



FRED BURKHARDT
*Westwood Country Club
Cleveland*

Enthusiasm Marks First Annual Convention

Largest Assemblage of Greenkeepers
Ever Held—Practically Every District in
the United States and Canada Represented.
John Morley Re-Elected President



CAPT. DAVID L. REES
*Progress Country Club
New York*

SINCERITY of purpose and deep devotion to the cause to which they are committed featured the first annual meeting and convention of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America held at Hotel Sherman, Chicago, March 25-26.

Over 300 greenkeepers and their assistants were present at various times during the two days' session representing almost every state in the Union and many provinces of Canada. Many of the far distant clubs like Pebble Beach and Los Angeles, California sent their greenkeepers and paid all their expenses because they realize how important the association as an educational factor, is to the golf clubs of the country. Clubs in Pittsburgh, Buffalo, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit, Minneapolis and St. Louis did likewise. As a consequence the deliberations of the convention were representative of the combined thought and experiences of the greater part of the North American continent.

"I hope and trust that God will guide you in your deliberations," said President John Morley in his opening address, "and that we will be able to adopt progressive legislation that may be a credit to the welfare of greenkeeping and the golfing fraternity in general. Being human we will undoubtedly make mistakes. But being progressive we will endeavor to correct them."

This keynote speech of President Morley's permeated the entire proceedings with the result that personal plans and ambitions if any, were entirely submerged in a unanimous and conscientious effort to do the greatest good for greenkeeping as a profession, and to make golf better and cheaper for the clubs served by these hard working men.

Three scheduled meetings were held. First the executive committee went into session on Friday after-

noon and reviewed carefully all the work of the Association through the six months of its preliminary existence. Then on Friday evening an informal meeting of all greenkeepers, assistants, green committee chairmen and others interested was held. The purpose was to discuss the work and exchange ideas for the common good.

Saturday morning the real business of the week began in earnest. The Hotel Sherman management kindly reserved the Bal Tabarin room on the 8th floor, as this room is well isolated and free from casual interruption of curiosity seekers. With John MacGregor, sturdy leader of the Chicago greenkeepers in the chair, the meeting proceeded systematically and smoothly throughout the day, and frank discussion of every subject was had.

When time for adjournment came at 5 o'clock John Gray, veteran Canadian greenkeeper of Sandwich, Ontario, rose to his feet and expressed to all present his complete satisfaction over the business-like way with which the Association affairs were being handled. "I should think," he said, "that the greenkeepers had been organized six years instead of six months. I congratulate all of you upon the splendid start you have made and the high character and purpose of the men intrusted with the management of your affairs."

Briefly reviewing the results of the meeting the by-laws were amended in certain sections relating to organization and eligibility for membership. The executive committee was reduced to the five chief officers and an additional number of vice presidents were elected. Pro-greenkeepers with five years' experience were declared eligible for membership on the same basis as regular greenkeepers of three years' experience. Supervision

of the editorial contents of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, official organ, was placed in the hands of the president instead of an editorial council as previously provided.

Considerable interest was displayed in bringing the local associations of greenkeepers closer to the parent body and a motion prevailed recommending to such local associations that they include the \$10.00 annual dues of the National Association in their local dues to greenkeepers thereby making every local association member automatically a member of the National.

The opinion was unanimous that the date of the annual meeting should be advanced to the first week in

March, as a number of greenkeepers reported that early spring work interfered with their attendance. It is probable too that the 1928 meeting will be scheduled for some point further east than Chicago following the generally discussed plan of holding the annual meeting and convention in different parts of the country from year to year.

On the following pages is printed the official minutes of the meetings in Chicago together with a revised draft of the by-laws as adopted permanently. Read them carefully as this is the only issue of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER in which they will appear.

Minutes of the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

On Friday afternoon, March 25, 1927, a meeting of the Executive committee of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America was held in a private room at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, convening at 2:30 P. M.

John Morley, president, called the meeting to order. Members of the Executive committee present were as follows:

John Morley, Youngstown Country Club, Youngstown, Ohio; John McNamara, Pittsburgh Field Club, Pittsburgh, Penna.; James Muirden, Ridgewood Golf Club, Cincinnati, Ohio; Hugh Luke, Garden City Golf Club, Long Island, N. Y.; Alex McPherson, Detroit Golf Club, Detroit, Michigan; W. J. Rockefeller, Inverness Club, Toledo, Ohio; Fred Burkhardt, Westwood Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio; John Pressler, Allegheny Country Club, Pittsburgh, Penna.

This meeting was called by President John Morley for the purpose of reviewing the work of the Association from every angle and to recommend such changes and amendments as experiences proved to be necessary for the good of the cause. Mr. Morley also asked assistance in appointing suitable committees to work out important problems for presentation to the membership at the annual meeting on Saturday, March 26, 1927.

It was decided to appoint the following special committees:

By-Laws and Constitution, Membership, Appeals and Grievances, Finance, Consulting Editorial, Permanent Organization.

Mr. Morley explained at length to the assembled group the necessity of appointing carefully selected association members to act as chairmen of these committees.

After a great deal of deliberation, which occupied nearly three hours, the following appointments as chairmen were made:

Fred Burkhardt, chairman, Committee on By-Laws and Constitution.

Alex McPherson, chairman, Committee on Membership.

James Muirden, chairman, Committee Appeals and Grievances.

Christopher Bain, chairman, Committee Finance.

John McGregor, chairman, Committee Consulting Editorial.

Bert Sheldin, chairman, Committee Permanent Organization.

A discussion of the originally written by-laws of the association occupied considerable time during the course of the meeting, and suggestions were made by all members of the Executive committee relating to changes and amendments which seemed necessary to make in order that the association may function to the satisfaction of all members and local organizations of greenkeepers.

Mr. Morley asked the newly appointed chairmen to appoint and convene with their committees and submit their decisions to the membership at the annual meeting the following morning. He impressed upon each member the great responsibility that rested on his shoulders, in presenting a clear and concise report to the association members at the annual meeting.

Mr. Bain, appointed as chairman of the Finance committee was not present, but the secretary of the association, W. J. Rockefeller, assured the Executive committee members that Mr. Bain had offered to do anything he could to assist the officers and the organization as a whole. Mr. Bain's appointment as chairman of the Finance committee was made because he had long banking experience before taking up greenkeeping as a profession.

Mr. Morley then charged the newly appointed chairmen to select their committees from lists of active association members, each committee to represent as wide an area as possible.

There being no further business in order, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 P. M., in good time for the Executive committee members to attend an informal meeting of greenkeepers scheduled for 7:30 P. M. in a specially reserved room at the Hotel Sherman.

Signed

John Morley, President,
W. J. Rockefeller, Secretary.

Minutes of the FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

THE first annual meeting of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America was held in the Bal Tabarin Room of the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, on Saturday, March 26.

John Morley, president of the Association, opened the

first session at 10 A. M., and after greeting the members, read his annual address, a copy of which is attached. This address was received with enthusiasm, and ordered placed in the records of the meeting.

Mr. Morley then appointed John McNamara, first