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T U R F N E W S L E T T E R  
( Official Organ of Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents )

#### THE PRINCE GEORGES JOINT MEETING

Monday, June 14th, again found our group on the wrong side of the fence weatherwise. This time it was heat and high humidity. However, 171 undaunted chairmen, managers, professionals and superintendents laughed at the weatherman, and teed off for a day of competitive and enjoyable golf. Approximately 200 were present for dinner.

Several members of our Association found the course much to their liking, and took home their share of the "bacon". Our star performers were: John Connolly of Fairfax, Neil Holnead of National Capital Toro Company, Ed Myerly of the Baltimore Park Department, Pat Sheridan of White Flint, and Jim Reynolds of Monacan Hills, Richmond. In addition to these, several of our guests were prize winners. Their names are not available.

In the evening, after we all had consumed one of Prince Georges' fine roast beef dinners, our Toastmaster for the occasion, Admiral John S. Phillips, opened the meeting. He first called on Mr. Cliff Eisle, the President and co-owner of the club, who welcomed and greeted us all in the name of Prince Georges Country Club. Next presented were: Mr. Ray Lawrence, President of District of Columbia Golf Association; and Mr. Al Radko, Northeast Director of the USGA Green Section, Mr. Dave Halle and Mr. L.B. Peterson, respective Presidents of the Maryland and Virginia State Golf Associations sent their regrets for being unable to attend. Next, Admiral Phillips introduced our old friend, Dr. Fred V. Grau, the principal speaker of the evening. A few apt remarks described the Doctor's outstanding background.

Dr. Grau's subject was "Turfgrasses". The Doctor stressed the value of harmony, co-operation and close relationship between the superintendent and club officials. He emphasized how important and necessary sensible water management was in the growing of fine turf, what a useful grass Bermuda was in this particular area, when used as a turfgrass cover for tees and fairways ( he called attention to the fact the Al Houghton, Prince Georges Professional, was one of the early advocates for it's use locally ), also how necessary good equipment was in the overall picture, plus the importance of keeping machinery in first class working condition and repair. He stressed the importance of overall efficient golf course management, for without such, less than mediocre results are obtained.

All of this was illustrated with the aid of slides. One picture showed how too much water on a tee has caused it to be a mudhole devoid of all grass coverage. Another slide presented an outstanding patch of green Bermuda turf on the tenth fairway at Prince Georges during a period of

extreme drouth. Other illustrations clearly pictured the proper use and purpose of modern machinery and equipment on golf courses.

As usual, all enjoyed and appreciated Dr. Grau's timely and instructive message. We hope that he will soon be with us again. Likewise, it was nice to have had the opportunity of playing golf and dining with the rest of our official golf family and co-workers. The initial attendance for a meeting of this kind was large and shows that the idea struck a responsive chord. Let's get together, iron out the kinks, and make it an annual affair.

A few words concerning the appearance of the Prince Georges Golf Course. Dr. Grau commented: that he had never seen the layout in better condition. As a tribute to Cliff Eisle, the following quotation of Elihu Burritt covers the situation perfectly:

" All that I have accomplished, or expect or hope to accomplish, has been and will be by that plodding, patient persevering process of accretion which builds the ant heap- particle by particle, thought by thought, fact by fact. "

Much has been accomplished at Prince Georges during the last few years. Open ditches have been tiled and covered over. Drainage has been improved. Greens rebuilt. Tees enlarged and planted to U-3 Bermuda; and how those fertilized fairways stand out with their sweeping lines as a result of contour mowing. Cliff, along with Andrew Sweeney and Bill Compton have done an outstanding job. One to be proud of.

#### THIS AND THAT

Jack Harper informs us that there soon will be a good harvest of Zoysia seed at the Beltsville Station. He has no way of handling the crop himself, and will give it to anyone willing to do the work. If interested, contact Jack at the Plant Industry Station.

Hugh McRae, Flower Committee Chairman, reports that Redge Giddings has been hospitalized due to a hernia operation. Redge is a charter member, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

Walter Cosby of Greenbriar, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia was a surprise visitor at the meeting. Walter is a former Prexy of the Mid-Atlantic, and at one time was superintendent at Army Navy Country Club. He was on his way to the National Open at the Baltusrol Country Club to attend a meeting of the USGA Green Section Committee, of which he is member.

The Shields brothers, Ray, Bob and Roy have suffered a bereavement in the death of their Mother at Akron, Ohio. The Association expresses deep sympathy.

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OUR NEXT MEETING

Teusday, July 13th, 1954  
Cedar Point Golf Club  
Patuxent Naval Air Base  
Patuxent River, Maryland.  
Golf at High Noon  
Dinner: 6 P.M.  
Host Superintendent- Bill Schrieber

Directions:-

From Washington, follow Penna Ave south to Branch Ave, which becomes Maryland Route 5 at the D.C. Line. Follow Route 5 to Junction 235. Left on 235 to Naval Air Station, Main Gate. After entering, stay on entrance road to Officers Club and golf course- about 3 miles from gate.

From Baltimore, take U.S. 301 to Waldorf and turn left on Md. route 5 to junction 235. Left on 235 to Air Station Main Gate.