

## GCSA Convention Notes

Leo Feser, scheduled to be opening day ringmaster of the education session, couldn't make it . . . He remained in Wayzata, Minn., under a heat pack . . . Aches and pains had caught up with him . . . Flashing light was rigged up under the speaker's table to give the orators warning that they had only five minutes to go . . . Maybe something like this should be adapted for tees and greens to speed up play . . . Counter attraction at the Hotel Sherman was a corset and bra show . . . Some supts., who had yearnings to see the models, probably were kept in harness by their wives.

Carl Wagner, supt. Lambton GC, Toronto, made strong pitch for bringing 1961 convention to his home city . . . He assured everyone that Toronto has facilities for handling delegation the size of which the GCSA probably would send . . . Houston is the 1960 venue . . . The Caribbean area was represented by Marion Luke, who moved over to the Dorado Beach course in Puerto Rico last year after 12 years as supt. at Augusta National . . . Mexico didn't send any delegates but Canada, as usual, was well represented.

GOLFDOM held its second father and

son luncheon in the Ruby Room of the Sherman on Wednesday . . . Joe Graffis was host to about 60 persons who attended . . . The GCSA started something new this year by adding a 10 per cent levy to exhibitor booth space charges to finance the cocktail hour that preceded the annual banquet . . . Exhibitors agreed that this was a good idea because it put the conviviality interval, which they participated in, on a share-the-cost basis and did away with entertaining at individual parties . . . Eleven former heads of the GCSA were on hand for the Past Presidents' breakfast, held on the second day of the conference.

Around \$5,000 was spent by the GCSA in entertaining women who attended the conference . . . Membership in the GCSA has more than doubled in the last five years . . . 380 new members have enrolled in the organization since Dec. 1, 1957 . . . 72 applications for membership were received on registration day at this year's convention.

It was conservatively estimated that five per cent of the supts., who came to Chicago for the convention, were attending their first national turf show . . . It's a pretty good bet that most of them had their eyes opened . . . Most, of course, were younger



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men but there was a fair sprinkling of more experienced supts. among them . . . Ten days before the convention got underway, the Hotel Sherman had received more than 750 applications for room reservations from persons planning to attend the show.

The Midwest GCSA started to prepare for the convention last August . . . The ten or 12 men, who did most of the work in putting over the conclave, held six or seven meetings after Nov. 1 to discuss and dream up ideas for the show and sum up progress made to date . . . The most intensive work the committee did came in the final three or four weeks . . . Somebody handy with figures decided that when transportation, meals, hotel rates, cost of shipping displays to and from Chicago and miscellaneous spending were taken into account, at least \$500,000 was put into circulation by persons who came to the convention . . . Then he decided that maybe this was too conservative . . . So, you figure it out!

About 600 persons attended the banquet, which was held on Thursday night . . . Following the excellent meal, top entertainment fare was presented . . . Comedian Mickey Sharp, doing fine take-offs on Harry S. Truman and Mikoyan, vied for the biggest share of plaudits with six tantalizing dancing girls . . . 25-year pins were presented during the banquet to R. O. Rolfs, Bob Pollock, Fred Knopf and Ernest Pickens . . . Achievement awards went to John Monteith, O. J. Noer, John McGregor and Richard S. Tufts . . . Outgoing pres., Bob Williams, was given a plaque in appreciation of duty over and beyond, and Mrs. Williams also was recognized for keeping his headache pills constantly available.

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