

Oklahoma's 10th Conference Big Help to State Courses

THE 10th annual turfgrass conference held at Oklahoma A&M college, Stillwater, Okla., by the Oklahoma Turfgrass Assn., Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station and the USGA Green Section, well warranted the record attendance of 120.

The Oklahoma conference program was based on a survey of golf course maintenance problems made by Bob Dunning. More than 175 questions were submitted. The discussions and answers to these questions produced information of immense value to the state's golf courses.

Several of the nationally noted turf experts who were at the Stillwater meeting declared it had a freshness and on-the-job practical value that might well be studied by those responsible for national and sectional golf turf conferences.

Construction problems came in for considerable attention. Examination and discussion of maintenance problems emphasized a point brought out by Dr. Spencer Davis, Dept. of Plant Pathology, in urging that superintendents keep work records that can give them clues to the causes of successes or failures in course operations.

At the annual dinner John Winters, jr., of the USGA Executive committee warned that unless southwestern golf clubs give the USGA Green Section service program more support the USGA may have to discontinue the service in that territory. Superintendents are seriously concerned about the prospect of losing Green Section help.

The problem in the southwest seems to be getting action from club officials. The matter of Green Section service is discussed and approved by the Green chairman, his committee and the superintendent, but then action stops.

Herb Graffis, *Golfdom's* editor, in talking on whether clubs and officials take advantage of what superintendents learn at the conferences, said the answer is a sad and flat "no" in many cases. He added that increasing costs of maintenance and increasing demands of players make it highly advisable that club officials take fullest advantage of any information available for sound economy in top grade maintenance.

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Penn State's 25th Turf Conference, Feb. 20-23

The annual turfgrass conference at Penn State, scheduled for Feb. 20-23, will have many extra features this year to mark the 25th anniversary of these programs. Sparked in 1929 by golf course supts., the meetings have been held annually, except for 1943-45.

The conference is sponsored jointly by the Turfgrass Research Advisory Committee composed of representatives of local golf course supts. associations and Pennsylvania State University. Joe Valentine, Merion GC, chairman of the Advisory Committee, has appointed a special committee to assist in developing the program and properly celebrate the silver anniversary. The committee he has named includes Harry Drennan, Buck Hills GC, chmn.; Marshall Farnham, Philadelphia CC, Paul Leix, Allegheny CC and Charles Hallowell, Eastern Director of the Green Section, USGA.

Review Experimental Work

A special program will include a review of the extensive experimental work under way at Penn State and research reports from other states. A highlight of the conference will be the banquet on Wednesday night, Feb. 22. As special guests there will be representatives from the eastern states which have been active in the turf-research field and from the Green Section of the Royal Canadian Golf Assn. The guest list also includes representatives of industry and former Penn State personalities associated with early work in turfgrass research.

All meetings will be staged in the assembly room of the Nittany Lion Inn on the campus.

The Advisory Committee and Penn State staff extends a cordial invitation to everyone interested in turfgrasses to attend the conference.

Golf Architects' Society to Meet at Nassau

The annual meeting of the American Society of Golf Course Architects will be held Jan. 10, 11 and 12 at the Emerald Beach hotel, Nassau, Bahamas.

Officers of the Society are: James Gilmore Harrison, Turtle Creek, Pa., pres.; Robt. F. Lawrence, Miami Beach, Fla., vp; Wm. F. Bell, Pasadena, Calif., sec.-treas.