

Big Turnout for Annual Banquet of N. E. Greenkeepers' Club

MORE than 100 greenkeepers, chairmen and others interested in course maintenance attended the annual banquet of the Greenkeepers' Club of New England held at the Charles River CC, Newton Center, Mass., Jan. 11, following the club's annual meeting and election of officers.

Officers of the organization were re-elected. The administration which will continue a highly successful record of progress, consists of: Robert A. Mitchell, Pres.; John L. Counsell, 1st V.-Pres.; Homer C. Darling, 2nd V.-Pres.; Arthur Anderson, 3rd V.-Pres.; Philip I. Cassidy, Sec.; Frank H. Wilson, Treas.; George Rommell and Paul Wanberg, Trustees. Samuel H. Mitchell is chairman of the entertainment committee and Lloyd Scott of the golf committee.

New England has a lower annual turnover of green-chairmen and greenkeepers than any other major section of the country; consequently the common problems of these men are tackled with more cooperation than is usual in course maintenance.

A tip-off to the attitude prevailing generally in New England was given by the tribute of Pres. Hartley Rowe, of the Charles River club, to the club's greenkeeper, Frank Wilson, when Rowe officially welcomed the Charles River guests.

Harold Pierce, green-chairman of The Country Club, Brookline, and V.-Pres. of the USGA, took the meeting behind the scenes in the selection of the Walker Cup team. He outlined the problems of the USGA concerning effective operation of the Green Section and detailed some problems with which the national association and Monteith must contend.

Adrian Sawyer, Brae Burn chairman, spoke of the perplexing maintenance problems New England experienced in 1937 and reviewed the valuable work greenkeepers have done in handling adverse conditions. Dr. Fred Sievers, director of the Mass. Experimental station, and Prof. L. S. Dickinson remarked on the progress of research in New England greenkeeping and assured the association of support for the turf research extension bill the Greenkeepers' club is trying to get through the state legislature.

Harry Hayes, Supt. of the Metropolitan District park commission, spoke on the value of greenkeepers' cooperation to park operations. Carlton Treat, an honorary member of the organization, briefly

commented on the Club's aggressive program for the good of golf in New England.

Herb Graffis, GOLFDOM's editor, addressed the meeting on "What's Ahead in Greenkeeping." Graffis expressed his conviction that greenkeeping had developed technically faster, sounder and farther than any other phase of golf business operation, and named the greenkeeper-state college-Green section educational activities as responsible for the development in greenkeeping.

He pointed out that greenkeepers' pay had not kept pace with the technical improvement they had brought to course maintenance. Greenkeepers share with green-chairmen, this failure to advance in the esteem and pay-off of club members and officials, according to Graffis' observation. He said that if green-chairmen were paid by their clubs for their services at the rate the chairmen were paid for work in their own business, many clubs would be broke. However, the green-chairmen rarely receive even mild verbal appreciation for their club work.

Neglect of club members to rate work of the greenkeeper and chairman at proper high value is due to the failure of the course maintenance department to publicize itself energetically and properly, so Graffis said. He advocated lively use of club bulletin boards and all other publicity media by the course maintenance department.

Labor management and relations together with educational publicity, Graffis declared, were the two major factors requiring spotlighting during the next stage of greenkeeping development.

THE Insecticide and Fungicide assn. and the Manufacturing Chemists' assn. have agreed hereafter to color arsenate of lead and calcium arsenate pink as a safety measure for identification.

A bulletin issued by the Insecticide and Fungicide assn. reads: "In the interests of public health and for the protection of users of agricultural arsenical insecticides, this Industry has, by voluntary agreement, adopted and will use a pink coloring in all white arsenical products.

"The use of a proper discoloring agent has no deleterious effect whatever on the insecticide and only a very slight trace of the discoloring agent is used, with the result that the label requirements of the material are not affected."