



JOHN DARRAH
Convention General
Chairman

Maintenance In War-Time Is Theme of Greenkeepers' 16th Annual Conference

By CHAS. A. BURNS

WHEN the Greenkeeping Superintendents Association gathers in the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, for its annual convention and equipment show during the period of February 10-13, old Mother Necessity is going to bring forth many new ideas on how to continue to produce fine turf at the nation's golf courses while confronted with wartime curtailments.

The nation's golf superintendents are a hardy lot and to hear some of them talk it seems as though they fear Uncle Sam's restrictions little more than they do the annual turnover of green-chairmen. They are accustomed to getting along without a lot of things that would, in ordinary times, be considered absolutely essential for the good grooming of golf courses.

All They Ask Is Weather Break

If Mother Nature is kind and gives the golf superintendents a break in the weather so that the usual bugaboos of grass growing are at a minimum, leave it to them to see that the divot diggers will get a chance to continue their exercise.

For the past decade it has been the practice to streamline golf turf through the use of scientific materials and knowledge. This policy has been necessary to meet the ever growing demands of a golfing public which was not satisfied with the slow and often mysterious process of nature. The greenkeepers knew that this "rushing" was not sound and would lead to "lush" growth and fungi attacks, and which would not be as prevalent if nature were permitted to follow her own course. Therein lies the answer to many of the curtailment problems which will confront them during wartime.

It cannot be expected that the nation's golf courses will be maintained as finely as they have in the past few years. Unnecessary roughs will have to be mowed closer, sand traps removed, and in many

cases the fairways and greens will be made smaller. Due to a scarcity of golf balls "lost ball hazards" will receive more consideration, and all in all, the golfers will probably not expect to have such "ultra" service and playing conditions.

The Chicago equipment show will be the last commercial greens exhibit for the duration of the war, although GSA leaders hope to be able to maintain their research and educational efforts.

Convention Schedule Listed

Schedule of events for the annual turf conference and equipment show follows:

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 10:00 a. m., Opening of Exhibits.

Tuesday, Feb. 10, 8:00 p. m., Delegates Meeting.

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

Wednesday, Feb. 11, 8:00 p. m., First Membership Meeting.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

Thursday, Feb. 12, 6:30 p. m., Annual Banquet.

Friday, Feb. 13, 10:00 a. m., Second Membership Meeting.

Friday, Feb. 13, 2:00 p. m., Educational Conference.

General chairman of the four-day greens get-together is John Darrah of Chicago's Beverly CC. Chairman of the educational conference is T. T. Taylor; John Gray is honorary chairman of this committee. Chairman of the entertainment committee is Graham Gardiner, Park Ridge (Ill.) CC. Norm Johnson of Medinah, on general arrangements, has been an untiring worker in seeing that everything goes off smoothly at the annual greenkeepers' affair.

Don Boyd, who heads the show committee, has lined up the greatest number of exhibitors ever seen at a GSA convention—a significant fact, too, when it is realized that the '42 equipment show will probably

be the last for some time. Master of ceremonies at the annual GSA banquet will be GOLFDOM's Herb Graffis.

Annual election of officers and directors of the GSA will be held Friday morning, February 13. John Gray, chairman of the '42 nominating committee, has forwarded the following slate:

President

Harold Stodola, Keller Park Golf Course, St. Paul, Minn.

Ray Rolfs, North Hills CC, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

Vice-President

Chester Mendenhall, Mission Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo.

Marshall Farnham, Philadelphia Country Club, West Conshohocken, Pa.

Full-time Secretary-Treasurer

A. L. Brandon, P. O. Box 106, St. Charles, Ill.

Directors

M. L. DeParlier, Southern Hills CC, Tulsa, Okla.

Frank Maples, Pinehurst Country Club, Pinehurst, N. C.

Fred W. Emeneger, Fairfield Country Club, Fairfield, Conn.

W. Bruce Matthews, Green Ridge Country Club, Grand Rapids, Mich.

J. L. Haines, Denver Country Club, Denver, Colo.

Robert Pollock, Llanerch Country Club, Manoa, Pa.

Lawrence Huber, Wyandot Country Club, Worthington, Ohio.

Robert Smith, Westmoreland Country Club, Verona, Pa.

Officers are elected for a one-year term. At the fall executive board meeting it was decided to employ a full-time secretary. However, the final decision rests with the membership at the time of the annual meeting. Three directors are to be elected for a two-year term.

Aiding John Gray in drawing up the slate were Harold Clemens, Dave Bell, Carl Bretzlaff and Ed Casey. The terms of Directors Ray Rolfs, Bob Pollock and Chester Mendenhall expire this February.

Green Section Advises Clubs To Prepare Against Shortages

USGA Green Section, in its Timely Turf Topics, warns of war-time shortages:

Mercury Fungicides and Arsenicals Provided For Defense: Supplies of many mercury and arsenic compounds have been provided for defense purposes. These com-

pounds include calomel, bichloride of mercury, organic mercury seed disinfectants, calcium arsenate, arsenate of lead, Paris green, sodium arsenite, and white arsenic. In the event of a shortage of any of these materials, they are to be made available for agricultural use as insecticides, germicides, and fungicides, according to Preference Rating Order No. P-87 of the Office of Production Management, dated December 13. This order grants a preference rating of A-10 for strictly agricultural purposes.

It appears grass for turf purposes will not be considered as a strictly agricultural crop. This probably means that should there be a shortage of any of these mercury and arsenic compounds, they will not be available for use in turf maintenance on projects unrelated to defense. In compliance with the defense program, therefore, many turf maintenance practices, including the control of diseases, grubs, and weeds, may have to be drastically modified.

It has been reliably estimated that in 1941 approximately 125,000 pounds of metallic mercury were sold for use on golf courses, all of which, through the administration of this order, will be available for defense, should a shortage occur. Comparable figures for the amounts of the several arsenicals used in the maintenance of turf on golf courses are not available.

Repair Machines Now: All machines and equipment which can possibly be used next season if properly repaired, should be taken care of now.

Burlap Bags: The jute from which burlap is manufactured is largely grown in India. Normally 86 percent of the burlap used in this country went into agricultural bags.

Buyers of large quantities of material in burlap bags are urged to turn them back into circulation.

Lew Scott, Willie Hunter, Leo Diegel, Charles Lacey, Olin Dutra, Fred Corcoran, Maurice Luxford, Joe Novak, and Hollywood actors, are organizing for Red Cross and other relief golf exhibitions with pros in various parts of the U. S.

Some Hollywood actors are first class golfers—all of them enlisting are gallery magnets and swell guys.

As soon as this committee gets arrangements worked out with the cinema stars, you'll hear more about this latest headline golf move in war relief fund raising.