

# The NATIONAL GREENKEEPER

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## Let's All Meet in Detroit

By JOHN McNAMARA

First Vice-President National Association of Greenkeepers of America

AS this is the last number of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER prior to the National meeting and golf show at Detroit, I am making an appeal to all greenkeepers to attend the Convention of the Greenkeeper's Association in Detroit starting on Tuesday, February 22, 1928.

Last March at the meeting in Chicago, I had the pleasure of meeting more greenkeepers in a few days than I had met before in the twenty-five years of my greenkeeping career. At this meeting there were greenkeepers from almost every state in the Union and quite a few from Canada. I found that this meeting was very educational in every way. It does not make any difference how long you have been at this profession or how good you may be at growing turf, you can always learn something at a meeting of this kind or at a local meeting that will be to your advantage in time to come.

Greenkeepers, as a rule, are not made up, as a lot of people think, from the laboring class. In my experience, the ones that I have met had some other profession or trade and then became greenkeepers more or less through favorable circumstances. In discussing this subject with several men at Chicago, I learned that some had been engineers, others timekeepers working under construction experts on golf courses, quite a few were gardeners and farmers, a number were mill foremen, some golf professionals, or club stewards, and a very few were raised from the laboring class. There are of course a few of the younger boys who work as laborers to study the greenkeeping game.

Meeting our fellow greenkeepers has brought about a fine friendship and mutual understanding. I remember, only a few years ago, if one wanted to visit a neighboring golf course he was sort of timid and afraid to do so as he might not know who was employed there and was fearful

of the reception that might be accorded him. But now, knowing personally who is employed here and there, it is with a feeling of pleasure and anticipation that greenkeepers visit other courses and talk over various problems pertaining to our work. Your brother greenkeeper will greet you with a hearty welcome and will drop everything to show you around the course. What a wonderful thing this is, and what a change in a couple of years. I do not think the greenkeepers or the golfing world will ever be able to repay our friend John Morley for the good he has done them through his efforts as president of our association.



JOHN McNAMARA

As one of the deans of greenkeeping in the United States, Mr. McNamara sends this important message to every man who is engaged in golf course maintenance

I can safely say that every man who will attend the meeting in Detroit will be more anxious to attend the next one. Those who were fortunate enough to attend the meeting in Chicago, I know, can hardly wait for the time to come for the next meeting in Detroit.

Aside from the Convention there will also be held a golf show. This show will be most interesting for the members and golfers in general as there will be on display golf course accessories that have as yet not appeared on the market. It is to every greenkeeper's advantage to be present and talk over the merits or demerits of the various equipment, for there are many good mechanics among the greenkeepers and those who are not mechanically inclined can learn something from the others.

It is a paying proposition for all the golf clubs to send their greenkeepers to Detroit on February 22nd. Greenkeepers who are so unfortunate as to be located at clubs that do not take enough interest to send them to the show, will find it to their profit to pay their own expenses.

Come on, boys, let's all get together at the next meeting and I assure you that you will go home much wiser and more interested in your work.