

The exhibition hall at 1938 greenkeepers' convention, was a sellout. Manufacturers and dealers report considerable business transacted.

NAGA BECOMES GSA AT MEET

By PAUL GREEN

A FTER four strenuous and constructive days at the 1938 convention and exhibition of the National Association of Greenkeepers, held Feb. 15-18 in Cincinnati, delegates to that meeting returned to their homes cheered by

the news that the NAGA is in excellent financial condition, that memberships in the association are up 10 per cent, and that the time has come to tighten up on the requirements for membership in the greenkeepers' national organization. All of which pointed to the fact that the past year has seen real progress in the NAGA.

Among other pieces of business, delegates authorized a change in the name of the association from its former "National Association of Greenkeepers of America" to the shorter and better liked "Greenkeeping Superintendents Association." This was a step which has been contemplated for some time, but which the association had not been able to effect, due to legal red-tape, until this year's meet.

Annual election put Joseph Ryan, veteran superintendent of Rolling Green CC. Media (Phila.), Penna., in the presidency for the ensuing year. With him were elected Frank Ermer (Ridgewood CC, Cleveland) as vice president, and A. L. Brandon (St. Charles CC, St. Charles, Ill.) as secy-treas. Three directors were elected for 2-year terms: John Gray (Essex G& CC, Sandwich, Ontario), Harold Stodola (Keller GCse, St. Paul, Minn.) and Arthur Snyder (Alcoma CC, Wilkinsburg, Penna.). Holdover directors are Don Boyd (Portage, Akron), John Gormley (Wolferts Roost, Albany) and Chester Mendenhall (Mission Hills, Kansas City).

Next year's convention of the GSA will be held in Kansas City somewhat earlier (Continued on page 66)







Three action shots of speakers doing their stuff at annual greens convention. John S. McCoy, Ohio State U. greenkeeper, (left) adds a few words to what he had already told assembled greenkeepers during movies of O.S.U. course construction; R. J. Garber, Penn State College, (center) uses blackboard to show more clearly what he means on "The Selection of Grasses"; and James Morrison (right) Cincinnati CC green-chairman, explains "The Chairman's Viewpoint."

bers and guests during January. Good publicity for the event and clever invitations made the affair a big success. The invitation read:

- 1. Admission Fee-\$1.50 per Person
- 2. Skates, Sandwiches and Beer Included in Admission Fee

3. Come in Your Old Clothes

- 4. Do Not BY OL
- The Main Bars Will Open at 10:30 P.M.
- 6. All Other Bars Will Be Down
- 7. Bring Your Friends
- 8. See How They Act with a Skate On
- 9. Get Your Best Laughs of the New Year
- Music by Herb Taylor (We Hope) (Signed) Wm. L. Murray, Chairman

Greens Show

(Continued from page 28)

in February than this year's gathering in order to avoid conflict with the many college short courses for greenkeepers, traditionally held in late February and early March. Many delegates this year wanted to attend one or another of these courses but felt that after spending a week at the convention and away from their jobs

that they could not afford to spend another week at a short course. By holding the 1939 convention somewhat earlier, greensmen will be able to take in the annual meeting of the GSA, return to their jobs for a week or so, and then hit out again for a short course.

Total attendance at the convention exceeded 450, with the Educational Conference attracting not only the delegates and





Candid camera snaps John Monteith (left) and W. H. Johnson addressing the greensmen.

interested greenkeepers, but also many green-chairmen, club presidents, professionals and others interested in fine turf.

First session of the Educational Conference, held Feb. 16, brought up as leadoff man Ralph King, director of the
Roosevelt Wildlife Forest Experiment Station, Syracuse univ. King's talk, one of the



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highlight papers presented, gave bedrock information on the practicability of "Golf Courses as Wild Life Sanctuaries." Such a step on the part of the nation's clubs, King pointed out, would not only aid in preserving our native wild life but would also bring benefits to the clubs, since birds and smaller forms of wild life are most valuable in combating insect and weed pests. But before clubs can hope to do much along the lines of attracting desirable wild life to their grounds, steps must be taken to provide shelter; the average golf course is too well manicured, "too neat." to lure wild life.

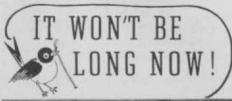
Next speaker was James Morrison, green-chairman for the past 12 years at Cincinnati CC. His subject was "A Chairman's Viewpoint," which he developed into an excellently detailed discussion of greenchairman-greenkeeper relations. His talk will be found elsewhere in this issue.

Dr. R. J. Garber, director of Pasture Land Research at Penn State, followed Morrison to the speaker's spot with an illustrated lecture on "The Selection of Grasses." Main point of the talk was that all grasses show great variations within the same species and that good breeding is essential for golf course turf needs. Following Dr. Garber, illustrated slides were shown of the International Grasslands Congress, held last July in England. The photos were taken by Dr. Fred V. Grau of Penn State while at the Grasslands meeting. He lectured on the slides as they were shown.

Pest Talk Interests Easterners Keenly

The second conference day opened with a talk by Prof. J. S. Houser, head of the Department of Entomology, Ohio State Experiment station, Wooster Ohio. This paper on "Turf Pests" made a particular hit with the Eastern greenkeepers in the audience, who remembered their excessive miseries of last summer due to web worms, cut worms and the ever-present Japanese beetle.

W. A. Natorp, landscape architect, Cincinnati, spoke next on "Beautifying the Golf Course," and developed as his main message the advisability of deciding on a long-range landscaping program at golf courses and then sticking closely to the plan. Too many clubs, he said, plant shrubbery here and flowers there, without thought to the way these items will blend with existing landscaping or with landscaping needs of the future. Material





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should be selected to fit; co-operate with nature, don't fight it.

The USGA's Green Section director, John Monteith, Jr., was the next speaker. His paper was on the "Development of New Types of Grasses," and had to do with the grading by points of the various strains under experimental growth in the Green Section experimental plats.

The session ended with two moving picture features. William H. Johnson of Griffith Park Municipal GCse, Los Angeles, showed 600 feet of natural color film on the building and maintenance of his golf course. The movie was produced mainly for the edification and education of Los Angeles taxpayers, to show them what a wonderful civic property they own, but the greensmen at the convention found plenty to interest them as the reels unwound.

Following the Los Angeles movie, John S. McCoy, greenkeeper at Ohio State University Golf Cse, Columbus, Ohio, projected movies of the construction of the OSU golf course. A striking difference in the amount of water needed in California as compared to Ohio and the difference in the investment for watering equipment was apparent.

The exhibition hall was a sellout during the convention and reports from manufacturers and dealers indicate that considerable business was transacted with the clubs represented at the meeting.

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