

## Greenkeepers Plan Busy Convention

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GREEN-KEEPERS is getting the stage set for its annual exhibition and convention, to be held at the Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit. The exhibition will open at 11 a. m., Feb. 21, and the opening session of the convention will be at 10 a. m., Feb. 23. Both the exhibition and meetings will close Saturday, Feb. 25. The annual election will be held Saturday morning.

Headquarters of the association reports that a record attendance of greenkeepers, green-chairmen and other golf club officials and green-committee members is assured. Display space for the exhibition is practically sold out, and it is expected that this initial show, under the auspices of the greenkeepers' organization, will reveal much of practical benefit. The committee handling the golf show consists of Fred Burkhardt, Cleveland, Ohio, chairman; Edward B. Dearie, Chicago, Ill.; Herbert E. Shave, Detroit, Mich.; George Sargent, Columbus, Ohio; John Gray, Sandwich, Ontario; Charles Erickson, Minneapolis, Minn.; Capt. David L. Rees, New York.

An excellent practical program, featuring a number of headliner authorities, has been arranged by the committee in charge of this detail. Prof. B. R. Leach, associate entomologist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and author of the valuable series of articles on grub control now appearing in GOLFDOM, will be one of the featured experts. His subject will be "Grub Control." Dr. John Monteith, associate pathologist, U. S. Department of Agriculture, will talk on some of the turf diseases that have recently been the subject of expert attention. One of the new diseases, he says, is practically as hard to control as brown patch.

O. J. Noer, soils department, University

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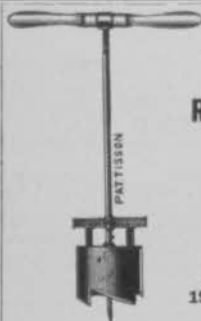
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of Wisconsin, will speak on the fertiliza-  
tion of soils. He is one of the country's  
outstanding authorities on this topic. "The  
Protection of Golf Course Trees," by C. M.  
Scherer, principal, Davey Institute of Tree  
Surgery, will be another program feature  
of definite value. C. A. Tregillus, who also  
is nationally known as a turf-culture ex-  
pert, will talk on "Canadian Maintenance  
Problems."

"Bringing a New Course Along," is the  
title of the address to be presented by Ed-  
ward B. Dearie, Jr., secretary of the Mid-  
west Greenkeepers' Association. Dearie  
has had considerable successful experience  
along this line. Joseph T. Varn Hagen,  
Sr., greenkeeper of the Plum Hollow Golf  
club, Redford, Mich., will give the con-  
vention some valuable pointers on the  
growing of decorative plants from bulbs.  
His experience in Holland and Germany,  
and his work in this country, make the  
senior Varn Hagen one of the country's  
recognized authorities on this subject.

Those at the convention who are anxious  
to get some highly practical help on the  
construction of putting greens, will get  
their aid from the address by Capt. David  
L. Rees, president of the Metropolitan  
Greenkeepers' Association.

Hirman F. Goodwin, greenkeeper, Red-  
ford Country Club, Redford, Mich., one of  
the veteran bent experts, appears on the  
program to talk on "Making Use of a Bent  
Nursery." "Clubhouse Gardens," by W. D.  
Chinery, greenkeeper of the York Downs  
Golf club, Edlington, Ontario, will add con-  
siderable to the interest in landscaping  
club grounds.

E. W. Doty, treasurer of the Cleveland  
District Golf association, will put a valu-  
able business slant into the program with  
his address on "The Bookkeeper and the  
Greenkeeper." V. L. Delmarle, construc-  
tion engineer of Brooklyn, N. Y., will talk  
on the construction and maintenance of  
tennis courts.

Alex Pirie, president of the P. G. A. of  
America and one of the best known and  
competent men in professional and green-  
keeping ranks, will talk on "The Associa-  
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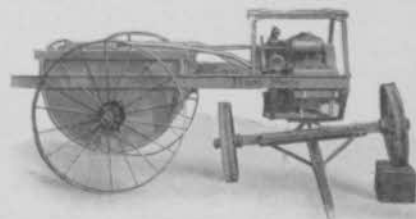
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## GOLFDOM

236 N. Clark St., CHICAGO

# Why I Get Along with the Boss and He Gets Along with Me

By MATT MELVILLE

Greenkeeper, Southmeor Country Club.

THE thorn in the side of many greenkeepers is their relations with their president and green chairman, and, on the other hand, I have no doubt that greenkeepers in many cases have brought grey hairs to and harsh words from their ranking officials.

When these two factors get together on the right basis there will be effected the economies and general improvements required in golf maintenance.

Unless there are widely divergent and positive temperaments on both sides, there is no reason why the greenkeeper and the chairman can't work smoothly together, granting that the greenkeeper is a man of some ability and the green chairman is willing to give some attention to his responsibilities.

Early in my experience as a greenkeeper my chairman was a man who would go over the course with me on a flying trip only just prior to the directors' meetings. I never had to consult him regarding the big expenditures and was left pretty much on my own. Some greenkeepers might think this was an ideal condition, but let me to say it was far from satisfactory.

I learned something from that connection and made up my mind that if I was ever going to get ahead in this business I'd have to make contact with any chairman I worked for and keep this contact on a basis of close co-operation, study and effort. This policy has worked well.

Nowadays, each Wednesday during the season I make a practice of visiting another club in the district with my president and green chairman. We play golf casually and study the courses intensively. We have never failed to come away with some ideas that could be applied to our own course.

No matter how hard and intelligently a fellow works, the time will come when weather or other conditions will offset his labors. Then he needs a green chairman to whom he can tell his troubles and get not only inspiration but resourceful tips based on his chairman's own successful business

experience. The greenkeeper profits when he can talk over his situation with an officer who has an intimate and sympathetic knowledge of the conditions. A green chairman who has had some farming experience, even if it has been in the fairly distant past, makes a good man to get the most from his greenkeeper.

I enjoy my job and think that I'm doing first-class in handling it, because I have what many good greenkeepers need, a chairman whose care prevents me from jumping at conclusions or thinking that I "know it all." I don't bother him with any of the details of the job, neither do I go wildly into any major work on the course without talking it over with him.

If I had to tell in just three words why the boss and I get along together, I'd say: "Attention, understanding, action."

## GOOD OF THE GAME FIRST AND ALWAYS

*L*ACK of co-operation between the professional and the greenkeeper puts a penalty on both of them.

Where there is a well-kept golf course, invariably you will find more business in the pro shop, especially when it is known the pro takes a real golfing interest in the course.

The pro should not forget that first, last, and all the time he is serving the game of golf. Almost everything he does is, in this day, keenly observed, and upon his conduct and his methods depend the welfare not only of himself but of the game of which he is the outstanding representative.

When this duty and responsibility becomes more fully recognized by the boys, then there will be no cause for some of the criticism of the present time.

ALEX. PIRIE.

President, P. G. A. of America.

# Golfdom Buyers' Guide

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Editor  
HERB GRAFFIS

Eastern Representative  
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