



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1951

To Be Happy

Be Friendly.

The bell of praise is still ringing for the Waltham Field Station as the ideal lay-out for the meeting place of the Greenkeepers Club. Likewise for the caterer who puts a little extra oomph to make the lunches attractive and appetizing.

Monday, March 5, was the date of the last meeting. When Ye Editor arrived he couldn't help noticing the worried look on Frank Wilson's countenance. Later he was observed anxiously watching the entrances and the people entering. Under pressure Frank confessed he was looking for Percy Frostbottom. That phoney guy who attended the Chicago conference and who had put Frank in the dog house with his family, for failing to mention that he was at the conference. Ye Editor, acting as a detective and a go between, finally located Percy in a Boston brokerage office. Mrs. Wilson, the editor gives you his word that Percy identified Frank at the conference, but said he hesitated about including his name because he was so chummy with the waitresses. (Ye Editor hopes this clears the issue.)

Getting back to the enjoyable lunch served by the caterer, the Sawtelle Brothers kindly footed the entire bill and received the hearty thanks from all attending.

The meeting started off with a question box with Counselor Jack as the chairman. Following, is a brief on the subject matter:

Question. How many pounds of nitrogen per 1000 sq. Ft. of green is required for the season? Answers ranged from 3 lbs. to 10 lbs., some including 20 lbs. lime per M. for season. Conclusions. 3-5 lbs. nearer average practice.

Question. Minimum distance of setting cup from edge apron? Some said 10 ft. Some 12-15 feet.

Question. Best way to eliminate Poa Annua? Ans. Apply 2 4 D early in season. Force it early and cut seed. Use P.M.A.S. every 10 days. Dr. DeFrance recommends using P.M.A.S. as a fungicide spray regularly will ten dto eliminate P. Annua. There are indications that aerifying may spread P.A.

Question. What is the present minimum pay for inexperienced help? Ans. \$1.00-\$1.15.

Question. What is the reaction of the members to weekly instead of monthly meetings? No favorable answers.

Question. What is the best way to aerate greens? One ans. Take up all the sod — roto till, put back sod and forget for ten years. A

\$4000. plus job for 18 greens. Spring aerifying best. Fertilize early to get good growth of grass and deep roots. Aerify to break up thatch and layers. Aerify in spring not middle of summer. Fall aerifying may spread Poa Annua.

Question. What is the ideal analysis for complete fertilizer for greens under normal conditions? Ans. Any declining ratio. The loss as found in grass clippings analysis $2\frac{1}{2}$ -1-2. 1-1-1. 8-16-16 with milorganite.

Question. A ditch dug 5 feet deep and filled with wet sand will settle how much? Ans. 5%.

Question. A show of hands on preference of occasional heavy watering versus frequent light watering? 10 votes for heavy, 8 for light. Show of hands on night watering versus morning watering? Vote fairly evenly divided.

Question. In using chlordane for Jap. beetle control how long after liming should chlordane be used? Ans. 2 months.

Question. The best method of eliminating low spots in greens? Ans. The most satisfactory, remove sod and regrade.

Question. What should be the minimum salary for a greenkeeper? Much discussion. One idea was, put it on an hourly basis and expect the equivalent of a bricklayers or mason's pay. Maybe you've got something there.

Then the deck was cleared for the business. Narry Sperandio, our worthy secretary, ill with the grippe. About the first absence Ye Editor can remember. Hope you are feeling tip-top again Narry.

Percy L. Clark Jr. Meadow Brook Golf Club, Reading, Mass. voted an associate member. Applications for new members read. Full membership Ernest H. Stephanson, Ledgemont C. C., Seekonk, Mass. and for associate membership, Casimo Piantedosi, Commonwealth Country Club.

Changes in the by-laws mentioned in the February Newsletter approved in Articles 4-7-8-9 and 10. Article 1 Change the name of the club — No Soap. New England Golf Course Superintendents Association voted down. It was then voted to adopt the name New England Greenkeepers Association. Final action to be taken at the April 2, meeting.

It was voted to purchase two dozen ash trays to be presented to Ray Koon for use in the Field Station meeting hall. A minimum gesture for the greatly appreciated courtesy of this fine meeting place.

STOP LOOK CONSIDER.

The first outdoor meeting is being arranged at the New Bedford Country Club. Mike O'Grady is planning one of his famous barbecues. But he must have your cooperation to proceed with it. The cost will be \$2.50-\$3.00. Guarantees must be given. Think about it please, and be prepared to state your willingness to back it at the April meeting.

FOR SALE

Ye Editor assumes the responsibility and possible criticism for using this publication for advertising purposes. Here is something which has just come to his attention. It might interest several golf clubs. Do you need some tee benches? A local church is offering at a bargain price, sturdy, well braced, one inch quartered oak, stained, 12 foot long settees at \$16.00 each. Contact Ye Editor at, Juniper Hill Golf Course, Northboro, Mass. for further information.

THE AMHERST TURF CONFERENCE held March 8 and 9 was a huge success, in the opinion of everyone Ye Editor interviewed. It was different. Entirely different from anything which has been held formerly. The subjects were all focused on the business of operating a golf course, dealing with it as a manufacturing plant. Production, selling, advertising etc. The subjects were all handled by panel discussions. Groups of 6 to 8 participants were selected from the registration cards and then the subjects developed by impromptu questions and answers under the guidance of a leader. Prof. Dickinson, Geoffrey Cornish, and Orville Clapper were in the lime light as such. Unfortunately time or space does not permit going into detail on the subject matter found in the Editors notes. The entire program held everyones interest both days. It was a different angle. Quite refreshing and brain ticklers all the way.

The banquet Thursday evening was also quite unique, and introduced an idea most of us had never heard of or thought up. The special feature was a singing toastmaster very ably handled by Mr. Doric Alviani, the music director at the University. All the preliminaries, and all the introductions of speakers was in song. Mr. Alviani's singing voice and his ready wit made the evening a complete success.

A short business meeting of the Mass. Section of the New England Turf Association was held at the end of the conference. It was voted to change the by-laws so that the fiscal year would end June 30, rather than December 31. It was recommended that the directors hold a meeting sometime in May. It was voted to solicit membership from all prospects at a membership fee of \$10.00 each. It was also voted that affiliate memberships be established at a fee of \$2.00. Practically everyone present put their money on the barrelhead for this. Prof. Dickinson, the executive secretary-treasurer of the association reported that if \$3000. could be raised this year it should carry along the experimental work very well for 1951.

The next meeting of Greenkeepers Club will be held April 2, at the Waltham Field Station. It will be a dealers meeting, with opportunity of hearing the latest on equipment and material supply, prices, etc. We'll be seeing you there.

APOLOGIES from the Editor for this hastily produced Newsletter and the possibility of reaching you late. The pressure from last minute unexpected events locally, prevents a more complete and better thought out job.

H. Darling, Editor.