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TURF NEWS LETTER

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

The Easton Meeting May 4, 1954

Tuesday, May 4th , found some forty members and guests of the Mid-Atlantic on their way to the Talbot Country Club, Easton, Maryland.

We were welcomed to the Eastern Shore by our host Pro-Superintendent, Mr. Joe Reposkey, and the following Talbot Country Club officials: Mr. Phillip J. Hopkins, Mr. James Kreeger, Jr., and Mr. Ralph Townsend.

Our hosts entertained us royally and the day was enjoyed by all, even though the weatherman was unkind to us. Hard rains prior to our arrival left the fairways heavy and water logged. This condition made golf playing very difficult but enjoyable never the less.

The clubs of the Eastern Shore were well represented at the meeting. We hope that they can visit with more often in the future, as the new Bay Bridge puts us all within easy reach of one another.

Our visitors were: Chestertown; Captain Harry Derringer and Mr. J.C. Jones. Seaford; Superintendent Redge Giddings and his assistant Mr. Ronnie Wollaston. Pocomoke City; Mr. J. Coffman and Mr. Robey Small. Also as visitors; Mr. Sam Hemming, Horticulturist, Eastern Shore Nursery. Mr. John McGregor, representative of the Jacobsen Mower Company. Mr. Paul Weiss, Jr., Superintendent of the Sparrows Point Golf Club, Baltimore, Md. Mr. Ralph Seville, Martinsburg, West Virginia, Mr. Allen Harmon, Patuxent Naval Base.

We were also honored by the presence of Mr. Warren Bidwell, Superintendent, Seaview Country Club, Absecon, New Jersey. Warren is the immediate past President of the Philadelphia Superintendents Association. He gave us a brief resume of the recent Memorial Testimonial Day held at the Springhaven Country Club in honor of their deceased Superintendent, Thomas E. Dougherty. The latter's many friends in the Mid-Atlantic will miss him very much.

Mr. Bidwell also represents the National Association. He heads a committee that is searching for maintenance equipment of a historical nature for placement in the USGA Golf House. Should you know of any antique machinery, he would appreciate hearing from you. Also, he desires photographs pertaining to golf course activities for publication in the Golf Course Reporter.

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Business Meeting

Committee reports:

Hugh McRae, of the Flower Committee, was able to tell us that " Dick " Watson of Chevy Chase was out of the hospital and able to make his daily rounds again. Dick proved this by attending the Executive Committee meeting at Beltsville.

Red Hancock, reporting for golf, was able to secure twenty-two participants in a blind bogey event. George Cornell led the field with a low gross of 77. All winners in the event donated their prize money to the Association. A motion was made and carried that this money be placed in a special fund for our coming ladies entertainment night.

The Membership Committee headed by Jim Reid proposed for membership: Howard "Pat" Sheridan of White Flint Golf Course, and George Smith of Martinsburg, West Virginia. Both were accepted, and we welcome them to the fold.

The Chair appointed a new Education and Program Committee to be headed by "Bob" Scott, Sr. with Ruben Hines and Tom Dawson as members. These three will take care of the Constructive Suggestion Reports. They will welcome your help and assistance. One of our most valuable contributions to golf in this area are these reports. Let's keep them on the usual high plane.

Constructive Suggestion Report

This panel discussion was led by Mr. Robert Scott, Sr. The following conclusions were arrived at, and made as recommendations. First: the greens would be greatly benefitted through the use of a vertical mower. This would relieve thatch, grain and coarseness. Then followed by a light topdressing, the mixture to be composed of 1/3 sharp sand, 1/3 top soil, and 1/3 humus. These materials should be thoroughly mixed and screened through a 1/4 inch mesh. Earthworm control can be obtained by the use of a forty or fifty percent wetttable chlordane powder applied at the manufacturer's recommendations. The powder should be washed in weel. The application of a good grade of commercial fertilizer would also be of great benefit. This should be made at the rate of twenty pounds for thousand square feet, and well watered afterwards. A 10-6-4 ratio fertilizer would be good.

Tees: The spreading of native Barmuda grasses should be encouraged through summer fertilization. A high nitrogen carrier should be used. Also, the planting of U03 Barmuda is advisable. A nursery of the latter could be established for future use.

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Fairways: An application of 2, 4-D over all fairways and roughs for the eliminations of coarse and broad leaf weeds would improve the appearance of the property.

The course could be made more interesting to play and pleasing to the eye by contour mowing. The present number six fairway is an example of what is meant. This would create more variety for second round play from different tee locations.

Fall feeding of all fairways is desirable, and perhaps an application of Dolomitic limestone should a soil test show the need for it.

New number six green; have tile drainage empty into ditch at the left of the green, as it appears to have a good fall. Cover tile lines with a good coarse material to the sub-grade level. Top soil should contain fifty percent of concrete sand and be well mixed to a minimum depth of eight inches. A good strain of Bent grass should be planted, preferably C-1 and C-19 in equal proportions.

Next Meeting

Our next gathering will be a joint meeting with the Mid-Atlantic PGA, Managers and Club Officials. There will be golf, a dinner, and a timely talk by our old friend Dr. Fred V. Grau, Admiral John S. Phillips will officiate as Master of Ceremony.

Monday, June 14th, 1954 at the Prince George Country Club, is the time and place. LET'S ALL BE PRESENT AND BRING ALONG OUR CLUB OFFICIALS, PROS AND MANAGERS. WE WANT THIS OCCASION TO BE A SUCCESS AND AN ANNUAL AFFAIR.

DATE- Monday June 14th

Please notice the day is Monday- not Tuesday as in the past

Time- Golf 12 noon

Dinner 6 p.m.

Place- Prince George Golf and Country Club, Landover, Maryland

Speaker- Dr. Fred V. Grau

Transportation

George Cornell and Bob Holmead for the Washington area and Jack Witcher of Baltimore who make up part of the transportation committee are looking for riders. Contact one of them and leave your car at home- it's much more fun.

BRING YOUR CLUB OFFICIALS