

From The Viewpoint

What District Association

The Greenkeepers' Club of Western Pennsylvania

IT was on March 17th in the year 1926 that the Greenkeepers' Club of Western Pennsylvania was born. The date in itself, in any Irishman's eyes, would tend to make this a wonderful organization, and I can truly say that it is.

This association is composed of Greenkeepers employed in and about the district of Western Pennsylvania for the purpose of developing greater interest in greenkeeping thereby creating better opportunities for those engaged in this profession; also to uplift the vocation of greenkeeping and to create a closer friendship with our fellow Greenkeeper.

In the past year, I am happy to say, all of our purposes have been realized. Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa., at which dinner is served. At each meeting there is a general discussion on the very problems that come up from time to time, such as, various equipment, water systems, landscaping, building roads and drains, brown patch and many other questions pertaining to the proper upkeep of golf courses. Two heads, they say, are better than one, so therefore when ten or twelve practical Greenkeepers get together on these questions there is always a satisfactory solution to each and every problem that may come up at any time. This as you can readily see, is of a great assistance to both the Greenkeeper and the club at which he is employed. In other words each golf club is supervised, more or less, by the association as a whole.

The annual meeting for the election of officers is held the second Monday of December of each year and at the last annual meeting the following officers were elected to serve for the ensuing year:

President, John Pressler, Allegheny Country Club, Sewickly, Pa.; vice president, John McNamara, Pittsburgh Field Club, Aspinwall, Pa.; secretary treasurer, Chas. Nuttall, Fox Chapel Golf Club, Aspinwall, Pa.

It might also be interesting to know that when the question of joining the National Association of Greenkeepers of America was brought before our members we decided and did join the National Association in a body.

By John McNamara,
Vice President.

Mid-West Greenkeepers' Association (Minutes Meeting May 2)

A MEETING of the Mid-West Greenkeepers' Association was held May 2nd at 7 P. M. at the Great Northern Hotel, Chicago. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. The report of the treasurer is as follows:

The membership committee reported that there were 14 applications on hand which they had approved and a number of checks on hand, a report of which will be given at the next meeting.

A discussion was then held regarding the summer outdoor meetings as to where and how these meetings might be held and a motion was made and seconded that they be held the first and third Mondays of each month and a double postal card notice be sent to all members ten days in advance together with a notice to the chairman of the Green committee at the club where the meeting would be held. A committee was appointed consisting of Mr. Shraeder, D. W. Danley and Mr. Fred Ingwerson, who are to make arrangements for all future meetings. It was suggested that two or more clubs be visited during a meeting and the courses investigated by the visiting members. This would be followed by a constructive report of the greens made to the Greenkeeper of the club.

Dr. Seaman, chief chemist for Swift & Co. then addressed the meeting on Fertilization, Soil Acidity and Alcolidity. He stressed the fact that fertilizer tests should be made in various districts to determine the character of the soils. Dr. Seaman called attention to the various experiments being made along soil culture, among them the experiments of Professor Hopper of Purdue University on Nitrate of Ammonia with bent grasses which would probably be published this year, Dr. White of Penn State College on root development using Acid Phosphate. Dr. White's theory is that grasses require more phosphates than have been used hitherto and is working along the study of root feeding, etc. Dr. White's experiments lead him to report that the grasses in the past have not had a balanced food and the work of the greenkeepers in the future should be to plan a properly balanced grass food.

The Association has arranged with Dr. Seaman to obtain the reports of the experiments carried on by the

Of Local Associations

of Greenkeepers are Doing

experimental stations and private experiments and it is hoped that these reports will prove of interest to the Greenkeepers and help them keep abreast with the latest developments essential to their work.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed. B. Dearie, Jr.

Secretary.

Greenkeepers' Association of Westchester County

IN November 1925, about 30 Greenkeepers of Westchester County, New York, met at Green Meadow Country Club to form their Association. They chose as their first president, Mr. Tom Winton of Tuckahoe, a member of a famous old Scottish golfing family. The secretary chosen was Mr. King Troensegaard, of Metropolis Country Club, Elmsford, New York, and he fulfilled his duties with great conscientiousness and marked ability. The Association decided to meet the first Monday of each month, and since no regular meeting place had been arranged for, it was agreed to accept the hospitality of various clubs in the county. At the meetings members read papers on the various maintenance problems, and thoroughly educative discussions took place at every gathering. The Westchester Green Section invited the members of the Greenkeepers' body to attend their monthly meetings.

At the annual meeting in November 1926, Mr. King Troensegaard was elected president, and Mr. Edward Casey, of Rye Country Club, took the secretaryship. A satisfactory year was reviewed, and a constructive program drawn up for the ensuing year. Arrangements were made to engage a regular meeting hall in New Rochelle where all meetings are now to be held. A new office was created, namely, that of director of lectures, and for this the members chose Mr. Albert J. Wilder, Fenimore Country Club, White Plains, empowering him to nominate each month two lecturers to speak at the following month's meeting. These lectures are always followed by intensely keen general discussion. At the April meeting two unusually good addresses were given by Mr. R. J. Hayes of Pelham Country Club on "Drainage," Mr. H. Shakeshaft of Century Country Club on "Relative Values of Commercial Fertilizers." These subjects are typical of monthly discussions.

Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents

In complying with the request that I write an article about our organization I think it would be proper that I write under the heading "The Dawn of a New Day." I really believe that many of us, from time to time, had dreamed that perhaps some day through some strange act of Fate we might meet many of the men who were in charge of other courses and discuss our troubles and problems with them. But we dreamed on and like all dreamers we did nothing to make such a thing come true. Much to our surprise in September 1925 we received an invitation to meet at one of our local clubs and discuss the forming of an Association of Golf Course Superintendents. The gentleman who formulated the plans and made possible "Our Organization" was Mr. Howard Toomey of the firm of Toomey and Flynn, the well known golf course architects and engineers. I would indeed be an ingrate if I failed to mention the names of Mr. Chapman, Mr. Schann, Mr. Flynn and many others who have contributed so much to our success. The organization was quickly formed and that our first year was so successful was indeed due to our wise selection of officers, namely:

President, Mr. Thomas Young, White Marsh Country Club; vice president, Mr. Joseph Valentine, Merion Country Club; secretary, Mrs. I. K. Eddy, Philadelphia Green Section.

It was decided that our committees should consist of a Membership, Educational, Entertainment and Employment, and they have functioned so well that to them must go much credit. The Educational committee furnished *talks* by well known experts on the Japanese beetle, gasoline, oil, hose construction, bearings, planting and the care of trees, etc., and our worst enemy, brown-patch. In addition we had two wonderful trips to the U. S. Experimental Station at Riverton, New Jersey, and a splendid demonstration of golf course equipment and *good time* at the well known Manufacturer's Club and the Philadelphia Toro Company headquarters. The latter was furnished by their representative, Mr. Gustin.

This article would not be complete without mentioning the name of Mr. Leach of the U. S. Experimental Station at Riverton, New Jersey who gave so freely of his

time and knowledge that we might be better prepared to combat the golf course pests of fungus and insect life.

We meet once a month at different clubs and find these visits very instructive as we get ideas on how the other fellow does it and the results speak for themselves on the general condition of our courses. At our recent annual meeting Mr. MacFarland of the Marble Hall Club was elected vice president, Mr. Elwood Young, secretary, Mr. Lave, treasurer and the writer president.

Have we a slogan? Oh! yes—"Better Employees." That we may deserve this compliment from our employers since the "dawn of a new day" is the sincere wish of

Fraternally yours,
Lewis M. Evans, President
Cedarbrook Country Club.

Metropolitan Association of Greenkeepers

AT the invitation of the Westchester Greenkeepers' Association a meeting was held in February 1927 in the Hotel McAlpin, New York City, of Greenkeepers from Long Island, New Jersey, Staten Island and Westchester County for the purpose of forming a Metropolitan Association of Greenkeepers. There was a gratifying turnout, and the new association was launched with enthusiasm. The following office holders were elected:

President, Capt. D. L. Rees, Progress Country Club, Purchase, N. Y.; first vice president, J. H. Youmans, Nassau Country Club, Glen Cove, L. I.; second vice president, Riggs Miller, Richmond Country Club, Staten

Island; secretary, R. J. Wyllie, The Links Golf Club, Roslyn, L. I.; treasurer, N. L. Mattice, Lakeville Country Club, Great Neck, L. I., (now of Pine Valley, Philadelphia); trustees, 1st., Robert J. Hayes, Pelham Country Club; 2nd., A. Lauer, Glennbrook Country Club; 3rd., H. Shakeshaft, Century Country Club.

The first annual meeting was held on March 7th, when the president, in his address, outlined a program for the year, featuring the formation of a series of committees—Care of Equipment, Elimination of Pests, Watering, Rolling, Fertilizing, General Maintenance, etc.—These committees will turn in reports, which will be read and discussed fully, and filed as a record of the year's work. Considerable research is planned, too, along the line of soils and grasses. Findings and summarizings of vital interest are looked for, since the territory covered by this association is widely representative. The Metropolitan meetings are held quarterly in New York City, the next being in May, when the president hopes to select a member to act as "press agent"—one who will arrange with the Press to publish all activities of the Association.

Twin Cities Greenkeepers' Association

Fourteen of the members of the Twin Cities Greenkeepers' Association enjoyed the hospitality of the Toro Manufacturing Company at a banquet held at the Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis on March 11.

Those present were Carl Handall, Minnetonka Country Club; Charles Erickson, Minikahda Golf Club; Eric Pahl, Interlachen Country Club; Victor Larsen, Minneapolis Golf Club; Benjamin Eide, Superintendent of
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First Annual Banquet, given by the Toro Manufacturing Company, in honor of the Twin City Greenkeepers' Association, held on March 11th, in the Spanish Room, Radisson Hotel, Minneapolis

From the Local Viewpoint

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Shops, City Park Department; Emil Picha, Midland Hills Country Club, St. Paul; Joseph Benson, Northwood Country Club, St. Paul; Henry Rasmussen, Midland Hills Country Club, St. Paul; Carl Erickson, Glenwood Country Club; Emil Anderson, Columbia Country Club; John Pearson, Armour Country Club; Michael Sanko, Golden Valley Country Club; Fred Anderson, Town & Country Club, St. Paul; J. A. Hunter, The Country Club, Minneapolis and J. S. Clapper, H. C. McCartney and K. E. Goit of the Toro Manufacturing Company, Minneapolis.

Cleveland District Association of Greenkeepers

THE first open-air meeting of the Cleveland district Greenkeepers was held at Oakwood Country Club, Cleveland Heights, on Monday, May 9.

The meeting was opened with a luncheon served by the club, at which J. J. Klein, Green Committee member, on behalf of Walter M. Haas, chairman of the Green Committee, welcomed the Greenkeepers to Oakwood Club. Mr. Klein in the course of his remarks, expressed his belief that such meetings of local associations of Greenkeepers are of unquestionable benefit to the golf clubs of each local district.

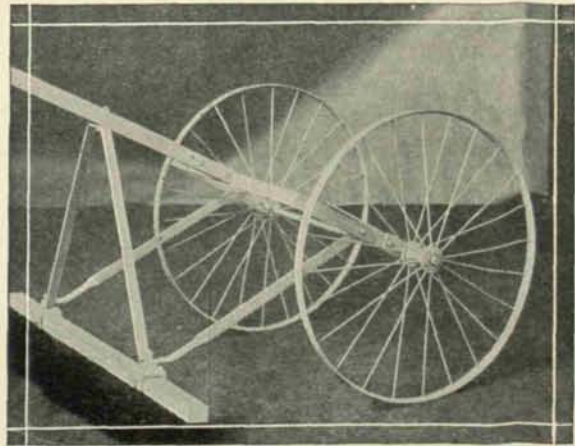
After luncheon the regular meeting was called to order by John Morley, president, who immediately turned the chair over to Christopher Bain, Greenkeeper at Oakwood, and Mr. Bain called upon Mr. Morley to address the group. In his informal talk, Mr. Morley urged the group to recognize the value of intensive study along turf maintenance lines. He cited as an illustration of its necessity the fact that a true knowledge of the chemical condition of soils is essential to good greenkeeping, both as to creating a properly acid condition in putting greens, and in maintaining them so economically. He reported that he had found some of his own greens sufficiently acid, some distinctly alkaline, and others neutral, while he had been for a long time dressing all eighteen with an equal amount of sulphate of ammonia. A knowledge of the amount of acidity has enabled him to save considerable money by cutting down the applications of sulphate of ammonia on noticeably acid greens. Mr. Morley advised the group to secure reliable soil testers,

and to look carefully to the kind of sand used in top dressing mixtures. This introduced a general discussion of the lime content in some grades of lake and bank sand, and it was decided that samples of sand from all local courses be sent to O. J. Noer, soil expert at Madison, Wisconsin, with a request that the samples be subjected to test and reports mailed to the secretary.

The speaker of the occasion was C. M. Scherer, principal of the Davey Institute of Tree Surgery, Kent, Ohio, and Mr. Scherer was received with enthusiasm. He very shortly requested the group to ask questions on their particular problems, and they came in thick and fast. The chief subject of the inquiries was the problem of lifting trees from the woods and transplanting them on

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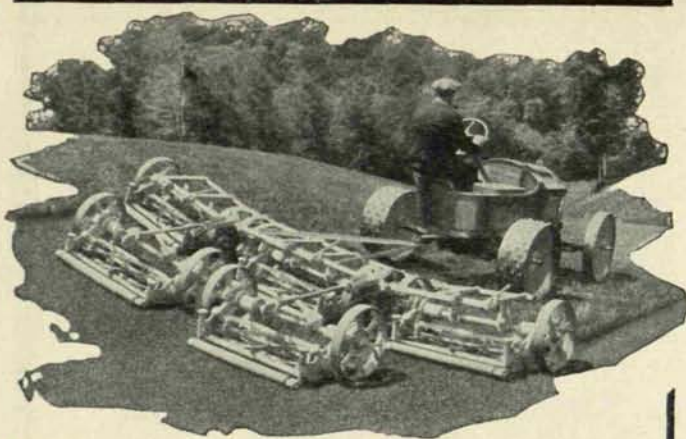
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From the Local Viewpoint

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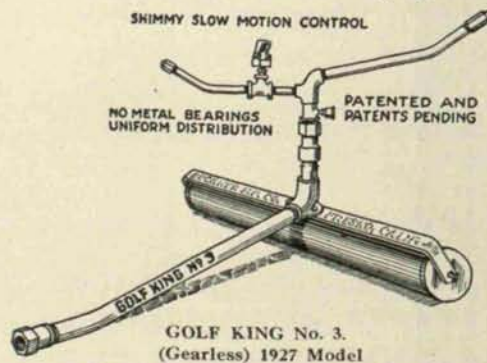
the course. This round table discussion proved of extreme interest, and much information as to the proper preparation of the soil and protection of the trunks was gained, as well as important tips on just when it is safe to lift trees for transplanting. Mr. Scherer expressed the belief that Spring is the best time of year for transplanting, but that no tree should be lifted if the buds have opened.

At the conclusion of the meeting an inspection of the course followed, and particular interest was shown in the re-bunkering of Number 9 green, then in process.

The good effects of the drainage system installed at Oakwood Club by Wendell P. Miller of Columbus, Ohio, two years ago, were easily apparent. The growth of turf on the fairways testify to the value of tile drainage.

Mr. Bain, during the inspection of the course, advised the group that he has never been troubled with turf killing, either from the ordinary forms of brown-patch, or any other cause, and attributed this freedom from trouble to the consistent use of bi-chloride of mercury which he uses Spring and Fall for the eradication of earthworms.

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