



# NEWS LETTER

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FRATERNITY is the only word that describes the relationship between men and women who are engaged in the game of Golf.

(N. A. G. A. Convention Speaker)

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**FEBRUARY**

**1937**

This NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Green's Chairmen. Subscription price ten cents a copy, or a dollar a year.

GUY C. WEST ..... Editor

312 Mt. Pleasant St., Fall River, Mass.

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450 William St., Stoneham, Mass.

February, 1937

Vol. 9, No. 2

### N. A. G. A. CONVENTION

I have been wondering if a different write-up of our visit to the N. A. G. A. Convention in Washington, D. C. from the 1st to the 5th of this month wouldn't be more interesting than the normal write-up. At any rate I am going to try a diary sort of first person singular yarn that may be different.

Frank Wilson and I went down on the Federal Express Sunday night, arriving early Monday morning. This gave us most of Monday for Washington sight-seeing, and we used this time to good advantage. Arriving back at the Wardman Park Hotel the last of the afternoon, we visited with many of the boys, who by this time were checking in fast. We were presented two tickets for the Exhibitors' Banquet that evening, so we attended this. The main objection to this dinner seemed to be that many of the exhibitors were still too busy setting up their displays, and hence did not attend the dinner.

In looking over the exhibit, I noticed that it had been necessary to cut away two walls at doors so that some of the larger tractors could get thru. By Monday night, the exhibition was nearly set up, and had over-flowed the main hall, with a few spaces sold in the lobby.

During the evening, Frank and I ran into Alex Bryce, who will be remembered by most of our club members as a former member. Alex was more than glad to see us, and we him, so we adjourned for an executive session and "bulled" for a couple of hours. Alex advised us to stay in New England, as it is God's country, and greenkeeping is much easier there.

We spent the next morning around

the exhibition and also greeting old friends and meeting new ones. Ran into Dr. De France of the R. I. Experiment Station, so we had breakfast rather late with him. I was talking with Sec. Brandon of the National Assoc. around noon, so he invited me to the Press Conference Luncheon that noon. This broke up rather hurriedly so that the first afternoon educational program could get under way.

Paul Lynch of Troy, N. Y. acted as chairman of all educational programs.

The Tuesday afternoon program was:

"The Application of Science to Greenkeeping," by Dr. M. A. McCall, Assistant Chief, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

"Golf Course Soils," by Dr. James Tyson, Soils Section, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

"The Agricultural Extension Service and Its Relation to the Golf Club," by Charles K. Hallowell, Philadelphia Extension Representative, Penn State College, Pa.

I have decided not to report the various addresses of the conference, as they will appear in *Goldfom* in full in the next few months. In general, these addresses were rather disappointing in that many of the speakers read papers, in too low voice for good hearing, and also because in general, very few new points were brought out.

On Wednesday morning, nearly two hundred, including Frank and me, went over to Arlington to see not only the turf plots and experiments thereon, but also some road material experiments and also some dust explosion demonstrations. The work at the plots is rather hit or miss these days, as money has been tight there for years; however, some rather conclusive weed control experiments are underway, and the results are of interest. The work done with the green dye is also of interest.

The Wednesday afternoon program was about ready to start when we returned from the plots. As we walked up to the hotel returning, we ran into Bill Perkins of Yale and Fred Emeneager of Fairfield, Conn. They had just arrived by plane, and were full of ozone, but strong boosters for plane over train!

Wednesday afternoon program was:

"Landscaping the Clubhouse Grounds," by Charles H. Connors, Ornamental Horticulturist, New Jersey State Experiment Station, New Brunswick, N. J.

"Maintaining Turf in the South," by J. K. Hanes, Yeaman's Hall Club, Charleston, S. C.

"Soil Organisms in Relation to Golf Turf," by Dr. N. R. Smith, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

"Road Surfaces for Club Grounds," by Dr. C. N. Connor, Highway Engineer, Bureau of Public Roads, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

As we ran into Prof. North, now with the Green Section, Wednesday night, we had dinner and a long chat with him. He sends greetings to all his friends in New England.

On Thursday morning, Frank and I did some more sight-seeing around Washington, returning in time for the afternoon conference. This afternoon's program was of greater interest. The paper by Prof. North was interesting, and the Turf Watering Forum gave an insight of what is being done in various sections of the country.

The program was:

"Control of Japanese and Asiatic Beetles in Turf," Prof. C. H. Hadley, Bureau of Entomology, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

"Growing Seed of Golf Course Grasses," by H. F. A. North, U. S. Golf Association Greens Section.

"Turf Watering Forum," by Harold Clemens, Sunset Ridge Country Club, Northbrook, Ill.; T. T. Taylor, Pomonock Country Club, Flushing, L. I., N. Y.; J. L. Haines, Denver Country Club, Denver, Colo.; Frank H. Wilson, Charles River Country Club, Newton Centre, Mass.; Clarence W. Hazlett, Bel-Air Country Club, Bel-Air, Calif.; William Smith, Red Run Golf Club, Royal Oak, Michigan; Chester Mendenhall, Mission Hills Country Club, Kansas City, Mo.; Mr. Johnson of Los Angeles, Emil Picha, Midland Hills, St. Paul, Minn.

The banquet and entertainment Friday night closed the program except for the annual meeting of the Association of Friday morning.

Among those seen at the show were Mike O'Grady of New Bedford, Arthur McLean of Brattleboro, Charlie Baskin of Waterbury, Herb Moran of Sleepy Hollow, formerly of New England, and also from various clubs in Connecticut, Burnham, Pearson, Hill, Skelly, Nocker, Fancher. I also ran into an old friend

from Fall River, an ex-caddy here years ago, now greenkeeper-pro at Brunswick, Ga., Dan Sullivan.

I also enjoyed during the convention several talks with various greenkeepers throughout the country, Anderson, Brandon, MacGregor, Feser, Farnham, Scott, Mendenhall, Taylor, Shacht, the Ryan brothers, Burkhardt, Ermer, Fitts, Quail, Gormley, Welsh, etc., etc. The meeting with and talking to the various men in attendance at this convention was to me the best part of the whole affair.

In conclusion of this part of the report, I should like to express my thanks to the various officers and committees of the N. A. G. A. for their hospitality to me while in attendance at their convention. A spirit of fine fellowship characterized all their dealings with me there.

## THE EXHIBITION

To get a fairly good picture of the various exhibits, I made a tour of the hall and contacted someone at each booth, telling him that I was trying to get material for a write-up for the NEWSLETTER; hence I feel that I can give you a picture of the most important parts of the Show.

Along one side of the hall, the first booth was an exhibit of asbestos-cement pipe for golf course irrigation systems by Johns-Manville Co. Other exhibits were shown by Standard Manufacturing Co., John Bean Manufacturing Co., L. R. Nelson Mfg. Co., International Harvester Co., Perfection Sprinkler Co., La Motte Chemical Products Co., and the Skinner Irrigation Co.

F. H. Woodruff & Sons had an interesting exhibit of grass seeds, the most interesting to many of us being the exhibit of the B. P. I. No. 14276 velvet bent seed grown this past season by Jacob Menzi of Portsmouth, R. I. and certified by the R. I. State College as 96.70% purity and 87% germination. This company bought the entire crop of 71 pounds. Also on display was a new development,—an all-metal, sealed, airtight can for lawn seed, with a sifter top. According to this company, experiments have proven that seed, packed by this firm in these cans, will not lose germination over a reasonable length of time. Respiration has been prevent-

ed thru the introduction of gases as the seed is packed.

The larger machinery was shown thru the center of the hall, with the Toro Manufacturing Co. occupying one large end. Toro showed most of their large line of equipment. Among items of interest was a new 24 inch roller type mower called the Fairlawn. As an extra attachment to the 30 inch mower a new Buckhorn or dandelion hitter attachment was shown. Changes in Toro line this year include larger rollers on the Super fairway mowers, Duplex power putting green mower changed somewhat to make it handle easier; some innovations in painting to attempt to create discussion among greenkeepers as to color combinations for various localities; e. g., Florida tan very popular in South, new shade of green tried also. A new model putting green mower has the castor wheels inside width of cut. A new 20 inch tee and bank mower was shown. Sickle bars are now made for all models of Toro tractors; main feature is that if bar strikes obstruction, bar will swing back to clear obstruction, will then swing back to cutting position. Sickle bar floats according to contour of ground so that bumps of wheels do not affect height of cut. Power take-off on front fits all Toro tractors, operated by clutch, so that it may be left on all the time and used as desired.

The Carpenter Tool Co. had one of their grinders set up; also a new model of grinder for bed knives.

The center section was occupied by the Ideal Power Lawn Mower Co., and by other companies whose products are distributed by Ideal branches. These included the Buel Perforator, Root Manufacturing Co., and the W. W. Grinder Corp. Ideal displayed their fairway units in hook-up, and their power mowers. The Wichita Compost Grinder attracted much interest as also did the Wichita Shaker Screen. The Root Spreader was shown, and also a roller type screen. The item which probably attracted the most attention in the center section was the hook-up of the new Junior Buel Perforator with a new Ideal Power unit. The Perforator can be mounted in the rear or in front of this power unit. Mounting in the rear gives the usual round and round job of spiking, while with the Perforator mounted in front, one is able to spike up to close edges, otherwise difficult of access. This new hook-up brings the

well known features of the Buel within reach of those clubs who can not afford the larger size Perforator.

The Worthington Mower Company had a large showing of practically all of their line of course equipment. A tractor was shown with Hardie Sprayer, with power for sprayer taken thru a special attachment from the tractor. All this year's fairway mowers have a new wheel, with a combination lug and corrugation, rims are still demountable. A new spring gives 50 pounds on rear roller to prevent bobbing, with no extra draft. Tractors have a new type seat, plunger type, with new tool box under seat. Tractors may be equipped with a new type power take-off attachment to operate Hardie sprayer or Detroit Harvester or Rotary brush; pulley may be put on to be used for screen. Sickle bar has been changed to operate over a 12 inch curb, and up or down on a slant. Hand putting green mower now has easy finger control for adjustment of bedknife and height of cut; mowers are interchangeable for Overgreen use. The Parkover was shown, a three unit tractor combination with hydraulic hoist, and sickle bar attachment, with rubber tires on tractor and units as standard equipment.

Along the other side of the hall were exhibits by Milorganite, Dolge, Jacobson, Buckner, and O. M. Scott & Sons. Mallinckrodt has a display of chemicals including the new green dye "Auragreen". McLain Brothers had an exhibit of their Fungol, Veg-e- tonic, barrel pump, spiker, etc., and the Philadelphia Toro had a general line of course supplies.

In the lobby, there were exhibits by the Locke Steel Chain Co. of their power mowers, Wood Ridge Mfg. Co. of chemicals, Sherwin Williams Co. of NAGA, Stumpp & Walter Co. of course supplies and seed including a showing of hulled Bermuda grass seed, which will germinate in 8 days against the 21-23 days for the unhulled.

This in general will give you something of the picture, with the exhibitors and some of the exhibits. Several Washington distributors for firms exhibiting were on hand to help out with their respective lines.

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Daff: "Ever go to law"?

Dill: "Only once. A friend of mine sued for an overcoat and lost his suit."

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### THE SIGN OF GOOD SEEDS

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14276 and Highland, New Crop Chewings Fescue, Fine  
Leaved Fescue, Red Top and all Fine Grasses.

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#### FEBRUARY MEETING

The February meeting was held at the Waltham Field Station, Waltham, Mass. on Feb. 8th. Representatives from the Perfection Sprinkler Company, Skinner Irrigation Company, and the Buckner Manufacturing Company spoke on various phases of Fairway Irrigation. A discussion period followed. A talking picture of experimental work done at Rutgers Agri. Exp. Station showing the need of various rare elements in plant growth was shown, and was of much interest.

At the business meeting, progress of the bill for experimental work at the Station was reported by Frank Wilson. The Washington Convention was also discussed briefly, and a report given by Homer Darling on the progress of plans for the Amherst Conference.

Our worthy president, Robert A. Mitchell, was married on January 29th to Mrs. Mary I. Hull of Beverly. To him and to the new boss, our congratulations and best wishes!

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### NEW N. A. G. A. OFFICERS

Officers for 1937 of the National Association are as follows:

#### President—

John Quail  
426 Highland Ave.  
Westview, Pittsburgh, Pa.

#### Vice President—

Leo Feser  
Woodhill Country Club  
Wayzata, Minn.

#### Secretary-Treasurer—

A. L. Brandon  
St. Charles Country Club  
St. Charles, Ill.

#### Directors—

(Three elected for two year terms)

J. A. Gormley  
17 Continental Ave.  
Cohoes, N. Y.

Don Boyd  
Portage Country Club  
Akron, Ohio

Chester Mendenhall  
Mission Hills Country Club  
Kansas City, Mo.

#### Directors held over—

Joseph Ryan  
Rolling Green Golf Club  
Media, Pa.

Peter Stewart  
637 Glenview Ave.  
Highland Park, Ill.

Frank Ermer  
Box 2257,  
Brooklyn Station  
Cleveland, Ohio

### PRO AND CON N. A. G. A. AFFILIATION

(In which Charles W. Parker gives us some thoughts, and President Quail of the N. A. G. A. gives us an answer.)

Periodically, for some ten or twelve years the question has come before the members of the Greenkeepers Club of New England of affiliating with the National Association of Greenkeepers of America. It seems hardly necessary to review the several abortive attempts of the past to enroll or even to kindle a spark of interest in such an affiliation among the members of the Greenkeepers Club of New England as a group or individually. It is enough to say that so far, the Greenkeepers of Maine, New

Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut seem to prefer to leave the National Association sedulously alone.

At our January meeting, following the reading of a cordial letter of invitation from the President of the N.A.G.A., it was voted to send Mr. Guy West and Mr. Frank Wilson to the N.A.G.A. Convention to be held in February in Washington, D. C. These two are to serve as a contact and observation committee, but have no authority to commit the Greenkeepers Club of New England to any definite course of action, and are to report their findings to the Club at a future meeting.

All of which leads up to the expression of an opinion—entirely personal—on the value, the fundamental demonstrable worth of a national organization in such a specialized, limited, field as is covered by the term Greenkeeper and Golf Course Superintendent.

I make no effort to conceal the fact that I am prejudiced against the idea and it is hoped that this freely expressed opinion will serve to promote untrammelled discussion which in turn will result in definite action either pro or con.

Let us examine the source material from which a national organization may be built, keeping two points in mind. Material with which to build, and can the resultant building produce a structure of sufficient inherent strength to insure stability and permanent constructive activity.

No matter by what name or title we travel, as long as our main interest is in the production and maintenance of fine turf for golf courses and related sports use, we will always be individualists. Individualists because while our work is of the one pattern—the production and maintenance of fine turf—no two courses conform to any one set of standards and methods for securing the optimum results, and since our whole activity is so intimately interwoven in the problems of one separate and individual golf course we cannot help but be single separate individuals in thought, speech and action.

Again; while there are many definite areas on concentration of golf activity throughout the Northern continent, there are likewise an equal number of golf courses scattered throughout the United States and Canada in lesser concentration, and even as lone units in

(Continued on page 8)

**Greens and Fairways of the  
AUGUSTA NATIONAL  
Built and Maintained with  
FLORIDA HUMUS—**

Beautiful greens—beautiful fairways—due in no small part to the consistent use of Florida Humus—the new organic matter, rich in nitrogen, which does not sour the soil. Says B. J. A. Berchmans, Superintendent of the Augusta National:

“We used 580 tons of Florida Humus in the original construction of greens and fairways. We used 70 tons in 1934 and plan to use more than 100 tons this year. The results have been entirely satisfactory to me and to the members and officers of the club.”

ANALYSIS—Organic Matter, 91.67%, Nitrogen, 3.52%, Water Holding Capacity 530.64%, Acidity, pH, 6.0.

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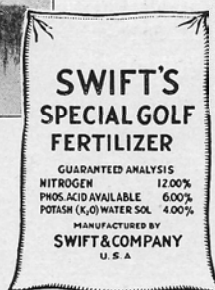
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**The Right Fertilizer  
Is Always The Most  
Economical.**



How about fertilizer? Does a cheap price per ton cause you to think it is a bargain? Why not play safe and use a product that contains the right proportion of each of the plant food elements?

Swift's Special Golf Fertilizer, both 12-6-4 for greens and 6-12-4 for fairways, are formulated to become available at the right time to insure the turf getting the greatest possible amount of food when it should have it. That's why it's real economy to use it.



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(Continued from page 6)

areas equal in size if not greater than those areas of concentration. These men will be even more "lone wolves" in their speech, thought and actions, but obviously have just as many rights and privileges, one greenkeeper to another, as the individuals of the concentrated areas, but in general they have been dismissed as men of lesser importance in the golf maintenance world. As a matter of fact, these greenkeepers of the hinterlands probably are, within their several and separate golf worlds, enjoying many of the benefits which their brothers of the metropolitan areas feel can be brought about only by concerted work through nationalization. Furthermore; since grass wants to grow and grow well in spite of all obstacles erected against it by man through ignorance, abuse and over-solicitousness, there is still another classification of greenkeeper who is producing satisfactory results—within his little golf world—solely through the benign beneficence of Providence. This man will be the greatest individualist of us all, and instead of being the one to be most immediately and greatly benefited by national organization will be the one to hold out against it to the bitter end. Finally, since type of work and classification of individuals in the social order according to their work indelibly stamps all but the exception, the greenkeeper is definitely pegged in the social order, and because he is working intimately with nature he will always be humble. True, exceptions to the above may be noted, but in the main—how have the vast majority of exceptions stood the test of time? A few have graduated to fields of endeavor, less limited in scope, and the remainder have come back to earth like the proverbial rocket stick.

There is the basic material for a national organization. A limited number of men with a common interest in kind of work but otherwise as divergent in thought and action as is their distribution throughout the United States and Canada.

How then can these men be welded into a definite, cohesive, articulate entity, capable of demonstrating beyond question the right of the greenkeepers to a higher plane in the economic world than they now enjoy?

Stripped of fancy wording and still more fanciful promises, the purpose of a national organization must be to develop a definite, cohesive, articulate en-

tity capable of demonstrating beyond question that the greenkeepers are entitled to a higher plane in the economic world than they now enjoy.

Is this possible, and if so, how?

For me to state my honest opinion of a very serious doubt of the possibility of such an achievement without further exposition will beget only the disgruntled counter question, "Why isn't it possible?" I will advance for arguments sake but a few controversial points, Standards and Ethics! What are they? Where do we find them? Have they ever been advanced and promulgated in any organization of greenkeepers? Have they ever been lived up to and enforced rigorously anywhere in the so-called profession of greenkeeping? If all the greenkeepers in the United States and Canada accept a national organization without qualification or reservation, can the cost to the individual be kept at a reasonable figure, and have a definite, cohesive, articulate entity? Can this be produced through part time effort of member officers? Does the "house organ" type of publication offer sufficient interest to act as the adherent which will produce the cohesiveness which must be obtained? Does the sponsoring of an annual educational conference and convention constitute a complete fulfillment of obligation to members as regards articulate public relations promotion?

The blanket answer to the above must be NO if observation of active nation-wide professional, service and fraternal organizations is any criterion.

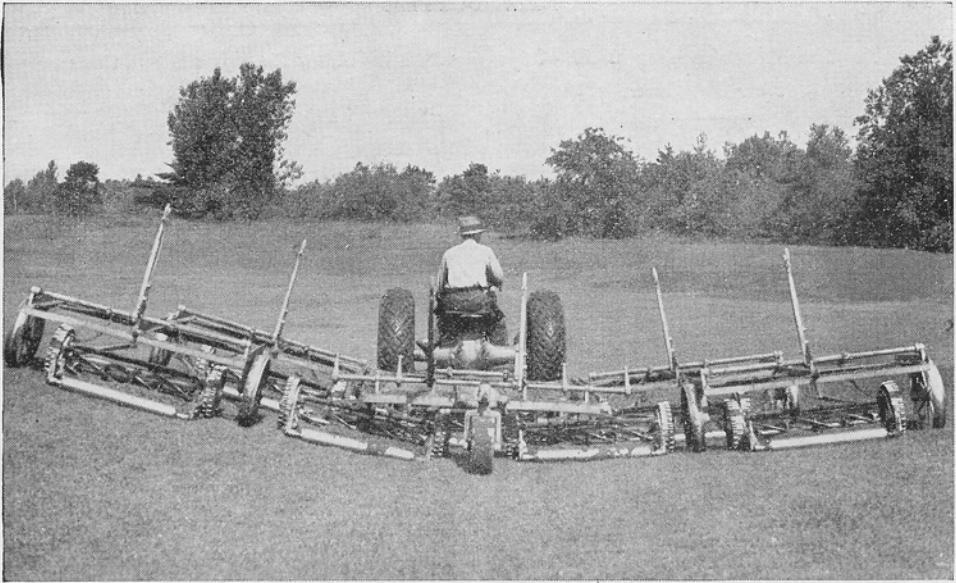
To my eyes, admittedly prejudiced, I can see little but a repetition of the past ten or twelve years for a national organization unless it revamps its basic principles and assumes an almost entirely new line of thought and action, and even then, will not the question of individual cost because of a limited number of **qualified** members be the insurmountable obstacle?

It is not for me to suggest ways and means. It is not for me to answer my own objections. There are, there must be many answers, and I hope that many answers and many arguments, pro and contra, will be forthcoming without reservation. All that I do ask, and I ask this with all sincerity, do not discharge these opinions as simply another exhibition of smug New England self-sufficiency.

Do not do that, please!

—Charles W. Parker.





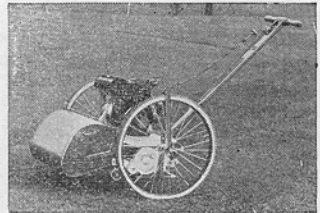
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Flexible—because the exclusive “Bulldog” frame construction permits each mower to operate as an individual unit, insuring smooth, clean cutting over contours and undulations. Units are lifted off the ground for safe and speedy transportation over the roughest areas.

Available in 3, 5, 7 and 9 gangs, interchangeable. Seven-blade or five-blade units optional.

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**To The Greenkeepers Club of  
New England**

Gentlemen:

In behalf of The National Association of Greenkeepers of America, I wish to thank you for your courtesy in responding to the invitation of our Past-President, Mr. Anderson, by sending your representatives to our Washington Convention. It was a pleasure and an honor to have Mr. West and Mr. Wilson with us, and I sincerely hope that they enjoyed meeting our fellows as much as we enjoyed meeting them.

Your Committee, through Mr. West, has presented an opinion to our Secretary and I have been instructed to draft a reply for your kind consideration.

Your Committee points out the fact that greenkeepers are individualists, and as such are inclined to hold out against National organization until the bitter end. We grant that greenkeepers are individualists, and as the profession is one that embodies individual artistic conceptions, we believe and hope the greenkeepers will continue to be individualists. There can be no definite uniform standard set for art; without individualism there could be no outstanding examples of art.

On the other hand we feel that greenkeeping as an art and science is very youthful when compared with other arts and sciences such as architecture, medicine or music. We feel that people engaged in professions of arts and sciences as exemplified above have added materially to the progress of their art and science thru association and organization to further such art and science. The American Medical Society is merely one illustration of such organization. As a very youthful art and science, greenkeeping can well look toward the older organizations for example and guidance.

Let us dwell on organizations in our own profession to illustrate our point. Your Club is a very good example. Greenkeeping has reached an excellent status in New England. We feel that your organization played a very important part in attaining that status. Yet we recognize the members of your club as individualists.

Your committee states "Since type of work and classification of individuals in the social order according to their

work indelibly stamps all but the exception, the greenkeeper is definitely pegged in the social order, and because he is working intimately with nature he will always be humble."

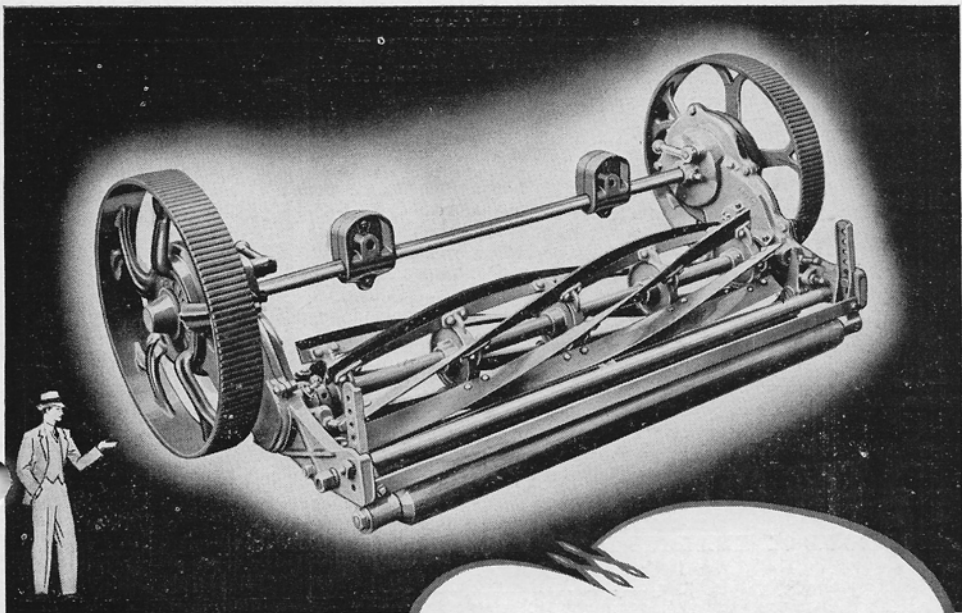
We agree that working with nature forces us to realize our own humble status. We also feel, however, that work done by humble men may give great pleasure to others. Lincoln was humble, yet strove to perpetuate a great organization. The men in charge of research work in the U. S. G. A. Green Section are humble, but the working of that organization has helped us to progress, and thereby give more to those whom we serve.

Your committee desires to know how we can weld the men of our profession into an entity capable of demonstrating that greenkeepers are entitled to a higher plane in the economic world. There is no force that can be employed to bring about this desirable end; we must rely upon the individualist to see the benefits of organization. Hundreds of individualists have seen and noted these benefits. Your individualists in New England can not be forced into your Club. Those of you who are members went into your organization of their own free will. That they have benefited is obvious for your organization continues to prosper. The welding process must be carried on thru the desire of individuals to become part of a great movement toward recognition thru progress.

Your committee report brings up the question of standards and ethics. As an officer in the National, I can assure you that our official family considers the matter of standards and ethics of essential importance in any fraternal organization. Insofar as our association is essentially fraternal, those who join our movement must be fraternally minded. We grant that insofar as men of our profession are humbled by their constant contact with nature, that very characteristic is a guiding light in our organization. True, there are exceptions, and unfortunately it is the exception that is too often considered the rule. We can never build a successful organization of exceptions, and it would be folly to attempt it.

It is unfortunate that men of our profession grow into the work rather than pass thru an academic training period which calls for a definite oath prior to passing into the profession. When the

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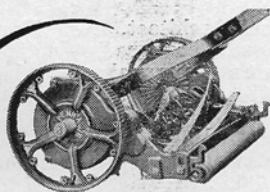


AS 36 IS TO 30

**N**O MATTER whether it's inches or dollars; hours or horsepower—36 is to 30 as 120 is to 100. In other words there is a difference of 20%.

That—is the bonus offered by the Giant 36-inch Pennsylvania DeLuxe Fairway Mower, compared with the conventional 30-inch unit.

Another big saving is brought about by the fact that **FIVE** Giant Fairways will cut a swath of approximately the same width as **SEVEN** ordinary mowers. This means a saving in the original equipment investment and the maintenance of five instead of seven machines. Ease of handling and other advantages too numerous to mention here are included in our literature. Better write for it today.



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Five heavy crucible steel blades, *actually* self-sharpening. Self-aligning ball bearings. 3 cut gears on both sides give an even pull. 15-, 17-, 19- & 21-inch sizes. Staytite Handle.

**PENNSYLVANIA**  
LAWN MOWER WORKS  
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**GOLF SECTION PROGRAMME**  
**RECREATION CONFERENCE — 1937**

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

**Second Floor, Memorial Hall**

- 10.30 Graduation Exercises 1937 Winter School for Greenkeepers.  
 What This School Has Done for Me. **Arthur Anderson '27.**  
 Why I Am Taking the Advanced Course. Robert Williams '36.  
 Two short papers by members of the class of 1937.  
 Charge to Graduates, by **Robert A. Mitchell.**  
 President Greenkeepers Club of New England.  
 Address and Presentation of Certificates by Roland H. Verbeck,  
 Director of Short Courses, M.S.C.
- 1.15 A discussion of the Hawthorne Valley system of fairway watering.  
 L. S. Dickinson, M.S.C.
- 1.45 Address by Mr. Leslie Cottrell, Pres. P.G.A. of New England.  
 Address by Mr. Thomas Walsh, Sec. P.G.A.
- 10 Minute Intermission—
- 2.45 The Behavior of Fertilizers in Soils.  
 George B. McClure, Soil Technologist, Ohio State University.
- 4.00 TOUR OF EXHIBITS IN CAGE.

**EVENING PROGRAMME**

Each speaker will take 15 minutes only and 5 minutes will be  
 allowed for discussion.

- 8.00 Water and the Physical Condition of the Soil. J. N. Everson, M.S.C.  
 8.20 The Action of Lead and Mercury in Soils. Dr. W. S. Eisenbenger, M.S.C.  
 8.40 Archery Golf. Mr. Baker of Auburndale, Mass.  
 9.00 Practical Experience with Rhizoctonia Solani.  
 C. K. Bradley, Patterson, N. J.
- 9.20 More About Fertilizers in Soils. G. B. McClure, Columbus, Ohio.  
 Golf Course Construction and the Greenkeeper. Robert Trent Jones, N.Y.C.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13

**Second Floor, Memorial Hall**

- 10.00 The Mechanics of Water Distribution on Golfing Areas.  
 James B. Gill, Elizabeth, N. J.
- 11.00 Golf Course Design and Construction. Illustrated.  
 Robert Trent Jones. Golf Architect. New York.
- 1.30 An interesting programme has been arranged and sponsored by THE  
**GREENKEEPERS CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND** with the greenkeeper clubs  
 of Connecticut, Rhode Island and Northeastern New York cooperating.
- 4.00 VISIT TO EXHIBITION HALL.  
**Lord Jeffery Inn**
- 6.30 Second Annual Golf Section Dinner and Entertainment.  
 Plenty of fun. Director Fred J. Sievers, Toastmaster. Short talks.  
 Entertainment.
- 8.30 Motion Pictures at Amherst Theatre. Fine bill assured with special pictures  
 for this Section.  
 Price, including motion pictures, \$1.50 per person.  
 Tickets may be secured at the registration booth in Exhibition Hall, or in  
 advance from L. S. Dickinson, M.S.C., Amherst. Make checks payable to  
 Treasurer of Entertainment Committee.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14

**Room 20—Stockbridge Hall**

- 10.00 Annual Meeting of the M.S.C.G.A.—The alumni of the Winter School for  
 Greenkeepers.
- 11.00 A Revival of the "Question Box" and informal discussion.

**Athletic Field (Weather Permitting)**

Spectators take places outside of fence at South and Southwest sides of the field.

- 2.00 Challenge Match. Archers vs. Golfers.  
Six contestants on each side.

**PARK SECTION**

FRIDAY, MARCH 12

- 1.30 Annual Meeting—New England Park Association.  
James Dillon, Park Department, Hartford, Connecticut, President.
- 2.15 New Ideas in Small Buildings, Parking Areas and Parking.  
Captain Henry R. Hayes. Metropolitan District Commission. Boston.
- 3.00 Hard Surfaced Tennis Courts.

(Continued from page 10)

time arrives where men will pass thru such academic training prior to becoming greenkeepers, the matter of ethics will be solidified in the form desired by the National and the New England Club. A truly National Association must dedicate itself to bringing about such a condition rather than boast a standard which cannot exist under present circumstances. All greenkeepers have read The Ten Commandments. Until we are able to set forth a code applicable to our profession, let us accept that age-old standard of ethics, and devote ourselves to bringing about a code which cannot be greater, but which might be more specific for our profession. That there will be exceptions to any code we do not doubt, but we can at least strive to correct the mental attitude of the unfortunate exception.

Regarding the efficiency of the house organ type of publication and the annual educational conference in bringing about a complete fulfilment of obligation to members, let me point out that these are but means toward an end, and as such certainly could not be considered the object of our Association.

I hope that I have answered the questions that your Committee has put to us. We appreciate the sincere attitude of your members in attempting to get at the facts, and we hope that you will consider us equally sincere in our reply. Going beyond the questions asked by your committee, allow me to state that the conscientious member of our organization considers the organization greater than the individual. No one man is big enough to dictate to the Association. We have endeavored to keep the Association democratic, and will continue to do so.

As President of the National Association, I am but a servant of the membership. No officer or Board member is other than a servant of the same membership. We are sincerely trying to serve the greenkeeping profession to the best of our ability. We welcome those who have not joined us because we feel that they will be of great assistance in bringing about the proper recognition of our profession.

I hope that you will appreciate our problems. If you will look at them from a national rather than a sectional point of view, you will see that they are more difficult to solve. Yet that same difficulty is incurred because we of the profession want to help our fellow men to whom you refer to as "lone wolves." We have taken in many men from the western, lightly populated areas that otherwise would be "lone wolves." They have profited thru our organization, and they turn out to be some of our most sincere members.

This letter is meant to convey the feeling of our officers and directors to your Club. It may not be as complete as we desire to make it, but please be assured that it is not final. We are open to additional contact, and will try to be frank and sincere with you as we know you will be with us.

Wishing the Greenkeepers Club of New England long life and prosperity, I am

Yours very truly,

JOHN QUAILL,

President

National Association of Greenkeepers of America.

## CORRECTING TOPSOIL DIFFICULTIES ON THE PUTTING GREEN

by Everett J. Pyle

Much of the trouble experienced by the greenkeeper in caring for putting greens can be traced directly to unsuitable topsoil. In his efforts to maintain a true putting surface under such conditions, he has tried various methods to correct the difficulties. Frequent top dressings with good compost, sometimes preceded by spiking or discing, has been the procedure on many golf courses. More recently, some greenkeepers have laboriously gone over the greens with a tubular fork which cuts out small plugs, leaving thousands of holes to be filled with good compost. Neither method can do a really satisfactory job. There are greenkeepers who have "taken the bull by the horns," i.e., stripped the turf from the green and relayed it after correcting the poor condition quality of the topsoil. This is the only efficient, thorough and sensible way to solve the problem.

Removing turf from a putting green is not difficult, nor does it require a great deal of time. Either a tractor-drawn sod cutter or a hand operated machine, if the green is constructed in such a way as to prohibit the use of a tractor, will do the job quickly and neatly. Turf cut with such equipment can be relayed with no waste.

When the turf has been stripped, the topsoil is exposed to the mercy of the greenkeeper. He can loosen the tightly compacted soil and cultivate it to his heart's content, which is probably just what he has been itching to do all along. Here is an excellent opportunity to mix in lime, fertilizer, humus, sand and charcoal; to install underdrainage if needed, to eliminate steep grades and artificial appearing contours, which have made mowing and watering difficult. In short, here is for the greenkeeper the same opportunity given to the automobile mechanic, when he is permitted to take down a faulty motor and give it a complete overhauling.

A machine such as the Rototiller is necessary to do a thorough job of cultivating or mixing the soil. This machine is operated by a gasoline motor, is easily handled, and does the work without disturbing the contours of the green, which permits the addition of sand, humus or other materials evenly, in layers of the proper depth, before the final mixing.

It may be possible to rent one of these machines for a day if only one or two greens are to be done. However, if several greens are to be reconditioned, there may be economy in purchasing one for the club. Any greenkeeper can find plenty of additional work for it in preparing areas for seeding or in the compost nursery. Spading or forking to loosen the topsoil or to work-in materials is costly and very unsatisfactory.

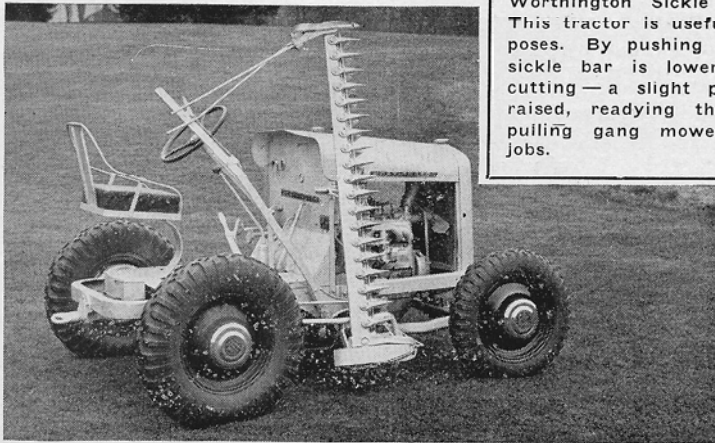
Relaying the turf over the new surface is really the most difficult part of the operation. The job must be done carefully or the putting green will be bumpy and will require much additional work lifting low places and top dressing. There is, however, no reason why relaying putting green turf should call for more skill than the application of fertilizers and chemicals to the same turf.

Poor topsoil, and particularly faulty-textured topsoil, usually produces thin, unhealthy turf. This condition encourages weeds. If there is a good supply of weed-free turf in the nursery, some of the more weedy patches of the old turf may be replaced with the cleaner material. However, when topsoil difficulties are corrected as here suggested, there is certain to be an improvement in the general health and vigor of the old turf which will enable it to compete favorably with weed growth.

Too many greenkeepers are merely pill doctors when it comes to prescribing treatment for sick turf, when the cause of unhealthy putting green lies definitely in the topsoil upon which it is growing, the only logical cure is to operate. The greenkeeper who has the courage to propose and to execute this kind of treatment when he knows it is necessary, will be more appreciated, and will get more satisfaction from his work than any pill-dispensing turf doctor.

The youngest member of the Mitchell family, Henry, is now greenkeeper at the Walpole Country Club, Walpole, Mass. This makes four sons as greenkeepers, with father, Robert, at Kernwood.

Frank Wilson was so anxious to get back from the Washington Convention, to attend to Senate bill No. 33, that he came back by plane.



Worthington Sickle Bar Tractor. This tractor is useful for all purposes. By pushing the lever, the sickle bar is lowered ready for cutting—a slight pull and it is raised, readying the tractor for pulling gang mowers and other jobs.

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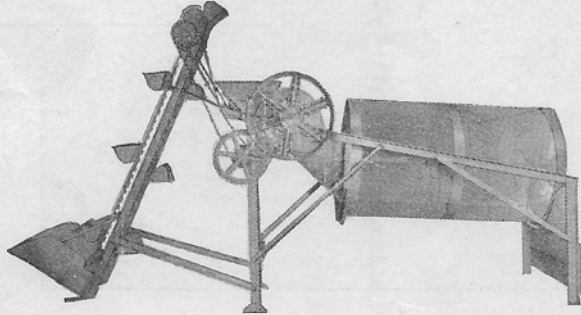
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