



This group of near 350 greenkeeping superintendents, club officials and turf authorities attended the 1950 Annual Midwest Regional Turf Conference at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind.

Play Golf, Greenkeepers Told At Purdue Turf Conference

Purdue's Annual Turf Conference attended by about 350 heard featured convention speaker James D. Standish, Jr., pres., USGA, lay heavy stress on greenkeepers learning to play golf to get acquainted with and better understand the problems of the green chairmen.

One of four practical instruction sessions was devoted to the subject of how to destroy turf pests. This year's turf pest session consisted of four groups of 80 to 90 individual turfmen quizzing a panel of specialists. Specialists included Prof. O. C. Lee, Purdue agricultural botanist; Prof. Glen Lehker, Purdue entomologist; Dr. J. C. Schread, Connecticut agricultural experiment station entomologist, and Dr. Eric G. Sharvelle, Purdue plant pathologist.

Surveying, Popular Turf Topic

George Spencer, agricultural engineer at Purdue, again stressed ways to survey turf areas without using complicated instruments. Purpose was to teach greenkeepers how to plan drainage of greens, spray greens with the correct amount of fungicide per square foot and other common problems.

This year the groups heard a third sectional discussion on the care and operation of small internal combustion engines. Explaining the different types and operation of motors was Charles Gardner, sales engineer for the Briggs and Stratton Corporation.

Dr. Helmut Kohnke, Purdue soil scientist and Richard Davis, agronomy graduate student, conducted the session in "Soil Structure, Soil Aeration and Drainage." Conference discussion on grass is founded in part on an agronomy graduate program sponsored by backers of the seven-state Midwest Regional Turf Foundation, headquarters at Purdue.

Other conference highlights included:

Address of welcome, by Purdue agricul-

tural dean, H. J. Reed; "Turf Diseases," by Dr. Sharvelle; "Turf Grasses," by Dr. Fred Grau, USDA, Beltsville, Md.; "Turf Fertilization and Fertilizer Materials," by Dr. O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wis.; "Turf Insects," by Dr. Schread; "Turf Extension Program in Pennsylvania," by Al Cooper, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa., and "Care and Maintenance of Trees, Shrubs and Perennials," by Prof. Roy B. Hull, Purdue horticulturist. Dr. N. J. Volk, associate director of the Indiana agricultural experiment station and formerly head of the agronomy department, was banquet toastmaster.

Dr. Sharvelle told the 350 attendees about the importance of launching turf disease programs now. He stressed the necessity of grass in our United States economy.

Dr. Grau informed conferees that top-crossed bents, like hybrid corn, are superior to the originals. Among his remarks, he also said that we must learn to grow grass with less water.

Life of grass depends upon fertilizers and their correct amounts and applications, Dr. Noer explained in his talk. Proper fertilization is cheaper than re-seeding, he pointed out.

Dr. Schread gave details of kills made with the newer chemicals on the different kinds of insects in the New England area. Turf extension work in Pennsylvania was outlined by Cooper.

Hull's talk was an advisory one on how to give trees and shrubbery around golf courses, parks and cemeteries better care. More satisfaction from the plantings is derived that way, he said.

Tuesday night's election saw president Carl Bretzlaff preside over the annual meeting of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation. Joe Graffis and Al Linkogel were reelected to the executive committee. Mal McLaren, of Oakwood CC, Cleveland, is the new member elected to the committee.