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Bonnie View Golf Course	Arlington, Va.	Farmington Country Club
Baltimore, Md.		Charlottesville, Va.

## T U R F   N E W S   L E T T E R

(Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents  
Prepared in Cooperation with the USGA Green Section)

### THE COUNTRY CLUB OF VIRGINIA MEETING

May 5, 1953

The May meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at The Country Club of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia. Despite the weatherman's predictions for showers we had a fine attendance of 38 members and guests, and the rains came after the final putt for the day. The boys in the Mid-Atlantic must just live right. Hosts for the day were Mr. Charles Luck, Jr., President; Mr. Harry Easterly, Jr., Green Chairman; and Mr. Tom Dawson, Superintendent. Guests introduced were Mr. Charles Hunter, Pro from Havana, Cuba; Mr. Austin Sydnor, Richmond, Va.; Sgt. Bud Bush from Quantico; Major Jednoff, Quantico's Golf Chairman; and Mr. Jack Rogers, who is associated with the East Potomac Course.

#### BUSINESS MEETING

President Jim Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Charlie Schalestock read the minutes of the last meeting and gave the Treasurer's report - both were approved as read. Jim thanked our hosts for the splendid day, right from the first tee to the strawberry sundae.

Bob Shields gave the report of the Education and Policy Committee by stating that the new By-Laws will soon be ready for their debut. Bob also reminded us that this will be the final call for those who are interested in participating in the Zoysia Seeding Projects to get their names into his Committee. Following this report Bob again explained why the Education and Policy Committee feels that for the good of the Association we should pay for our meals. A motion was then made and carried that from now on the policy of our Association will be to pay for our meals at our monthly meeting.

Carl Senseman of the Golf Committee reported that 19 members had played the sporty James River layout for a fine day of golf. The results for the days tournament were as follows: Jim Reynolds 70; Ernie Stanley 72; Charlie Schalestock 72; John Lovell 72; Charlie Hunter 72; and George Cornell 72. The Golf Committee desires that all members wishing to compete in the field day of Golf to be held at the Manor Club in October must attend and compete in at least three meetings in order to receive handicaps.

Mr. Charles Luck, Jr., President of the Country Club of Virginia, presented a very interesting talk discussing the progressive program they have put into operation in the past few years to improve their courses and to stimulate interest in the game. This program includes the expanding of bermudagrasses in the fairways and tees, and overseeding with rye; and extensive fertilizing program;

improved drainage conditions; rebuilding several greens and incorporating the improved strains of bents into these; and the addition of new equipment. Mr. Luck attributes the success of this program to the improved maintenance and cultural practices, and most important to the fine coordination and cooperation between the Superintendents and the Green Committee. This is the key to operating and maintaining a championship course.

### CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT

Al Radko, Acting Eastern Director of the USGA Green Section, expressed his pleasure in being able to attend this meeting, and thanked our hosts for their true Southern hospitality. In opening the discussion Al expressed the opinion of the group by saying that the course was groomed to perfection, and congratulated Tom Dawson for the fine job he has done in the year that he has been superintendent of this course.

#### Tees

The tees were large enough, well turfed, cut short, level, and played well. The turf on sunny tees was predominantly bermuda and ryegrass. The only suggestion for possible improvement is on the shady tees. The absence of bermudagrass on the shady tees was quite noticeable and it was suggested that Tom use some of his zoysia nursery stock on these shady tees - to afford the same type of combination turf found on the sunny tees. Zoysia is more shade tolerant than bermudagrass and should do well on tees such as #10.

#### Nursery

Tom has a nice nursery of C-7 sod which can easily be expanded to conform with the constructive suggestions made by the Association. The common zoysia nursery will supply plenty of material to sod the shade tees as suggested.

#### Fairways

The bermudagrass base overseeded with annual rye adds to the wellgroomed look of the course, and provides a perfect lie on every shot. We played summer rules even after so wet a spring - and there wasn't a person who complained about a lie at anytime. The rye-bermuda combination turf was beautiful to play from - tight and pleasing in appearance.

#### Greens

Our hosts agreed that their main concern at present is to improve the condition of their greens. The present greens are many years old and have had a good deal of hard play. It is the consensus of opinion that bents on putting greens have a life cycle, and that after so many years drastic steps must be taken to rejuvenate the soil beneath the putting surface to start the life cycle over again. To begin the renovating program the selection of the proper strain of bentgrass is most important. (Based on the performance of C-7 in the Richmond area Cohansey bent is best adapted to this particular course). C-7 is virorous, it is not grainy in character, and provides a true putting surface. The program calls for the renovation of three greens each year. The first step is to expand the present sod nursery of C-7 providing the same soil conditions for the nursery as have been provided on the greens. Once the sod nursery of C-7 is well established the bent sod on the greens to be renovated will be stripped off (using a power sod cutter if available) and the soil rejuvenated by adding the proper physical ingredients; and by cultivation. The

new C-7 sod should then be laid, and the new green will be in play within a short time.

In the meanwhile, what is to be done about the other 15 greens? It is recommended that at present they should receive a moderate and continuous combing with a Delmonte rake to help eliminate the graininess and thatch build-up. They should be mowed at 3/16-inch a minimum of every other day, and within the next two weeks they should receive 2 pounds of nitrogen to each 1,000 square feet. This 2-pound compliment should be made up by two or three different applications. A light aeration program throughout the year will also prove beneficial in reducing the thatch layer. Several vigorous aerations in Spring and Fall would be of considerable value.

We hope these suggestions will be of help to you, and this Association stands ready to assist you in any way at any time, if necessary.

#### COMING EVENTS

June 2 - Five Farms, Baltimore Country Club, Baltimore, Maryland  
Host Superintendent, Robert Scott, Sr.

June 3 - Hercules Country Club, Wilmington, Delaware  
Host Superintendent, Frank Tull.  
(This is a joint meeting between the Philadelphia Association and the New Jersey Group.) Mid-Atlantic members are extended an invitation.

July 7 - Fountainhead Country Club, Hagerstown, Maryland  
Host Superintendent, C. W. Lindsay.

#### Requires Action

We have no meeting places for the September or November dates. If you desire to have a meeting held at your course on either September 8 or November 3 please contact President Jim Thomas.

#### GOOD READING

The USGA's book "Turf Management" by H. B. Musser. A practical and authoratative guide to the development of golf course turfs and other large lawn areas. Copies available from the Green Section \$7.00 per copy.

CAA's booklet "Airport Turfing" - June, 1949 available from Gov't. Printing Office, price 25¢.

"A Study of Spray Machines in Connecticut Orchards" - Bulletin 567 available from the Connecticut Agricultural Expt. Station, New Haven, Conn.

"The Heart of America Golf Course Superintendents Association Turf News, April, 1953"

"The first four months of 1953 have passed and the golf course superintendent is now aware of the problems he has to meet for the balance of the year.

"Golf course laborers are difficult to find due to the competition of industry and the defense plants. Higher rates of pay are demanded by the men who are available and they do not want to work on week-ends. It is going to take all of the administrative ability a superintendent can muster to keep a full crew for the season.

"The increased cost of labor, repair parts and supplies are going to make it difficult for a superintendent to maintain a high standard of maintenance and stay within the average budget. This is where the keeping of accurate cost records will pay off. The golf course superintendent must know where he stands at the end of each month, so that he can schedule his expenditures so as not to run short of funds before the end of the fiscal year. He will have to use his power driven equipment whenever and wherever he can. He must take good care of this equipment as time lost by breakdowns will be harder to regain.

"It will be necessary to use all the knowledge he has obtained at turf conferences and from his own experience to make use of the new and old chemicals, materials and cultural practices for the control of weeds, insects and disease.

"A golf course superintendent will need the co-operation of the players and the caddies. Players and caddies can save many hours of golf course labor by replacing divots, smoothing their own foot prints in sand traps, and repairing their ball marks on the greens. They can help keep the course clean by depositing paper and soft drink containers in the receptacles provided for that purpose. The help the players and the caddies give the golf course superintendent will not only aid in the economical maintenance of the golf course, but it is also good sportmanship to the following players.

"Man's memory is short, and we will be judged at the end of the 1953 season, not by our problems, but by how well we did the job."

#### KNOW YOUR HOST

Bob Scott, Sr. is our host for the June meeting at Five Farms. Bob has been a member of this Association as long as anyone has. He was one of the first to recognize the need for an association of Golf Course Superintendents 25 years ago when this group was formed. Through the years Bob has done much to advance our profession through the use of good judgement and dignity and any young man seeking the road to success would do well to follow in his footsteps. In fact Bob's son, Bob, Jr. is doing just that and now after several years work under his Dad is a full pledged golf course Superintendent in charge of Bonnie View Golf Course in Baltimore and is vice president of this association.

To mention one of the Scott brothers without naming all of them is almost impossible. Bill was the first to leave the family home in Galston, Scotland to come to America. A couple of years later, in 1912, he returned and brought Bob over. Bob went back and got Dick around 1920. Bill went over again in the 30's intending to bring Dave back with him but his father put his foot down and said "Will, you had better leave one of the boys here with me." Dave is still there and is in charge of the famous Preswick Airdrome. We had the pleasure of meeting him in 1949 when he attended one of our monthly meetings.

Bill is Pro at Baltimore Country Club and has been for 40 years. Dick has been Superintendent at Rolling Road since 1922.

Bob began his golf course experience in England under James Braid. After coming to this country in 1912 he worked in golf course construction work in Mich., Ill, and New Jersey under golf course architects Herbert Strong, Willy Park and A. W. Tillinghost who laid out Five Farms. He was at one time a Pro-Greenkeeper in N. Y. state and is still a very good golfer - ask Mr. Hines.

Bob came to Baltimore in 1921 to remodel the Roland Park Course and did such a good job he decided to stay as Greenkeeper so he could admire his work every day. He built Five Farms for Baltimore Country Club in 1926-1927 and we will all have an opportunity to admire his work when we paly there June 2nd. for this is truely one of the best courses in the Mid-Atlantic area.

He is a charter member of this Association and has hald every office more than twice. At one time he was Vice president of the National Association and played a big part in bringing that group to Washington in 1937 for its annual convention.

NEXT MEETING

Place: Five Farms, Baltimore Country Club, Baltimore, Md.

Date: June 2, 1953

Time: Golf - 12:00 noon  
Dinner - 6:30 p.m.

Speaker: Guest speaker for the ocaasion will be our old friend Mr. O. J. Noer. We therefore have our guaranty of a fine program - so let's have a record turnout for such an outstanding turf personality.

Bill is Pro of Baltimore Country Club and has been for 40 years. Dick has been Superintendent at Rolling Road since 1922.

Bob began his golf course experience in England under James Heath. After coming to this country in 1912 he worked in golf course construction work in Michigan, Ill., and New Jersey under golf course architect Harold Herring. He was at one time with Park and A. J. Williamson who laid out five courses. He was at one time a Pro-Greenkeeper in N. Y. State and is still a very good golfer - ask Mr. Hines.

Bob came to Baltimore in 1921 to remodel the Roland Park Course and this such a good job he decided to stay as Greenkeeper so he could admire his work every day. He built five farms for Baltimore Country Club in 1926-1927 and will still have an opportunity to admire his work when we pay there June 2nd. For this is truly one of the best courses in the 120-130 acre area.

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WEST MEETING

Place:	Five Farms, Baltimore Country Club, Baltimore, Md.
Date:	June 2, 1928
Time:	Golf - 12:00 noon Dinner - 6:30 P.M.
Speakers:	Guest speaker for the occasion will be our old friend Mr. O. J. Hoot. He himself has our courtesy of a fine program - so let's have a record turnout for such an outstanding and personally.