

## Ninth Cornell Conference Attracts 144 Turfmen

By JOHN F. CORNMAN

A total of 144 persons registered for the recent ninth Turf Conference held at Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. At the opening session, John A. Naegele of Cornell gave a general summary of insect pests that attack turf and ornamentals. Warren Lafkin of Golf and Lawn Supply Corp., White Plains, showed a 40-minute colored picture on turf problems and turf research. This had been compiled by the Milwaukee Sewage Commission, West Point Lawn Products and Lafkin's firm. Dr. Daniel Roberts of Cornell discussed the increasing interest in nematodes as possible turf pests. He noted reports of damage to Florida turf but said there was little evidence of nematodes damaging turf in the North. However, he pointed out that this lack of evidence does not mean there is no damage. Few specialists are working on the nematode problem so there may be much damage now occurring.

In the afternoon John Gallagher of American Chemical Paint Co. surveyed the weed control field and gave current recommendations for the control of most turf weeds. He paid particular attention to di-sodium methyl arsenate. This very promising chemical has given excellent results under some circumstances and very poor results under others, due in part to differences in moisture and temperature relationships that prevailed at the time of application. More work needs to be done but undoubtedly this material will find a place in crabgrass control.

### Gormley Elected President

At the annual meeting of the New York State Turf Assn. Jack Gormley of Wolfert's Roost CC, Albany, was elected pres., and James Strain of the Moon Brook CC, Jamestown, vp. New directors are Robert Dennis of the Wellsville CC, Raymond Twombly of the Wiltwyck CC, Newburgh, and Frank Ruggiero, Stewart AFB, Newburgh. George Swanson continues as secy-treas.

At the second session Dr. Elliot Roberts of the University of Massachusetts gave a thorough discussion of liquid fertilization. He pointed out the advantages of liquid fertilizers, particularly as they provide more accurate control by the supt. of his turf growth. Frequent applications at light rates are the key to success.

Al Radko, Northeastern Director for the



1956 Officers of New York State Turf Assn. are front row (l to r): James Strain vp; John Gormley, pres.; and George Swanson, sec.-treas. Second row (l to r): Directors Robert Dennis, Frank Ruggiero and Raymond Twombly.

USGA Green Section, showed an interesting series of pictures of his observations on trouble-shooting trips throughout the Northeast.

Frank Howard of University of Rhode Island outlined new developments in turf disease control. The use of malachite green to destroy the pythium organism was of particular interest.

In the afternoon session those particularly interested in athletic fields, parks, and lawn problems met for a general discussion of their specific problems under John F. Cornman of Cornell. The golf course and fine turf specialists met under the chairmanship of Al Radko.

At the annual banquet, the main speaker was Prof. C. L. Hosler of Penn. State University. His talk of weather making and weather forecasting was particularly interesting because of his interesting and humorous presentation.

At the final session, A. M. S. Pridham of Cornell spoke on general weed control, with particular emphasis on the use of Alanap for controlling poison ivy and other unwanted vegetation. John Cornman discussed problems that arose in his work on turf areas in New York State and showed illustrations of numerous unhappy circumstances, some caused by weather and some by poor management.

The attendance at this year's conference equalled that of any previous conference. New York State Turf Assn. has undertaken the task of direct sponsorship of future conferences and it is expected that many innovations in the way of exhibits and educational features will be introduced next year.