session at the New Jersey State Agricultural Experiment station, New Brunswick, N. J., July 18. Dr. Howard B. Sprague, agronomist in charge of the station, lectured during the tour of between 300 and 400 test and demonstration plots. T. C. Longnecker of the N. J. Turf Advisory service explained tests on fertility nutrients penetration on various types of soils, and J. H. Boyce, graduate assistant agronomist, described maintenance of the show plots.

High spot of the day was the naming contest, on the station's newly developed strain of velvet bent. From at least six



Portion of huge turnout listening to Sprague's lecture at test plots.

states, 141 names were submitted, ranging alphabetically from "Ace" to "Wonder," The name selected was Raritan velvet bent-the Raritan river flowing nearby.

One pound of new seed was to be the prize. The winning name however was turned in by three persons-Oliver Deakin, asst. horticulturist, N. J., State Highway Dept.; C. C. Hamilton, N. J. State entomologist; and R. A. Jones, Mgr. Baltusrol C. C. Deakin being the only one present received the seed on hand. The others will have to wait until harvest

Judges of the contest were R. F. Arnott, NJGA, Fred Roth of N. J. Golf Course Supts. Assn., and Percy G. Platt representing the N. J. PGA. Second and third choice of names submitted were "Com-

posit" and "Eureka." Features of the Raritan bent are desirable vigor, texture, color, wear and disease resistance, good spreading, and seed production. A pound of this bent contains an estimated 10 million seeds. The prize pound tested in Jan., 1938, 99% pure, 85% germination. The seed at that time was somewhat old .- C. K. B.