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Bonnie View Golf Course
Baltimore, Md.

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

THE COLUMBIA MEETING
April 9, 1954

The April meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at Columbia Country Club, Chevy Chase, Maryland. Judging from the excellent turnout, the warm spring day put new life into some of the old bones for another year. There was a record attendance of 72 members and guests and they were greeted by our hosts -- Mr. Dick Essex, Green Committee Chairman; and Mr. Ernest Morgal, Superintendent. Guests introduced were: Messrs. Bill Winslow, Dick Melbourne, and Frank Waller, Green Committeemen, Columbia Country Club; Mr. Fred Brown, W.W. Grinder Corporation, Norfolk, Virginia; Mr. Joe Leo, Kenneth Square, Pennsylvania; Roger Peacock; Major Jednoff, Quantico's Golf Chair man; Commander Coolidge, Patuxent Air Station; Mr. Hugh Gordon, Pro, Richmond, Virginia; George Bigham and Sergeant Pickett, Fort Belvoir, Virginia; Al Sepulveda, Assistant Green Committee Chairman, and Wayne McKee, Golf Chairman, both of the Bethesda Country Club; Pat Sheridan, Superintendent, White Flint Golf Course; Paul Boizelle, Annapolis Roads Club; Messrs. Boyd Cummings, F.F. Crissy, Ralph Seville and George Smith, Martinsburg, West Virginia; and Bob Elder, representative of the USGA Green Section.

We were very much pleased to see so many green committeemen and other club representatives present at this meeting, and we extend to you our heartiest welcome. We hope we will see you at all of our future meetings.

Again, as always, our Columbia meeting was most enjoyable. It was at the Columbia Country Club in 1928 that our organization had its beginning, and Columbia has continued to be one of our staunchest supporters through the years. Again, our sincere thanks to Dick Essex, Ernest Morgal, and other officials for their wonderful hospitality.

Business Meeting

President Jim Thomas called the meeting to order. Bob Scott, Jr., read the minutes of the last meeting and then gave the treasurer's report. Both the minutes and the treasurer's report were approved as read.

Bob next read letters from Dick Tufts, Leonard Strong and Norm Johnson thanking us for their complimentary membership cards. Letters were received also from Charlie Wilson and Herb Graffis, thanking us for their honorary membership cards.

Bob Shields gave the Executive Committee report, stating the items discussed at the last meeting as follows:

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1. It was concluded that all persons who were in the Organization in 1928 and 1929 shall be considered life members.

2. The new By-laws booklet is to be published in the near future.

3. The Executive Committee submitted the Name of Dr. Warren Shaw to the National Policy Committee as a possible speaker at the St. Louis Meeting. Dr. Shaw is in charge of the Weed Investigation Division at Beltsville and has talked at several of our local meetings.

In the order of new business, two new committees were appointed :
(1) a Flower Committee, with Hugh Mc Rae, Washington representative; Bob Scott, Baltimore, Tom Dawson, Richmond; and James Seacrist, Hagerstown area; and (2) an Entertainment Committee, to make preparations for our ladies' night to be held some time this fall -- Hugh McRae acting as chairman.

A motion was passed appropriating \$100 as our share of the expenses for the joint meeting to be held at the Prince George's Country Club, June 14, 1954. This meeting includes professional golfers, superintendents, green committee chairmen, club managers, and all other interested club officials. A motion also was passed appropriating \$100 to the Research and Education Fund of the United States Golf Association.

Jim Thomas next introduced our distinguished guest for the evening, Mr. Dan Sheehan of the National Golf Foundation, and asked him to say a few words explaining the purpose of his organization. Dan began by explaining that the National Golf Foundation is a non-profit organization sponsored by golf and golf course equipment companies. The Foundation has two main objectives: to promote golf, and to promote and improve golf course facilities throughout the nation. He pointed out that there are 52 new courses in the United States, 109 in construction, and 225 in the planning stage. These figures indicate the tremendous potential for superintendents' positions and equipment sales. The Golf Foundation assists this trend for new golf facilities by sending to interested parties literature explaining golf course construction and cost of operation. In closing, Dan requested the assistance of our organization and others like us throughout the country to serve in an advisory capacity in assisting persons interested in the development of golf and golf courses.

Constructive Suggestion Report

At our last Columbia meeting, which was held in October 1952, a long-range improvement program was set up. It was suggested that a progress report be given at this time on the long-range program rather than another constructive suggestion report. It was recommended that one or two of the poorer greens be established with a cover of C-1 and C-19. At present the alternate green on No. 1 has been prepared for stolonizing this spring. The area is first to be Dowfumed (methylbromide) to sterilize the stolon bed. The stolens are to be taken from the new turf nursery, which was also recommended to be established. The new nursery includes the improved strains of S-1 and C-19 bents, U-3 bermudagrass, and zoysia. There is also a nursery of seedling trees which will be used for lining the fairways in the future. It was pointed out at this meeting that there is a mat development on many of the greens. The Club has just purchased a vertical mowing machine which they intend to use immediately in a program to eliminate

the excess mat. They also intend to use aerating devices in this program to assist in developing deeper root systems, improve drainage, and increase air and water-holding capacity.

Tees

Tees Nos. 5, 10, 11, 13 and 17 are being enlarged and resodded at the present time. Native bermudas, taken from roughs and fairway areas, and U-3 bermuda taken from the nursery, are to be strip-sodded into the sunny tees. When the zoysia is available from the nursery it is to be incorporated into the moderately-shaded tees. A stepped-up fertilization program is recommended on the areas where warm-season grasses are planted to produce more rapid cover.

Fairways

Native bermudas and U-3 bermuda should be strip-sodded and plugged into the fairways. It was suggested that the tee shot landing areas and approaches be concentrated on for establishment at first, then expanded from these areas to the rest of the fairways.

Coming Events

May 4, Talbot Country Club, host Superintendent, Joe Reposki, Easton, Maryland

June 14, Joint Meeting of Mid-Atlantic P.G.A., Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Club Managers and Club Officials. Prince George's Country Club, Admiral Jack Phillips will be the Master of Ceremonies, and our guest speaker will be Dr. Fred Grau. His subject will be "The Evolution of Turf Grass Culture". We are sure this meeting will be one of our finest, and prove most beneficial to all concerned. Let's have an all out turn out for a wonderful time.

Special Announcement

Tom Dawson, (Tiny Tom), Country Club of Virginia, Richmond Virginia, has been appointed to the Publicity Committee of the National Association of Golf Course Superintendents of America Association. Congratulation, Tom!

Gentlemen, we have a writing celebrity in our midst- The very fine and timely article by Jim Reid in the March issue of Golfdom on " Responsibility, Respect, Rights of the Superintendent - 3R's. "

Address Changes

Has your address changed? Would you like to receive your Turf News Letter at another address? Any changes or corrections should be sent to Bob Shields, Woodmont Country Club, Rockville, Maryland

REGRETS---We are sorry to have to report that Dick Watson is in the hospital as a result of injuries received from a fall from a ladder. Dick was gathering ivy from the side of his house for a friend when the ladder broke. The accident left him with internal injuries and most severe pain, but no broken bones. We extend our regrets and sympathies, Dick, and our combined wishes for a speedy recovery.