

Kansas City Ready for G. S. A. Meet

By Karl Sutphin

WITH all plans and most of the preliminary work needed to successfully put on a national convention, completed, GSA officials and committee chairman for the 13th annual Greenkeeping Superintendents Assn. convention, to be held in Kansas City February 7-10, are all set to handle one of the largest convention crowds in the association's history. Most of the greensmen were expected to be on hand by Tuesday morning when the Mayor of Kansas City gets the convention officially under way by opening the Equipment Show, which is to be held in the city Municipal Auditorium.

All of Tuesday will be devoted to the exhibits. The first session of the educational conference will be held Wednesday afternoon, and the annual banquet will be held that evening at the President Hotel, official convention headquarters. Annual membership meeting will be held Friday morning, at which time officers will be elected and other work completed for the coming year. Joseph Ryan, Rolling Green CC, Media, Pa., president of the association during the past year, and his committees have worked energetically with Chester Mendenhall, convention general chairman, to insure a successful meeting. Mendenhall is secretary of the Heart of America Greenkeeping Assn.

Meaty Program Planned

The Educational program for the convention follows:

Wednesday: "The Living Plant," by Prof. H. H. Haymaker, dept. of botany and plant pathology, Kansas State college; "New Developments in Golf Turf Maintenance," by John Monteith, Jr., USGA Green Section; "The New Agricultural College Experiment Station and the Golf Course Superintendent," by J. W. White, Pennsylvania State college; "Grass Selections and Improvements," by Prof. F. D. Keim, department of agronomy, university of Nebraska.

Thursday: "How the Greenkeeping Superintendent Improves His Relation With His Members," by Herb Graffis, editor of GOLFDOM; "Plant Tissue Nutrient Deficiencies," by George Scarseth, department of agronomy, Purdue

university; "Trees and Their Care," by Dr. Leonard H. Haseman, university of Missouri department of entomology; "Turf Maintenance in 1938," by O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage commission.

Friday: "Turf Insect Pests," by Prof. G. C. Decker, department of entomology, Iowa State college; "The Modern Conception of Soil and Its Relation to Plant Growth," by Prof. C. O. Rost, division of soils, university of Minnesota. A round table discussion with John Monteith as chairman, assisted by Claude Whalen, Francis Scheider, Perley A. Hill, Jim Haines, W. E. Langton, and M. L. DeParlier, will be concerned with "Experience with Bent Greens Through the South and West." The educational sessions will begin at 2:00 p. m. each day in the Little Theater, located right off the exhibit hall in the Municipal Auditorium.

Everybody Welcome

The 1939 convention and equipment show is the first national meeting to be held west of the Mississippi. Western greenkeeping groups, notably the Heart of America association, have been working for some time to bring the convention farther west, and have promised that this year's event will be one of the best in the history of the organization. GSA members and their green-chairman will be admitted to the conference without charge, while non-members may attend upon the payment of \$3.00, which covers all sessions.

Strong bid for the 1940 national convention is being made by New York City while Columbus, Ohio, is working energetically to obtain the 1941 show.

Considerable interest is being shown in the green building contest this year. Officials expect four or five of these model greens will be built on the exhibit floor. All materials and equipment are being supplied by the association, and teams will consist of not more than five men, all to be GSA members. Contestants, however, must furnish the drawing that

Compilation of the various records set during the brief but violent marathon golf fever of 1938 reveals that distinction is due Bill Carson, pro at the Mahoning Valley CC, Girard, O. In a few minutes under 10½ hours he toured his 6804-yard course eight times and maintained an average score of 78 blows per round. Carson played the majority of his 144 holes while the mercury simmered at 110 degrees. In playing the distance he used but two balls.

Golf, in taking advantage of the "new leisure," should make far greater use of the old country idea of Artisans' clubs. Team and individual competitions at municipal and daily-fee courses, between representatives of various business and industrial organizations is inexcusably neglected in many communities.—W. H. Livie.

illustrates their actual model. Basis for grading winner will be: 20% for general appearance; 20% for contours of greens and traps, and reducing cost of maintenance; 20% for the most interesting green; 20% hole most suitable for the average player; 20% best general construction. First prize is \$25, second, \$15, and third \$10.

Exhibitors at the Kansas City convention are:

Allis-Chalmers Co.; Bayer Semesan Co.; D. B. Bell & Sons; Buckner Mfg. Co.; Cooper Mfg. Co.; Fate-Root-Heath Co.; Friend Mfg. Co.; GOLFDOM; International Harvester Co.; Jacobsen Mfg. Co.; Locke Steel Chain Co.; McClain Bros. Co.; Malinckrodt Chemical Works; Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; L. R. Nelson Mfg. Co.; Nutria Peat Co.; Perfection Sprinkler Co.; Charles Pfizer & Co.; Roseman Tractor Mower Co.; O. M. Scott & Sons; The Skinner Irrigation Co.; Standard Mfg. Co.; Thompson-Hayward Chemical Co.; Toro Mfg. Corp.; Worthington Mower Co.; W-W Grinder Corp.; The Wyodak Chemical Co. Chairman of the show committee is Frank W. Ermer, Cleveland, Ohio.

Unicorn Gets Its Face Lifted

A RECORD in revival of a run-down golf club has been made by the Unicorn G&CC, Stoneham, Mass. The club, drooping since the early years of the depression, was about on the ropes in 1937, when a new set of officials took it over as a private corporation. Moulton Cox, pres. and treas., P. J. Donaher, asst. treas., and Emile Germonprez, clerk, undertook to put the club back into the running.

Basic policy of the revival was to do the fundamental job of restoring the course, all at one time, instead of dragging it out. The hunch, of course, was that prospective members would sign on the line when they saw a complete job being done, instead of

stalling while details were stretched out over a period of years.

The rehabilitated club, being on a strictly business basis, also considered the policy of getting the job done at one time a whole lot cheaper than the strung-out procedure.

Actual work on the reconstruction of the course was begun October 5, 1937. Exactly 15 working days later over 50,000 sq. ft. of sod had been laid on the old greens as well as regrading them also. This work was done with a maximum of 15 men. In round figures, this means that over one mile of sod—a piece a mile long and one foot wide—was laid each day. Hardy velvet bent sod grown in northern New England, was used. It was brought to the course in large moving trailer vans. The club's trucks then hauled it to the various greens. The sod was cut in 4 ft. lengths, 1 ft. wide, and rolled. Crews on the greens were organized in bucket brigade fashion and the rolls of sod passed on from man to man so that there was no lost labor or time. This applied modern automobile production methods to reconstruction of a golf course. The sod was carefully and scientifically laid so that when the club opened last spring it was possible to play on all 18 greens by April 19, this date being generally considered opening day in Unicorn's locality. All of the outside work was under the personal supervision of Donaher.

When the new organization took the property over it was very much run down. All of the eighteen greens were in such condition that some had said that they would have to be closed for a year in order to have them in playable condition. All fifty-odd traps were in bad shape and had to be refilled with new sand. In the modernization program several old type fairway traps were eliminated to prevent penalty tee shots.

A new electric water system was installed as the old system would not provide necessary pressure at all points on the course.

All eighteen tees were rebuilt and resodded. Underbrush along fairways was cleaned out to prevent lost balls. Many trees were also cut at various places on the property.

All buildings were repainted on the outside and redecorated and remodeled inside. A modern daylight gas kitchen was installed. This was in charge of a competent chef and crew.