

The year was a difficult one for many greenkeepers — the summer was dry and those with no fairway irrigation (the vast majority) found their golf courses very brown and there was real concern with perennial weeds taking a firmer hold, especially the dandelions. The summer also presented problems with sod webworms, cutworms, sunscald and considerable brown

patch, but apparently most were satisfied that control measures available in 1937 were sufficient to keep putting greens in good condition.

The annual short course for greenkeepers was a strong tradition by now. Read what Norman C. Johnson of the Medinah Country Club in suburban Chicago wrote about the 1938 short course:



1939 WGA meeting at Waupaca Country Club.

WISCONSIN SHORT COURSE

A Short Course for Greenkeepers was held at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, on March 7, 8 and 9. The good attendance shows the great interest taken by greenkeepers to gain further knowledge on the latest developments in turf maintenance.

The registration office was open at 11 A.M. and by noon, the book showed 58 names.

At 1:30 the sessions began, with Professor Moore as chairman. Professor Emil Truog of the Soils Department was presented and he gave a very interesting talk on "The Fundamental Basis of Fertilization," including a laboratory demonstration.

O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, gave a splendid talk on his personal experiences with rapid soil tests and their advantages and limitations. Due to the fact that so many of us are just a little uncertain on soil testing and its limitations, it did make an impression on *how* and *when*.

C. R. Zeasman followed with "How to Locate and Lay Tile," with a black-board illustration, I venture to say there were plenty taking notes during his explanations, for this is a subject concerning the foundation of every good golf course.

On Tuesday our forenoon session began at 8:30 with a talk "Bacteria in the Soil—What They Are and What They Do." This was given by Perry Wilson of the Bacteriology Department, and was illustrated with slides.

T. C. Allen, Department of Economic Entomology, followed with "Arsenicals—Their Properties and Differences." At this time literature was passed out to the students—"A Table of Arsenical Poisons and Their Relative Merits."

Dr. John Monteith gave us a very interesting talk on "Latest Developments

in the Control of Turf Diseases." His subject was brought out very clearly by the use of slides taken from various courses throughout the country.

Our morning session ended with an address by O. J. Noer on "Pertinent Observations and Comments on Turf Problems of 1937." In all of these talks time was allotted for their classes to ask questions, which were answered very efficiently by the speakers.

The afternoon session was in the Horticultural Building, as were those previous, and started off with "Special Grasses for Use on Golf Courses" by Dr. Monteith. The class derived a great deal of knowledge from this talk.

The next speaker of the afternoon was Herb Graffis, Editor of "Golfdom." Mr. Graffis' address was "How Can Officials and Players Be Educated as to the Best Greenkeeping Practices." This vital subject was to my estimation directed to the individual greenkeeper, and to those of us who were present, let us all reserve a little space in our cerebrum for this advice. It will have a great deal to do with our profession as a greenkeeper.

A very interesting topic given by Professor Moore on "The Pruning Problems of the Greenkeeper," was discussed freely and many questions answered in the short period that Professor Moore had allotted himself.

"Our Experiences in the Proper Cut of Greens for Best Play and Maintenance" was the subject of round table discussion. Those participating were Ray Gerber, Glen Oak CC, Glen Ellyn, Ill.; A. A. Germann, Naperville CC, Naperville, Ill.; John Bone, Blackhawk CC, Madison, Wis.; and Ray Rolfs, North Hills CC, Menomonee Falls, Wis.

After much discussion the class was adjourned until 6:00 P.M. when we

met at the Wisconsin Union to delve into the subject of Atrophy. The important topic of the evening was southern baked ham assisted by scalloped potatoes, salad, vegetables, pie and coffee. After the subject was well taken care of Professor Moore introduced Mr. Sanborn, a member of the Conservation Commission of Wisconsin. He spoke to us briefly on what the Conservation Commission consists of, and proceeded to take us on a journey through the Wisconsin wilds by way of a motion picture camera. It was all very enjoyable and educational.

"The Use and Abuse of Watering Systems on Golf Courses" was the first topic on the Wednesday program. Dr. Monteith covered this subject very well and brought out many good points to remember.

O. J. Noer presented an interesting slant on "Meeting the Seepage Problem," which also included tiling problems.

Harold Clemens, Sunset Ridge CC, Northbrook, Ill. followed with "My Experience with Poling," which brought forth a great deal of discussion on the benefits of brushing greens in the spring.

M. P. Christensen of the Jacobson Mfg. Co. gave the class first hand knowledge on "Golf Course Mowers and Their Maintenance."

A. L. Stone of the Department of Agronomy closed the meeting with an interesting talk on "Dandelions, Chickweed and Crab Grass." Literature was available concerning weeds and their control methods.

And to those who gave us their time and knowledge, we wish to express thanks and our sincere appreciation for their fine work.

—Norman C. Johnson,
Medinah Country Club, Medinah, Ill.