

great strides in the last few years and urged those present to continue to strive for better turf through better superintendents.

CONSTRUCTIVE SUGGESTION REPORT . This discussion period of the meeting was led by Committee Chairman Bob Shields acting as moderator. Starting with the usual procedure of greens first, the problem of Poa Annua in greens came up immediately since this grass shows up with a light color at this time of year. Mr. Dunlap stated the Poa had been in the greens a long time and up until last year had never been a real problem because there was enough bent to take over when the Poa went out. This situation seemed to prevail in most of the Mid-Atlantic area. When Poa Annua is with us it's good and when it has lived its life cycle and is gone it's very bad. So we are back to the old question - is it " Friend or Foe "? - brought up by Dr. Fred Grau nearly 20 years ago and never really answered. Discussion of ways to keep it out of greens brought out these points: 1. Don't expose the soil at Poa germination time by aerating. 2. Try to keep seed from the collar area from getting into the green by removing collar clippings. 3. Plug it out with the cup cutter and relace with bent sod from the nursery. An idea once mentioned but not fully tested is to spray the green with DSMA or PMA when Poa is germinating. The theory is that since these chemicals will kill seedlings it might kill the young Poa Annua. ( Editor's Note : Better try this on the nursery first. ) There was much more discussion on the problem of Poa Annua with no final conclusions reached. For further reading on the subject we refer you to any turfgrass publication. They all carry articles on Poa. When fairways were mentioned, U-3 bermuda grass came up again but since this subject was covered rather extensively at the Norbeck meeting and in the May issue of the "NEWSLETTER" the Moderator closed the discussion.

MORE ON U-3. Received too late for the May " NEWSLETTER " was the following letter from Mr. P.W. Le Duc of Argyle Country Club commenting on the use of U-3 bermuda for fairways: " Sorry to have delayed in answering your letter and your question regarding the use of bermuda grass in fairways at Argyle Country Club. The project has been discussed pro and con at our club for a number of years. Sometime back a number of our Directors overheard a discussion on the use of the grass in this section between Jack Phillips and myself. Jack, you know, was a staunch advocate for bermuda and started introducing it at the Army-Navy Country Club sometime ago. I have been afraid of the use of bermuda because of the possibility of the cycle of cold winters returning, such as Washington used to have prior to the 1920's. There was no local bermuda around Washington, to speak of, at that time. For a number of years after I had built the Argyle course I was able to keep our fairways in good shape by cutting the blue grass at a height of 1-1/4" to 1-1/2". However, about four years ago, due to the pressure of our better golfers, we reduced the cut to less than an inch with the result that the blue grass and Fescue have gradually gone out letting the Poa Annua come in. After seeing some of the nice fairways of bermuda at some of the other courses, particularly #18 at Burning Tree, our Directors felt that we should follow the trend. I have finally agreed to it in view of the fact that some of the strains are being used successfully as far north as Philadelphia. Also, by using the method you described at the Baltimore Turf Conference for introducing the stolens, costs can be kept low. " - Percy W. Le Duc.

IN THE MAIL . To the Members of Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association : " It is hard to express to you how much it has meant to me to be able to enjoy the wonderful floral arrangement sent to me here at the hospital. Everyone enjoyed the freshness and the beauty of the flowers. My thanks to each and everyone of you. I've had visits from Jim and Ruth Thomas, Frank Dunlap and Jim Reid, calls from Dick Watson, Bill Wright and Bob Shields. I've talked with Bob Adams and George Cornell. The attention has been very good for my morale. After nearly losing my left leg to a vascular collapse following

surgery on April 11, and after a urinary tract infection a week later, I've made steady progress. Now I'm disgustingly healthy, just lying flat to let my backbone heal ( spinal bone graft ). My cast goes on May 5 - then 2 months I can lie or stand with crutches ( can't sit ). After that I expect to be able to play golf again. Thanks again to all of you for your thoughts and expressions."Sincerely - Fred Grau.

Fred says he will be in the hospital until Mid-July and we are certain he would like to hear from you. His mailing address is : National Orthopedic Hospital, Room C-15 , Wakefield Annex, Arlington, 6, Va. The phone number is OTis 4-6700 and visiting hours are 2-3 and 7-8.

EMPLOYMENT OPENINGS . Glenn Dale Golf Club at Glenn Dale, Maryland is in need of a superintendent to maintain their 18-hole golf course. Contact Ray Shields at the club or Phone Cedar - 6- 6666.

Paul Weiss, Jr. has left Sparrows Point Country Club and has accepted the position of superintendent at Shawnee-On-The-Delaware in Pennsylvania. Sparrows Point is in need of a superintendent and asks those interested to contact : Thomas K. Lankford, Assistant to General Manager, Sparrows Point Division, Bethlehem Steel Corp., Sparrows Point, Md.

CHANGING JOBS . In every issue of the Mid-Atlantic " NEWSLETTER " there are notices of job openings listing the names of people who are interested in securing the services of a golf course superintendent. This information is published primarily as a service to the members of this Chapter, but it is also intended to build up the prestige of the Mid-Atlantic by benefiting the clubs seeking employees. This service will be continued because we think it right and proper for a man to want to better his position or standing in life and we will present every opportunity for him to do so. If you want to make a change ( you will face many temptations in the near future ), first of all make certain you are qualified for the new job so you won't end up a failure and lose some of your present standing. If you are just moving for more money then give your present employer at least the opportunity to bid for your services before going too far toward the new job. He is entitled to that loyalty from you because you are still on his payroll. Be careful tho' not to make him think you are presenting him with the threat to leave if he doesn't come across with more dough. He may meet your demands at that time, but then when the other job has been filled he could fire you out into the cold with no immediate job to go to. Once you have made up your mind to leave and have told the new employer you will take the job, then take it - don't turn back. A good idea when changing jobs is to talk to other superintendents. Your Chapter officers can help here by giving advice that will make the position much more valuable to you and you to the club. Our complaint on this subject is that men are changing jobs without notifying their last employer. Such discourteous action is deplored by this Chapter and every effort will be made to stop it before discredit is heaped on all superintendents. Any club putting such a man on their payroll is asking for the same type of treatment because he won't last and will leave without notice when he is needed most. Clubs can help by insisting that any man they hire give notice to his employer before leaving. One recent case involves a man holding the worthy title of golf course superintendent, but hardly qualified to be a superintendent's helper. This individual has held four superintendent's jobs in the last six or seven years. He left three of these jobs by simply walking off without notice and was fired from one by a self-respecting employer who got fed up with him. Superintendents are accustomed to workers who do not report for work, but when it happens without good cause they lose respect for the man and will never rehire him. A superintendent committing such a deed should lose the respect of all other superintendents as well as the title and should never be recommended by a member of this Chapter for another position.