

Pine Valley On Tuesday

TUESDAY morning, June 5, 1928, we all took the nine o'clock train for the Pine Valley Golf Club, located near Clementon, New Jersey, which is only fifty minutes' ride from Atlantic City. The attendance was rather small as there were only about twenty-five or thirty present.

After strolling about the club house for an hour or so, Norman L. Mattice, the greenkeeper-manager, arrived and we started out on our trip over the golf course. Mr. Mattice showed us through his tool house and among other things he showed us a home-made fertilizer spreader and a home-made air pump which is used for pumping tires, also his fine horse, which he rides around on the course.

After this we took a tour of the course and it sure is in fine shape, slick enough for any tournament. From tees to greens there is not a course in the country in better shape. Perhaps they do spend money on the upkeep but it shows it even on the sandy soil. Mr. Mattice conducted us through his soil sheds and explained how he mixed the compost and the different fertilizers, also how much of each he used. Looking over his pump house he said that his pumps were equipped to pump from five hundred to one thousand gallons of water per minute.

After talking over the many good golf holes and the fine condition of the course, the party returned to the club house, partly exhausted, as the day was very sultry and felt like good weather for brown patch. We also visited some very beautiful homes within the vicinity of Pine Valley that are occupied by members of the club during the playing season. When we arrived at the club our lunch was ready and everyone enjoyed it. After lunch the crowd broke up and many of them took their train for Washington, D. C., while a few returned to their home clubs.

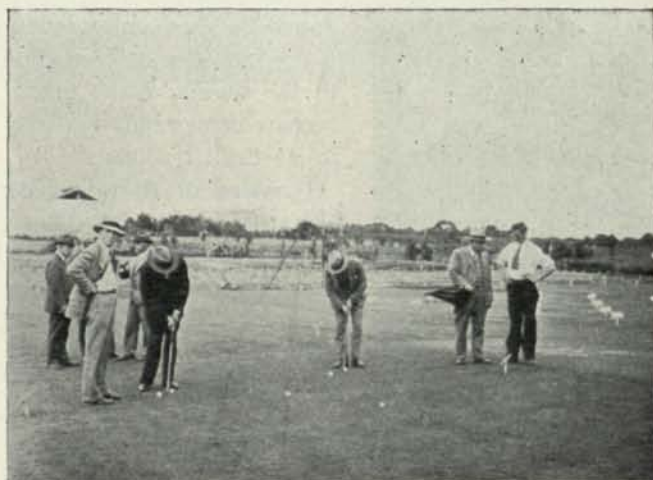
Washington on Wednesday

WEDNESDAY morning, June 6, about ten o'clock the party began to gather at the grass experimental grounds at Arlington. The audience again was small as only about thirty-five or forty attended this meeting. This meeting was very interesting especially for those who had not been there before and even for those who attended in prior years. Inasmuch as the party was small it gave everyone a better chance to ask questions of the ones in charge and there were a great many questions asked.

Dr. John Monteith, Jr., Dr. Harvey L. Westover, Mr. W. R. Walton, Mr. Dall and a few others were kept busy explaining about the different chemical and other fertilizers of which cotton seed and sow bean meal was among the best. Various preventions of brown patch and all the different grasses both from seed and vegetative planting were discussed. Among the many plots of grasses there has been a new idea put into effect. That is, there are several plots that have had cups in-

stalled for putting purposes so as to give the grasses a fairer test. This is all very well and good, but there is hardly anyone there to put this idea into good effect as the plots would not get enough hard usage for a good test.

If the Experimental grounds were moved closer to the city and were opened to the public as a putting green to be used in all sorts of weather so as to get the usage of an ordinary putting green, that I believe, would be



PUTTING ON THE GRASS PLOTS AT ARLINGTON TURF GARDENS

a fair test. These patches can never be tried out at Arlington so as to correspond in the same way as greens on golf courses.

Here again, everyone was amused. On a large lawn adjoining the Experimental gardens was a man sitting on an old time horse-driven roller lawn mower and the poor old horse was flopping his ears up and down with every step. He was sure going slow, as the day was warm. It reminded us all of the old days on the golf courses when we were trying hard to get the fairways cut with the old horses when they were all in from the heat.

It was very noticeable that the attendance of all the meetings was exceptionally small for such occasions. There were not any greenkeepers present from the districts west of Pittsburgh.

Testimonial for ABC of Turf Culture

"I am not an expert and do not want to appear to be giving an expert's opinion of Mr. Noer's book but for about two and one-half years I have to some extent, at least, been a student of golf course maintenance and I take pleasure in testifying that 'ABC of Turf Culture' is one of the most interesting and valuable books that have come in my hands during the time I have been interested in this work.

"It seems to me that every man who sells farm machinery or grass seed and certainly every man who comes in contact with the greenkeepers of the golf course should have a copy of this book."

A. G. Chapman, Chairman Green Committee
Audubon Country Club
Louisville, Kentucky.