

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 Ingwersen, 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

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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