



THE TORONTO CONVENTION

***Record (Paid) Crowd at GCSA Canadian Conference;
Speakers Put at Disadvantage by Unrelenting Schedule;
East-West Spell-Down Is a Bright Interlude***

WHAT was not necessarily the highlight, but was a refreshing interlude in the GCSA's 32nd international turf show held in Toronto, Jan. 29-Feb. 3, was a team match spell-down pitting the East against the West. It came on the last day of a four-day education program, hardly in time to break into the long succession of speakers who constantly occupied the rostrum from Monday morning through Thursday afternoon, but it did emphasize one important point: GCSA education programs would be infinitely improved and supts. probably would get a great deal more out of them if the steady diet of speeches were tempered with occasional

changes of pace such as offered by spell-downs, skits, and open forum sessions.

This might imply that the quality of the speaking wasn't up to the standards expected in an international convention. Nothing is farther from the truth. The Toronto speeches were just as carefully prepared and delivered as smoothly as any ever heard at any GCSA conference. The trouble was, as has happened so often in the past, the speakers were victimized by the program scheduling. Had spell-downs and similar divertissements been sprinkled through the speechmaking, the best attended education sessions in GCSA convention history would have been a great deal less wearing.

Registration Tops 1,600

If there were any misgivings about moving the convention site into the Canadian clime in the wintertime, they were dispell-

In photo, Paul Weiss (center) moderates spell-down. East team huddles at right and winning West squad sits, ready to pounce on the next question.

ed when the house was counted. More than 1,600 persons registered for the Toronto conference. This included 1,133 paid registrations, a record. More than 250 wives accompanied their husbands to the meeting and around 175 green chmn. checked in. One supt. came from as far away as Hawaii to attend the conference.

Total registration at the Chicago convention in 1959 was 1,720 and last year, when the proceedings were held in Houston, about 1,500 persons were on hand. Chicago's claim to an overall attendance record mark is disallowed, however, on the basis of paid registrations. There were only 750 paying guests at the 1959 meeting, or about 60 per cent of the number at Toronto. At Houston, there were 1,000 paid registrations.

The Complete Hotel

The spacious Royal York Hotel proved to be an excellent headquarters for a convention as large as the one staged by the GCSA. There were ample facilities for the many exhibits, the huge hall in which the education programs were held has a seating capacity of at least 1,200, and the hotel's wining and dining accommodations were such that many of the conventioners didn't leave the building during the five or six days they were in Toronto. The local weatherman was quite cooperative, serving up only one day in which the temperature dropped to around the zero mark.

This was the second time that the GCSA had visited Toronto for its annual meeting. The other one was held there in 1935.

West Beats East

In that East-West competition, a team representing the latter section of the country gave its colleagues from the eastern part of the country a thorough beating. The contest was conducted in the form of a spell-down or quiz-down that covered technical and general questions relating to turf as well as the game of golf. (Sample questions will be found on page 118.)

Each squad was composed of 10 men with Kay Oviaan captaining the East, and Zeke Avila, the West. Alternate questions were asked of each team which went into a huddle and decided on its answers. Thus, no individual was eliminated. When a question was missed, a figure representing one or the other teams was erased from a blackboard tended by Ted Woehrle. Paul E. Weiss of Lehigh CC, Emmaus, Pa., who appeared to be baffled by many of the questions, and who stood in great awe of the erudition shown by



Ontario premier, Leslie Frost, acknowledges audience's applause and shakes hands with David S. Moote, pres. of Ontario GCSA.

the contestants, was the quizmaster.

The West won the contest, suffering the elimination of only two figures as compared to six for the losers. John Wysocki of Santa Barbara, Calif., appeared to be the triple-threat man among the Westerners when it came to providing answers. There seemed to be no standout for the East.

First Session

Canada's Problems Much Like Ours

The following made up the speakers' roster for the first session, held on Monday morning: David S. Moote, pres. of the Ontario GCSA, host to the convention; James E. Thomas, pres. of the GCSA; Mayor Nathan Phillips of Toronto; Leslie M. Frost, prime minister of Ontario; Roy W. Nelson, supt. of Ravisloe CC, Home-



Most of the conference exhibits were located in the Canadian Room of the Royal York. Majority of the manufacturers who displayed their products were very happy with the number of inquiries received.

wood, Ill.; Ralph Goodwin-Wilson of Ontario Agriculture College; and John Fisher of the Canadian Tourist Bureau. Tom Leonard, River Oaks CC, Houston, Tex., was moderator.

Remarks made by Moote, Thomas, Mayor Phillips and Prime Minister Frost were in the form of welcoming statements. Mayor Phillips presented the keys of the city to Jim Thomas, but unlike the mayor of Houston at the 1960 convention, didn't offer to fix any parking tickets. His remarks dwelled mainly on the cosmopolitan nature of Toronto, where 20 different languages are spoken, and the phenomenal growth the city has undergone in the postwar era.

Because of this and the growth of other Dominion population centers, Prime Minister Frost later told the audience that many Canadian cities are faced with the same problem as those in U. S. in keeping recreational green belts open within the cities. Alluding to the lately strained relations between the U. S. and Canada because of economic matters, the prime minister stated that he thought they had been blown up beyond all proportion to their seriousness, and there will never come a time when a really deep-rooted cleavage will develop between the two countries.

Explains Program

Roy Nelson, chmn. of the GCSA education committee, told how five sectional GCSA committees had gone about setting up the convention program. Each queried

its members as to what subjects they thought should be discussed, submitted drafts of their findings to the national committee, and finally, passed on the program agenda. It was agreed, Nelson explained, that research, practical experience and self improvement should be the themes upon which all discussions at the convention should be based.

The development of various agencies to further turf work in Canada were described by Ralph Goodwin-Wilson who emphasized that the Dominion has made great strides in carrying on research and in training agronomists and specialists on grasses in the last decade. Much of this emphasis has been dictated by the rapid growth in the country's golf courses which now number about 675.

Several Turf Activities

"A great deal of experimental turf work is being carried on by our extension stations, notably the one located in Ottawa," Goodwin-Wilson said. "The Royal Canadian Golf Assn., which long has had a hand in our research, is stepping up its interest in this direction. At Guelph, we have set up a 3-year correspondence school plan to train supts. who are sorely needed throughout the Dominion. And," added Goodwin-Wilson, "right now we are forming a national turf council in order to set up standards and specifications as a guide for course architects and the landscape people."

The Canadian agronomist went on to



If wives went to Toronto with expectation of resting, they were in for a surprise. There were all kinds of extracurricular activity planned for them. These included teas, parties, the annual banquet, shopping tours, cocktail hours, a tour of the city and a visit to the famed Casa Loma castle which many women considered the highlight of their stay in Toronto. The above photos were taken as the women prepared to see the city's sights.

explain that Canadian turf problems are very much like those encountered in the northeastern part of U. S., and that most research work is concentrated in developing even further the winter hardiness of bents, fescues and bluegrasses.

The final speaker on the Monday morning roster was John Fisher, lawyer, newspaperman, Canadian Tourist dept. rep., and the kind of an orator who probably could have talked right through the lunch interval without alienating anyone in the audience.

The dynamic Fisher made these points: More than 50,000,000 Canadian and U. S. citizens crisscross the border every year, so the traveling urge is going to prevent relations between the two countries from ever becoming seriously strained;

Canadians spend 10 times as much per capita in U. S. as our citizens spend in Canada;

The recent dividend tax that Canada levied on funds going to the U. S. wasn't

an unfriendly act; the Dominion had to take desperate measures to stop the flow of money out of the country;

Canadian mounties never sing 'Rose Marie' and you'll never see one on a horse. But keep your eye on the squad cars!

Second Session

Emphasis Is on Self Expression

"Selling Yourself" was the theme of the Monday afternoon program. Fred V. Grau of Hercules Powder Co., was the moderator. The speakers lineup included Bob Williams, Bob O'Link CC, Highland Park, Ill.; Bob Shields, Woodmont CC, Rockville, Md.; Fred N. Lightfoot, Dale Car-



Lunch for fathers and sons and sons-in-law, that was enlarged to include brothers who work as supts., was held for the fourth year by *Golfdom*. These photos were taken in the Manitoba Room where about 60 persons were guests of Joe and Herb Graffis, publisher and editor of the magazine.

negie Inst. of Toronto; R. N. Elliott-Bateman, Toastmasters Int., Toronto; Elmer G. Border, Fersolin Corp., San Francisco; and James W. Brandt, Danville (Ill.) CC. A paper prepared by John R. Henry, Brook Hollow GC, Dallas, was read by Grau.

This session could be described as the inspiration interlude, taking its cue from the fact that a Dale Carnegie representative was among those who spoke.

Bob Williams, who has had the good sense in the 20 years he has been a supt. to mix the Carnegie philosophy with the technical information he absorbed in Prof. Dickinson's seminars at the U. of Massachusetts, outlined five criteria by which a greenmaster should weigh his success, or lack of it, in his job. They cover self discipline, management ability, attitude, relationship with people and technical knowledge.

Williams enlarged on these points by stating that a supt. lives up to his trust by giving his club an honest day's work, declining to take any kickbacks, and running the course, and handling the paperwork involved in its operation, with the

same dedication he would have if he personally owned the course.

Artistic Satisfaction

Williams declared that a supt. is in position to derive more artistic satisfaction from his handiwork than persons in almost any other occupation. As for relationship with people, he advised supts. against becoming involved in feuds with either members or the employees under him, and said that making concessions to both is not necessarily an indication of weakness. Speaking of the technical aspects of the supt's job, the Bob O'Link greenmaster said that too much emphasis probably has been put on the growing of turf alone. He thinks that both the clubs and supts. would profit if the latter were to school themselves to become as proficient in the art of business management as they are in turf maintenance.

Bob Shields, the Woodmont supt. and onetime paratrooper, agreed with Williams on the latter point. He feels that his fellow tradesmen are a little too reluctant in letting members know what is going on in the maintenance dept, and suggested that they put more effort into publicizing the work they do. "Club publications, bul-



John A. Weall (l) of Ontario Agricultural College gave chalk talk on landscaping, and Jesse A. DeFrance, now a Scott's seed consultant, discussed handling of chemicals on education program.



Grass roots turfmen, who spoke on practical aspects of growing grass, included (from l) Andrew Salerno, George Lanphear, Andy Bertoni and Art Twombley. Twombley was the leader of this panel.

letin boards and verbal explanations," said Shields, "should be widely used in informing members why it is necessary to aerate and apply topdressing and why poa annua probably will go out in the heat of late summer." So that the supt. isn't perpetually kept on the defensive, Bob suggested that it isn't a bad idea for him to call the attention of the members to improvements that have been made, and to the beauty of the course when it is in full bloom.

Stepson Complex

John Henry's paper (read by Fred Grau) also emphasized the value of publicity. "Since we're located so far from the clubhouse and the center of activity around a club," said Henry, "we've developed a kind of stepson complex. There isn't any reason why we shouldn't occupy as much of the limelight as the pro or the club manager because certainly our job is just as important as theirs."

Henry went on to say that many of the necessary operations of the maintenance dept. such as spraying, aerating and even mowing are poorly timed so far as most members are concerned. The only way to counteract the "Why do they have to do that now?" attitude of many golfers is to inform them in advance of the operations that must be carried out, and why they must be performed at certain times. "It isn't a bad idea," Henry concluded, "to let the players know that greens can be just as temperamental as some of them and will quickly fade out if properly timed steps aren't taken to prevent this."

Public Speaking — It's Wonderful!

Both Fred Lightfoot and R. N. Elliott-Bateman were introduced to the program to give the audience a break from the constant drumming on the turf theme and to prove that a course in public speaking can bring wondrous things. Lightfoot, a

Carnegie prodigy, and Elliott-Bateman, a Toastmasters phenomenon, didn't disappoint their listeners.

Lightfoot, dwelling on the promotion possibilities of speaking effectively, told several success stories of truck drivers, bookkeepers, etc., who moved quickly to the vicinity of the front office when they cultivated the art of public speaking. He left the audience on the note that technical knowledge takes a man only about one-fifth of the way down the path of success, and that the rest of the journey is covered by his ability to express himself. Whether club officials are aware of this isn't known.

Elliott-Bateman, a onetime British subaltern with accent to match, made one point that a supt. or anyone else would do well to keep in mind. "There's only one thing that prevents a person from becoming a fluent speaker," he said, "and that is the mind. You could prepare the finest paper ever written on turf management, but when it came time to deliver it, you could stumble all over the auditorium if you didn't have the self-confidence to put it across. Self-confidence in a speaker," Elliott-Bateman added, "is a condition of the mind that is only acquired through exposing yourself to audiences."

The Detached View

Elmer Border, for many years a supt. and now a chemical salesman, pointed out that he now is in a position to take a more detached view of the supt's strong points and shortcomings. The latter, he said, become more evident to him each day and, for the most part, involve the inability of most supts. to sell themselves and their programs to the clubs for which they work. Whether it is because of poor preparation or diffidence, Border didn't say, but he did emphasize that it is hurt-



Interview for local TV sports program is filmed and taped on floor of the exhibition hall.

ing many fellows from both a budget and salary standpoint. Elmer's panacea: "Rid yourself of the notion that you're a country club farmer and think of yourself as a manager. If, to do this, it takes more education, especially along business lines, there is absolutely no reason why you can't acquire it."

Living Example

Jim Brandt, the handsome turfmaster from Danville, Ill., was presented as a living example of what a series of sessions at the Toastmasters' Club can do for a man. Brandt conceded that he was something of an introvert, interested only in keeping the grass green and the rough mowed at the proper height, when a member at his club suggested that his abilities would receive proper recognition if he were more outgoing. So, Jim enrolled with the local oratorical society and the self-confidence he gained gave him a new outlook on life and his job. His most striking observation: "A supt., more often than most people, finds himself in the position where he has to explain himself. If he has valid reasons for doing certain things, but can't explain them to his members, he's accused of being indifferent or

inefficient. It's here that self-confidence and his ability to express himself carry him over the rough spots."

Third Session

Researchers Discuss Chemicals, Cautions

The Tuesday afternoon meeting was largely devoted to technical discussions in which the following speakers were featured: J. A. DeFrance, consultant, O. M. Scott Co.; Richard R. Davis, Wooster (O.) Agricultural Exp. Station; Joseph M. Duich, agronomist, Pennsylvania State U.; William H. Daniel, agronomist, Purdue U.; and Gene C. Nutter, executive dir., GCSA.

After tracing the evolution of fertilizers, fungicides and herbicides and bringing the supts. up to date on the latest developments in these chemicals, J. A. DeFrance warned supts. to practice certain precautions in the handling, buying, application and storage of some of the products they use. These include:



These People Handled the Details

Bob Moote, host booth chmn., C. Leonard Bluet, reception committee chmn., Glenda Boss and Ralph Goodwin-Wilson, agronomist at Ontario's Agricultural College in Guelph and an education program speaker, handled many of the details that come with being hosts to a national turf gathering.

Materials such as chlordane and Aldrin and organic phosphorus compounds, such as Parathion, may be absorbed through the skin or by breathing; mercurials should be handled with care for the same reasons;

Warns of High-Pressure Salesmen

Beware the miracle controls that haven't been researched and are peddled by high-pressure salesmen out to make a quick buck;

The higher the grass the stronger the concentration of a chemical that it can take. By the same reasoning, if the soil is moist and weeds and grass are growing fairly vigorously, herbicides are most effective;

Better results probably are obtained if many chemicals are sprayed on in the afternoon rather than the morning. This is to avoid overexposure to the sun. It also has been observed that most applications give better results if made when the temp. is below 80.

Nature vs. Superintendent

After showing slides and discussing the effects of clipping on root growth, Dick Davis of Wooster concluded that it is at least a small miracle that supts. can keep turf on their courses in view of the frequency of mowing and the low height at which grass is cut. Observations of Kentucky Blue, Merion, Astoria bent and some fescue have led to the conclusion that root growth is about directly proportional to the height of cut. Surprisingly, excess nitrogen seems to greatly retard root growth, as Davis' slides showed.

The Wooster agronomist showed comparative slides where with the grass cut at $\frac{3}{4}$ ins., 91 weeds were counted in one 10 ft. sq. plot of Kentucky Blue as com-

pared to only eight weeds where the grass was cut at 2 ins. There was, of course, great contrast in the root development in these plots. Crabgrass observations approximated the weed infestation picture.

Davis said that the greatest boon to root development apparently is the range of temperatures experienced in the spring months, and that the second greatest influence possibly is the compaction condition of the soil.

Fairweather Friends

Joe Duich, the young Pennsylvania agronomist, declared that many persons in his profession are somewhat resentful of the golf course people because they only lend their support when the researchers are coming up with something new. "We're put in the position," said Joe, "where we just have to say something about new strains when we invite supts. to see our test plots. The upshot is," he continued, "that the demand for quick results is causing a great deal of needless duplication in the field of turf research."

Other points made by Duich:

Back in 1921 it was concluded that vegetative and creeping bents are better for greens than seeded and non-creeping varieties. Nothing since has developed to change this thinking;

Many courses have taken the inexpensive way out by seeding rather than stolonizing greens and then wonder why their putting surfaces don't compare with those at clubs where stolons have been used;

Fairways continue to be the 'orphans' of the golf course. The big trouble seems to be that there just hasn't been a grass developed that can stand up to the kind



Catch up on Tourist Sights

Since their wives were already familiar with the city's landmarks, GCSA conventioners spent their last day in Toronto catching up on the tourist sights.

of management that is demanded. Merion can't be written off, even though it has been found wanting. Of the fairway bents, Colonial, because of its great density and resistance to disease, may be the answer in the cool season belt. In the middle belt, U-3 and Meyer zoysia appear to be providing many of the answers, but they must be observed further before a final decision can be made.

Can't be Analyzed

Bill Daniel of Purdue was inserted into the program proceedings as a last minute replacement and spoke without benefit of any prepared notes. The Purdue agronomist said he is somewhat amazed at the number of crabgrass killers on the market, but for the sake of the gullible, including some supts., he hopes all of them work. "If they don't," he added, "America may become absolutely barren within the next decade. I'm sure some of those formulations defy chemical analysis."

In the same vein, Daniel warned against riding off in 20 different directions in experimenting with other chemicals and fertilizers. He recommended using unfamiliar products on a small scale, one at a time, and observing their reactions before going overboard and saturating the entire course with them. "Many a supt's job," Bill wryly remarked, "has ben lost for less than this."

The Well-Rounded Man

Speaking on the topic, "How Far Can We See?" Gene C. Nutter, executive dir. of the GCSA, reiterated what had been said earlier about the supt. concentrating on becoming a better business manager, but in so doing, not to neglect the tech-

nical side of his occupation. What he should strive for, Nutter declared, is to become a well-rounded individual, proficient in handling all of the score or so of duties he is called upon to perform. Nutter added that, as far as he can see, the supt. is beginning to measure up more and more as a businessman, and that his next goal should be to improve his member and public relations.

A significant point made by Nutter: If five per cent of the veteran supts. retire every year, and if as many courses continue to be built annually as in the last decade, there will be a demand for 350 new greenmasters every year. Today, only about 50 young men are graduating from turf management school each year. How can the situation be remedied? Through more scholarship grants, more winter school courses and more in-training programs sponsored by clubs.

Fourth Session

Faulty Focusing Fails Film Story

The Wednesday morning program was inaugurated with the showing of a Milwaukee Sewerage Commission movie. Next came a well received "chalkie-talkie" dissertation on club landscaping by John A. Weall of Ontario Agriculture College. He was followed by John F. Cornman of Cor-

nell University and Ralph E. Engel of Rutgers University.

The Sewerage Commission color film, narrated by Charles G. Wilson, with background music by Walt Disney, could be given no more than one-star rating because of projection trouble. The local operator didn't seem to understand the mechanism and lost both the voice and the music and occasionally, the picture. What undoubtedly would have turned out to be an excellent description of maintenance operations and installations at Woodhill in Minneapolis, Medinah, near Chicago, LaChute in Canada, an Idaho Falls course and other sites, simply was mangled by inept projection. There was a near repeat performance the following day by the same operator. He managed to get the machine in focus but couldn't find the cup, when it came to inserting the sound plug.

Landscaping with Art

Following the debacle of the projection machine, order was restored by artistic John Weall who used colored chalk and a blackboard in describing how a rather bleak landscape can be made to breathe when a person knows where to plant trees, shrubs and flowers. Weall offered the following tips: Make sure that the trees and shrubs that are planted are matched to the soil; Slow growing hedges such as privet and cedar, trimmed so that they are wider at the bottom, give the best long term results; Don't smother anything with vines, but spread them out; Perennials should be planted in large beds. Care should be taken to plant flowers that bloom in early summer, others in mid-summer, and still others that bloom in the fall so that at no time during the warm season does the bed have that dead-stem look.

Fertilizer Economics

In his talk on practical fertilization, John Cornman discussed the economics as well as the effects of applying various fertilizers. Contrasting costs, he stated that the soluble type is cheaper than insoluble so far as initial outlay is concerned, but the latter is less expensive to apply. It also has an advantage, though slight, where leaching is considered and it can be applied with a little less caution than the soluble material because it is less apt to burn turf. So far as nutrients are concerned, one is probably no better than the other.

The Cornell agronomist said that supts. should pay more attention to soil and climatic factors in determining how much and how often turf should be fertilized,

GCSA Officers and Directors

Officers and members of the board of directors of the GCSA, elected at the Toronto convention, are: L. E. Lambert, Prairie Dunes CC, Hutchinson, Kans., pres.; Sherwood A. Moore, Winged Foot, Mamaroneck, N. Y., vp; and Edward Roberts, Jr., DuPont CC, Wilmington, Del., sec-treas. Directors are L. W. DuBose, Jr., Houston (Tex.) CC; Roy W. Nelson, Ravis-loe CC, Homewood, Ill.; Walter F. Wagner, Lancaster (O.) CC; David S. Moote, Rosedale Golf Assn., Ltd., Toronto; George L. Lanphear, Ojai (Calif.) CC; and James E. Thomas, Army Navy CC, Arlington, Va.

but he didn't discount the "eyeball" test, saying that this, of course, is something that has to be acquired through experience. As for phosphorus and potash, Cornman didn't recommend any specific dosages, saying that care should be taken that there is no deficiency of these nutrients. In the final analysis, however, Cornman said that turf response depends largely on the amount of nitrogen applied.

Old Water Argument

The argument as to whether water is a friend or foe was discussed as vehemently 30 years ago as it is today, according to Ralph Engel, Rutgers agronomist. He added that he has seen enough of prolonged arid spells that have resulted in serious loss of fairway grasses in New Jersey to declare himself on the side of a good irrigation system. "It can be a supt's best friend," said Engel, "if it is used with propriety."

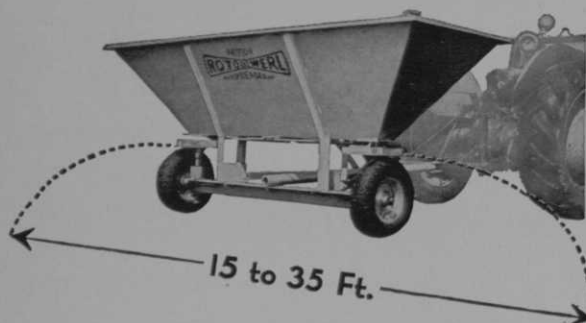
Warning against the overuse of water, Engel declared that it tears down the soil's structure, leading to serious compaction and thereby poor air and nutrient circulation. "Samples show," explained the Rutgers man, "that it is much better to have 30 per cent than 80 per cent saturation."

For best results in watering, Engel made these suggestions:

Proper timing depends largely on the appearance of the grass along with soil moisture, things that can be determined through the use of a little judgment;

There should be a happy balance between the use of water and fertilizer; too much of the latter only calls for pouring
(Continued on page 108)

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they have four children: William, a methods engineer who lives in New York City; Dorothy, a teacher; Mary Lou, a medical technologist; and Joyce, a registered nurse. The three girls live in Kansas City.

His duties with the regional and national GCSA in recent years have caused Red to cut back on his golf playing. This, and the fact that he says age has caused his game to deteriorate, have left him in the slightly unhappy position of being satisfied when he breaks 100.

No. Calif. GCSA Officers

Northern Calif. GCSA has elected Ellis Van Gorder, Stanford U. CC supt., pres. for the coming year. Other officers are: vp. W. R. Boysen, Sequoyah CC, Oakland; and sec.-treas., Clifford A. Wagoner, Del Rio CC, Modesto. Directors are Ted DeTata, Roy King, Paul Paulsen, Charles Whitaker and R. L. Viergever.

Iowa GCSA Conference

Annual turf conference of the Iowa GCSA will be held Mar. 14-16 at the Memorial Union, Iowa State University in Ames.

Toronto Convention

(Continued from Page 50)

on more water;

It is only necessary to moisten the top six ins. of soil. Rate of application can be determined from this;

Water is most effective in lime soils. Most courses have acid soils which should be counteracted for best results from watering.

Fifth Session

15 Speakers Appear on This Program

Art Twombly of James Baird State Park, Pleasant Valley, N. Y., headed a panel of supts., who told how attention to details can make the difference between an ordinary course and an exceptional one. His co-panelists were Andy Bertoni, Meadowbrook CC, Northville, Mich., George L. Lanphear, Ojai (Calif.) CC and Andrew Salerno of Grossinger CC, Ferndale, N. Y. Then came Robert F. Moote, Oakdale CC,

Downsview, Ont.; Tom Mascaro, pres. of West Point Products Corp.; Ted Roberts, Jr., Louviers CC, Newark, Del.; Elmer Border, Fersolin Corp.; James O. Reid, Suburban Club of Baltimore; and L. E. Lambert, the GCSA's new pres., who brought the supts. up to date on the work of the organization's specifications committee. The Wednesday afternoon's talkathon, possibly the longest in GCSA conference history, was concluded with a roundup of turf tips and observations from five agronomists — Charles G. Wilson, Milwaukee Sewerage; James R. Watson, Jr., Toro Mfg. Corp.; Fred V. Grau, Hercules Powder Co.; Marvin H. Ferguson, research coordinator of the USGA green section; and O. J. Noer, now of the Dick Wilson organization.

Art Twombly's panel touched on everything from ideas for speeding up play to creating a restful environment for the players. Twombly said that in 1954 his course, a public 18-hole layout, became so overcrowded that the order of playing the two nines was reversed, with the easier one becoming the front side. The plan has worked out quite well, because even though play has steadily increased in the

last six years, the James Baird course no longer seems to be plagued with the traffic jams it once experienced.

Well Equipped Tractormen

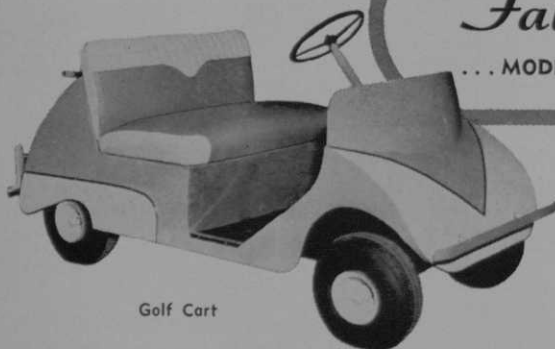
Andy Bertoni said that new ideas constantly are being introduced at Meadowbrook, most with the intent of adding to the course's eye appeal or making things more congenial for the players. For instance, the front entrance and clubhouse grounds are groomed as carefully as any of the greens; flowers and fruit trees surround several tees; the practice range with five target greens, traps, etc., enables the player to bone up on every shot in the book; and the tractors that pull the fairway mowers are provisioned with scorecards and pencils to supply the forgetful golfer who becomes stranded without these necessities. They are so foresighted at Meadowbrook, in fact, that the tractormen carry extra golf balls as replacements just in case a ball lying on a fairway gets chewed up by a mower.

Good Housekeeping—Daily Inspection

At Ojai CC, according to George Lanphear, the emphasis is on good housekeeping because he feels that if anything causes a course to deteriorate quickly it

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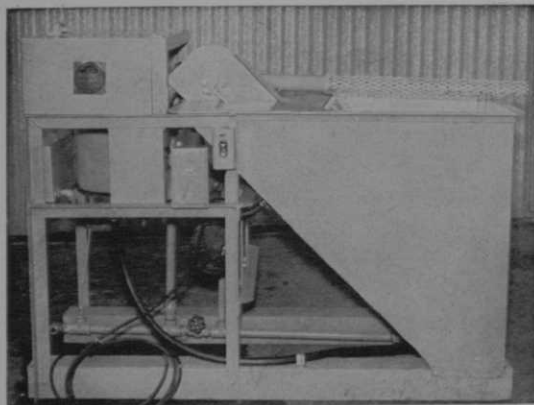
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is neglect of this detail. Once a week the Ojai maintenance staff is divided into two teams that make a thorough inspection of the course, repairing anything that is damaged.

Andy Salerno is another who advocates constant inspection in order to keep up with repair work. He pointed out that the supt. should make a daily circuit of the course, preferably around noontime after the heavy maintenance for the day has been completed, in order to make sure that not only routine work has been done as it should be, but that the workmen haven't overlooked anything in need of immediate repair.

Cites Thompson's Ideas

In discussing the construction of greens, Bob Moote said that many of the ideas of Stanley Thompson, one of Canada's leading architects, could be profitably copied. These include such things as compounding a more open soil structure to withstand heavy traffic, and building large area putting surfaces that give a wider choice of cup placement and thereby hold down compaction. The sub-grade, according to Moote, should conform almost exactly to the topography or contour of the finished green but, in the case of terraces, be

somewhat exaggerated, to insure a solid foundation. He said that the trend in Ontario has been to increase the sand content and cut down on humus in the top-soil mixture to minimize compaction. "But regardless of what the trend may be in this respect in your section of the country," Moote added, "there is nothing as reliable as a lab analysis to determine what kind of a soil mixture should be used in the greens on your course."

Discuss Aerating Principles

Both Tom Mascaro and Ted Roberts, Jr., dwelled on the principles behind aerating in their talks. Mascaro said that one of the main reasons for puncturing the soil layer is to admit oxygen, and exhaust carbon dioxide and other harmful gases. Another is to cut down on thatch that becomes mat and thence a part of the soil profile, forming an incubator for diseases. However, Mascaro pointed out that if through frequent aerating mat is mixed thoroughly with the soil, the latter's structure is greatly improved. What it adds up to, he concluded, is that an undisturbed mat layer shuts off needed circulation of air and nutrients, starving the grass roots and ultimately the turf.

Roberts stated that he didn't have any

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argument with the theory behind aerating, but most supts. he has talked to maintain it is almost impossible to carry it on on a continuing basis in the height of the playing season. To circumvent protests of players, who have no idea of why it is necessary to aerate, and think the operation is carried on only to interfere with their golf, the Louviers greenmaster said that probably lighter and faster machines are needed. He added that his father grew grass successfully 30 years ago and that it might be worth while to go back and study his methods and machines he used. The supt's only hope to keep up with the thatch problem is to plan on extensive fall renovation, Roberts observed, but once again many turfmen are being hamstrung in carrying this on because the playing season in their areas is being pushed back more and more each year.

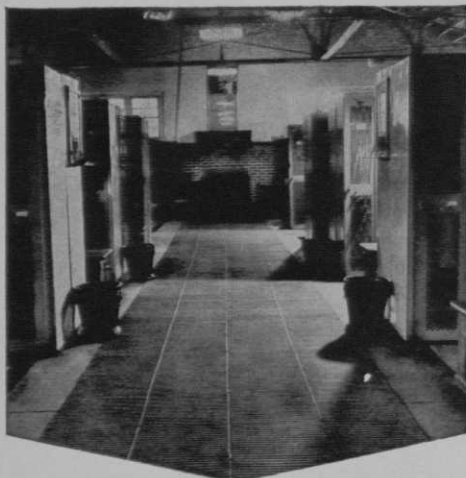
Value of Wetting Agents

Both James Reid and Elmer Border, who spoke on the value of using wetting agents, said that these soil penetrants probably haven't yet received a fair trial because many supts. apply them on a hit-or-miss rather than a regular scheduled basis. Reid, who spoke last year at Hous-

ton on the same subject and seems to have become the champion of the non-ionic materials, explained that he is convinced that soil needs an underwater storage tank that can release moisture during dry spells and that wetting agents help to supply at least part of this need. In 1960, he gave his greens a heavy application of Aqua-Gro in May and followed with light applications each week thereafter and had exceptional results. Reid conceded that rainfall was above normal last year, undoubtedly accounting for some of his success maintaining greens at the Suburban Club of Baltimore, but added that he is convinced that the wetting agents played an important role in keeping the putting surfaces in excellent condition throughout the entire season.

Reviews Construction Suggestions

Recommendations of the GCSA study to set up standardized course construction specifications were reviewed by L. E. (Red) Lambert, who had an important part in adopting them. The report covered every facet of the course layout with special emphasis being put on correct watering and drainage systems and construction of greens. Thirteen different specifications, clarified by more than 60 explana-



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Can You Answer These Spell-Down Questions?

Here are some of the questions that were asked of the East and West teams of supts. in the Spell-down at the GCSA convention. How many can you answer correctly?

Answers are on page 143

1. What is the percentage of nitrogen in ammonium sulphate?
2. What is the percentage of potash in super phosphate?
3. How many yards of topdressing are required to apply a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. layer to a 5,000 sq. ft. green?
4. How many lbs in a yard of dry sand?
5. Your spray boom is 20 ft. wide. How many yards would you have to travel to cover one square acre?
6. How much more does plastic pipe expand than steel pipe?
7. Which holds more water — a 5 gal. can or a cubic ft.?
8. How far behind a tee marker can you tee up?
9. What color stakes designate out-of-bounds?
10. What's the recommended distance a cup should be placed from the edge of a green?

tory notes, were covered in the report which repeatedly alluded to permanency of construction and ease of maintenance. (A digest of the report will appear in April GOLFDOM.)

In addition to dwelling on the physical aspects of course building, the GCSA report recommended that in order to protect the club, complete architectural specifications should be on hand at all times during the construction period. It also suggested that soil be thoroughly tested before any site is purchased by a group interested in building a course; emphasized that the financial and construction capability of the contractor be thoroughly investigated before a contract is let; and strongly recommended that a supt., who is to stay on after the job is completed, be brought in during the early construction stage to make sure that the architect's design is followed.

Tips from Agronomists

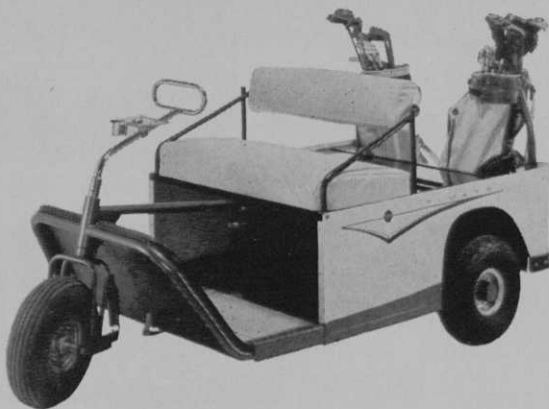
Lyman Strong, supt. emeritus of Saucun Valley, introduced the agronomists, who passed on the following tips and observations at the conclusion of the long afternoon's program:

Charles G. Wilson: Winter overseeding of Tifgreen in Atlanta shows that rye gets

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an early start but probably fades too quickly; bents are slow in getting started but come strong at the end of the Southern playing season; poa trivialis is proving to be a fine grass in overseeding mixtures.

Fred V. Grau: If you are planning to go to Penncross greens, you'll get best results from seeding; if you are renovating fairways, don't sell Merion short and also don't overlook tall fescue; for reviving turf, probably nothing beats nitrogen application — but don't make the mistake of over-feeding in an attempt to speed up the revival.

James R. Watson, Jr. — using film, Watson described how, with the use of plywood covering, the digging of drainage ditches and the backfilling operation on greens can be made a very neat, if not a completely artistic job.

Marvin H. Ferguson — film also was used by Ferguson in showing what can happen when soil sterilant residue is left in a tank used for spraying 2 4-D — the prettiest burned out areas you ever saw. Another film, shown by the USGA green dir., also brought a few gasps — greens at a New Mexico club that were in the path of a sandstorm. Stable brooms had to be used to sweep away the heavy inundation.

O. J. Noer: The University of Wisconsin,

carrying on work with funds supplied by the Foundation established in Noer's honor, has been carrying on experiments in withholding several different elements from various strains of turf and noting the growth reaction. Some conclusions: Lack of iron and calcium may be more detrimental to growth than that of three or four other elements, nitrogen included.

Sixth Session

Dormancy, Budgets, Poa Are Examined

The second part of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission film, "Progress in Maintenance," was the first item on the Thursday morning program. Then came James R. Watson, Jr., Toro Manufacturing Corp., who discussed dormant Northern grasses, and Marvin H. Ferguson, USGA green section research dir., who spoke on dormant Southern grasses. A trio of Cincinnati area supts., Taylor Boyd of Camargo, Donald E. Likes of Hyde Park,

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and Richard B. Craig, Losantville CC, went into the intricacies of planning and presenting budgets. The last speaker of the morning was Casper McCullough, supt. of Banff Springs (Alta.) Hotel course, who told how and why he has come to depend on *poa annua*.

The Sewerage Commission film was again accompanied by mechanical trouble, with Jim Latham of that organization filling in at the mike as the sound track became snarled. Latham guided the audience on a tour of several Atlanta courses and then went north to visit Elbridge in Montreal, showing how greens were constructed at some of these places and also how weeds and diseases are controlled. The piece de resistance came with a junket to the farm of T. L. (Gus) Gustin outside of Philadelphia where an equipment show was in progress. If you ever are invited to one of these soirees, don't miss it because after you have obliged the host by looking over his machinery, you'll never sit down to a finer spread. Or, at least, that is the way it looked on film.

Desiccation Great Destroyer

The greatest damage to wintertime Northern grasses, according to Jim Watson, probably comes from desiccation. Scald, resulting from the reflection of the sun through the ice, and suffocation, caused by the buildup of carbon dioxide under an ice cover also contribute to the damage. Watson pointed out that turf isn't damaged too much if it lies under a snow cover during the wintertime and is safe from drying winds.

Using film, the Toro agronomist showed the effects of other types of turf covers. Peat, straw or leaves aren't particularly desirable, Watson said, because they build up too much organic matter in the soil; polyethylene would be ideal, if practical, because it gives a greenhouse effect, trapping moisture and keeping heat in. Experiments with black insulated blankets also were shown by Watson. There was essentially no growth under this type of cover, but more than if the turf had been left uncovered.

Dormancy periods in the South, said Marvin Ferguson, range from very short

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to prolonged, and maintenance and overseeding should be based on past observations of how long they may last. Mowing and light watering often restores turf color in the Deep South when it appears that the grass is becoming dormant, but moving north it usually is necessary to overseed in varying degrees to keep greens in playable and presentable condition.

The USGA green dir. stated that Tifgreen requires less overseeding than common Bermuda, and it is his observation that bents are preferable to other strains for this purpose. Seaside may fare quite well until midsummer, while Highland, although it is slow to take hold in the fall, usually gives good results until late summer. The best preparation for overseeding and the onset of the dormant season, Ferguson concluded, is to fertilize adequately, protect against fungus diseases as the growth of the permanent grass slows down, and also protect against mechanical damage at this time.

Refined Bookkeeping

In the discussion of budgets, Taylor Boyd, a veteran of 40 years in the green-keeping business and thereby an accomplished workman in the presence of figures, said that he has refined his bookkeeping system to show separately the

cost of maintaining each hole on the course, the clubhouse grounds, swimming pool and parking area. "If I didn't," Taylor explained, "the club would probably want to charge all these things, plus a few others, against course maintenance alone."

Continuing, Boyd said: "I found out through hard experience that you have to be ready to justify every dollar that goes out. That is why I have broken my accounts down to 62 items and have leaned over backwards in avoiding using 'Miscellaneous Expense' as a catchall. Another thing I do is make an analysis of clubhouse vs. course operation costs on a square foot basis so that the members can satisfy themselves as to where the dues dollar really goes. All these things," Taylor concluded, "call for extra, and maybe unnecessary effort on my part, but I think the supts. will have to start doing what I have done if they are ever going to convince people that our courses are run as efficiently and economically as they actually are."

Don Likes and Dick Craig, both Purdue University graduates, answered questions from the audience, most of which covered procedures in preparing and presenting budgets. Likes, incidentally, told of how he sold Hyde Park members on a new green last year by fashioning a clay



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mockup and making detailed drawings of the green he wanted to construct. His artwork was so favorably received that it was put on exhibition in the clubhouse lobby for several weeks at the insistence of some members.

Poa Is Desirable Grass

Speaking of poa annua, Casper McCullough pointed out that turf authorities are finally beginning to recognize its possibilities, and since it is so well established in the western Canadian provinces, it is time that it is accepted as a desirable grass and not a weed. Banff's greens, said McCullough, are 100 per cent poa. After players have learned how to play this turf they like it as well as any bentgrass. The good thing about this species, he explained, is that the seed is always present and ready to germinate with only a minimum of cultivation. If heavily treated with bichloride of mercury, it will resist snowmold, probably to a greater extent than most grasses.

Perhaps, the biggest disadvantage to poa, the Banff supt. said, is that it requires a great deal of water and fairly heavy applications of fertilizer. It also cannot be allowed to grow wild because

it produces heavy stems that result in bumpy putting surfaces.

Seventh Session

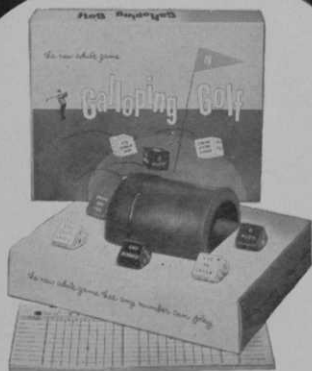
*Urge Realistic View
on Golf Cars*

The last educational session of the convention was launched with the previously described spell-down between the East and West (see pp 33-34) E. M. Eickmann of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., whose speech on the comparative effects of conventional tires vs. Terra-Tires appears on page 62, was the next speaker. He was followed by William J. Freund, mgr., Electric-Car div. of Victor Adding Machine Co., and Ward Cornwell, Detroit GC supt., both of whom discussed golf cars. The final speaker was O. J. Noer, retired Milwaukee Sewerage Commission agronomist now with Dick Wilson, Inc.

Bill Freund stated that golf car manufacturers are becoming more and more aware of the need for producing vehicles

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that reduce wear and tear on turf. In the last two years or so the emphasis has been on better weight distribution and wider use of the Terra-Tire in an effort to realize this aim. Concentration of more weight over the traction drive wheels, Freund said, is among the more recent developments that will lead to easing the strain on turf.

Here to Stay

The Victor mgr. then went on to say that even though golf cars are being accepted by more and more supts., there is still a hard core of turfmen who pursue an unrealistic policy in opposing their use. "What has to be realized," Freund declared, "is that golfers, now that they have the cars, never again will be without them. In addition, the clubs are finding that they produce the kind of revenue that takes the squeeze out of the budget. So," continued Freund, "there is only one conclusion to be drawn from this situation and that is the realistic one that there are going to be many more vehicles on the fairways in the future." The Victor executive advised the unreconstructed supts. to use their energies in devising better maintenance methods to cope with whatever damage is done by cars and to campaign for extra budget funds to provide for such damage.

Thinking Must Be Changed

Ward Cornwell hinted that a supt. can be unreconstructed so far as golf cars are concerned only until the club adopts a firm policy in their favor and starts bringing them in fleetload lots. Then he has to change his thinking or start looking for some quiet 9-hole course where the living is easier with a salary to match. Cornwell declared that 80 per cent of the car problems can be resolved if clubs will adopt reasonable rules for the use of the vehicles and then unequivocally enforce them. His recommendation after the rainy day, "No Cars," rule is put into effect: "Don't answer the phone, or disappear!"

Don't Go Overboard

In keeping with what several other speakers said, O. J. Noer, in talking of the future of greenkeeping, stated that probably as much emphasis should be placed on business management as agronomic aspects in training young supts. But he cautioned on going overboard on the former to the detriment of the latter because it shouldn't be forgotten that a course is still a course, and golfers will continue to be more impressed by a fine set of greens than beautifully kept ledgers.



Mrs. George Bard, Mrs. Edward F. Swift, John Ames, former USGA pres., and Mrs. Irving Seaman are members of the committees planning the first Children's Memorial Hospital pro-am that will be played at Onwentsia Club, Lake Forest, Ill. immediately after the PGA Championship. A total of 50 pros and 150 amateurs will take part in the event which is scheduled for July 31.

cash value of the annuity purchased by such contributions. Also, if the professional dies before 120 monthly payments are made to him following retirement, his beneficiary will receive the balance of the 120 payments.

The professional also will have the option of choosing annuities that pay larger or lesser amounts than those shown in the annuity schedule. In such cases, the annuity will continue for shorter or longer periods than those shown in the schedule.

Increase Seniors Prize to \$25,000

The 1962 PGA Seniors' Championship will be a \$25,000 tournament. A \$10,000 increase is being made in the prize money for the 23rd tournament, which will be played Feb. 13-18 in Dunedin. Wm. Teacher & Sons, Ltd., Glasgow, Scotland will again co-sponsor the event with the PGA. In 1954, when Teacher & Sons first came in as a co-sponsor, the Seniors' Championship offered prize money of only \$5,000. By 1958 it had been increased to \$10,000 and for the last two years it has been a \$15,000 event.

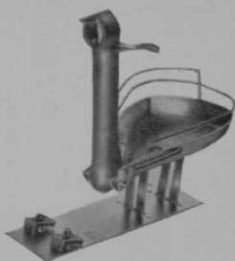
Answers to Questions on P. 118

1. 20%.
2. 0.
3. 4 yds.
4. 2,800 lbs.
5. 730 yds.
6. 10 times.
7. cu. ft. (7½ gals.).
8. 2 club lengths.
9. White.
10. 5 paces.

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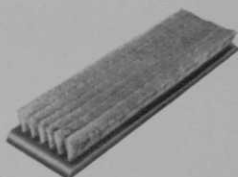
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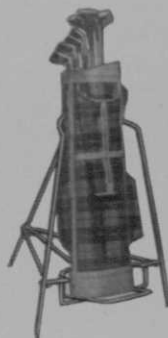
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