

GSA Holds N. Y. Conclave

Annual convention, turf conference and equipment show keeping delegates busy

NEW YORK CITY was all set to welcome the nation's greenkeepers arriving to attend the annual GSA convention, Feb. 6-9, just as GOLFDOM came from the presses. GSA officials were ready, too, to make this year's convention, known officially as the National Turf Conference and Equipment Show, the 14th in the organization's history, one of the biggest and best ever. The Hotel New Yorker is convention headquarters.

The convention program will get under way Tuesday morning, February 6, with the opening of the equipment show. The opening address will be given by Joseph H. Burbeck, Bethpage Park, L. I., N. Y. Full attention will be devoted to the exhibits on the first day of the convention; a delegates' meeting is scheduled for that evening. The educational conferences begin Wednesday afternoon, continuing through Friday afternoon. Membership meetings will be held Wednesday evening and Friday morning.

The annual greenkeepers' banquet will be held Thursday evening, Feb. 8. Scheduled to appear for the entertainment of the greensmen are John Uppman, baritone; Don Tranger, Musical Miracle Man; Kay and Karrell, comedy team, jugglers; Five Crackerjacks, colored acrobats and tumblers; Seidler's Revue, and Harry Lefcourt's Orchestra. Herb Graffis, editor of GOLFDOM, will be toastmaster at the banquet.

The complete educational program follows:

FEBRUARY 7th

2:00 P. M.—"Finance and Greenkeeping," By Dr. John Monteith Jr., USGA Green Section. 1. T. T. Taylor, Westchester CC; 2. Leo J. Feser, Woodhill CC; 3. Robert Pollock, Llanerch CC.

3:30 P. M.—"Maintenance Labor and the Country Club," By Mark L. Putnam, personnel assistant, Western Electric Co. 1. Eberhard Steiniger, Pine Valley CC; 2. Kingdon Troensegaard, Old Oaks CC.

FEBRUARY 8th

2:00 P. M.—"Handling One's Self," By Ralph Childs, Columbia University. 1.

Chas. A. Burns, Good Park GC.

3:00 P. M.—"Fairway Renovation and Maintenance," By M. E. Farnham, Philadelphia CC. 1. Prof. J. O. Pepper, entomologist, Pa. State College; 2. Fred Grau, agronomist, Pa. State College; 3. Charles K. Hallowell, Philadelphia County Agent; 4. O. B. Dodge, pathologist, N. Y. Botanical Gardens.

FEBRUARY 9th

1:30 P. M.—"Residual Poisons," By Dr. Walter S. Eisenmenger, Mass. State College. 1. Prof. Lawrence S. Dickinson, Mass. State College; 2. Edward J. Casey, Wykagyl CC; 3. John Counsell, Pres., New England Greenkeepers Club.

2:45 P. M.—"The Superintendent and His Future," By Dr. Howard B. Sprague, N. J. Experiment Sta. 1. Fred J. Roth, Plainfield CC; 2. Lester R. Moffett, Walkill CC; 3. Alex H. Reid, Twin Brooks CC.

Significant this year is the number of green-chairmen who are planning to attend the convention sessions along with their greenkeepers, a fact which shows the successful results of efforts made each year to make known the fact that what is to be seen and what is to be learned at these annual meetings is of vital importance to every official concerned or connected with efficient course operation. Many pros, too, will be on hand to pick up information that comes in handy often on their jobs.

Dr. E. E. Evaul, formerly associated with the turf research bureau of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, and now holding a government position, is educational program chairman. Leo Feser is honorary chairman. Chairman of the educational committee is Ed. B. Cale, Canoe Brook CC, Summit, N. J.

Exhibitors at the 1940 convention are: American Agricultural Chemical Co.; Bayer-Semesan Co., Inc.; John Bean Mfg. Co.; Chipman Chemical Engineering Co.; Cooper Mfg. Co.; The C. B. Dolge Co.; Fate-Root-Heath Co.; Ferti-Soil Co.; Friend Mfg. Co.; General Chemical Co.; Golf & Lawn Supply Co.; Golfdom; Goulard & Olena; Grasselli Chemicals Dept.

(Du Pont); Peter Henderson & Co.; Jacobsen Mfg. Co.; McClain Bros. Co.; MacMullen-Terhune Co.; Mallinckrodt Chemical Works; Henry F. Michell Co.; Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; Arthur D. Peterson Co.; Chas. Pfizer & Co.; Root Mfg. Co.; O. M. Scott & Sons Co.; Skinner Irrigation Co.; Stumpp & Walter Co.; Swift & Co.; Wood Ridge Mfg. Div. of F. W. Berk & Co., Inc.; F. H. Woodruff & Sons.

Chairman of the show committee is Don R. Boyd, Portage CC, Akron, Ohio.

Board of directors of the GSA held their annual business sessions at the New Yorker on February 4-5.

Poet Casts Peepers on Poor Greenkeepers

WILLIAM F. STEEDMAN, golf editor of the Seattle (Wash.) Times, who strums a nifty lyre now and then, recently sung in praise of the greenkeeper. Bill's libretto goes:

There's a chap whose lonely lot in life I heartily deplore. He hardly knows what human friendship means. You only think about him when you're feeling glum and sore. I'm referring to the Keeper of the Greens.

When the fairway's firm and springy and the greens are smooth and true and your soul in pride and ecstasy exults, you seldom pause to pay the recognition that is due to the man whose work accomplished such results.

But let your tee shot finish in a close or cuppy lie, or your putt slide off a tuft of grass and miss—in wrath you'll lift your hands and eyes and voice to heav'n and cry "Do we pay a man for such a job as this?"

At appointed times and seasons, when on fairways, greens and tees the fertilizer's nourishment is spread, and the acrid fumes of fish-glue float upon the gentle breeze, don't you ever think that grasses must be fed?

No, you cuss the Keeper of the Greens, confound his blasted eyes and demand in heated word and plaintive tone that the green committee fire him, though you ought to realize that you grow no grass with perfumes of Cologne!

When the club is having trouble keeping out of carmine ink, to the chairman of finance you're quick to go and murmur in his ear the sly suggestion "Don't you think the greens department's spending too much dough?"

The engine of the tractor may be coughing out its lungs, and the units of the mower may be shot, and the turf for food may holler with its million starving tongues—but they'll cut the greensman's budget, like as not.

Then he'll coax the dying motor, he'll get by with worn-out tools, he will scrimp and save on seed and oil and gas, and despite the interference of some unenlightened fools, somehow he will contrive to give you grass.

When the product of his labors in the spring's returning sun shines forth in verdant beauty o'er the land, he doesn't wait your plaudits for the work that he has done, for he knows they are but few who understand.

The sweetest praise he ever gets is silence most profound that welcomes him when all is going well. He knows the only time the boys will ever gather round is when they wish to give him plenty hell.

I wouldn't like the life he leads, the lonely path he fares, with scarce a friend to ease the going tough; but everybody to his taste—I hail the chap who dares misunderstanding when he knows his stuff.



Come snow, come hail, come sleet, but golf pursues its eternal life at the Braidburn CC. (Madison, N. J.) where Jim Todd, pro, has introduced a new game to keep the golfers golfing during the winter. A red tennis ball takes the place of the regular golf ball, and only two clubs are used—a driver and a niblick.

The best drive has been about 80 yards and the score is just about double that of the regular game. The game was introduced here after the pro had seen it played at Victoria, B. C.

The pictured group shows member J. Moore teeing off on the new fangled pastime, while the onlookers are, left to right: P. M. Bland, A. A. Pierce and H. Smith.