



Spring is here again. Nature's wonderments will soon unfold before us. The greatest magician in the Universe is about to perform. Likewise the keeper of the greens will be doing his stuff. What the seasons have in store for us in troubles and blessings nobody knows but we can be sure of one thing. An abundance of activity.

News about the National Turf Conference at Atlantic City, February 8 to 13, is old and rusty now but there still may be some points of interest to relate. It was a well attended conference second only to Chicago in 1951, we were told. Representation from this area was excellent. Thirty in all. Twenty three from our Greenkeepers Club. Space does not permit mentioning all the names except as they may appear on our *Turf Variety* screen. Atlantic City's famous boardwalk was quiet and dismal compared to its summer activity. No Miss America to be seen. But a few of the boys took an occasional stretch on the boards and a longing look at the beach surf. Embarrassing to the Chamber of Commerce was a quick 2 in. snowfall one evening.

There is no question about the healthy appetites possessed by the greenkeepers, or should we say G. C. Superintendents. One look in on Hackney's, renowned for its shore dinners was proof enough. It was a sight for sore eyes and weak stomachs to see J. DeFrance, O. Clapper, M. O'Grady and party devouring King Crab. A friendly place too. Ah Doc. The Educational Program was the usual, covering a wide variety of current greenkeepers problems ably presented by research specialists and superintendents. Included was our Arthur Anderson who received top billing on the platform with O. J. Noer. They gave Art rather a hard time though after his introduction. One gent flitted from side to side adjusting the mike while a photographer waved a flash gun in his face and popped him after he started reading. Arthur read between the lines that weren't there for a moment.

Conclusions drawn from this meeting were:

1. We will never run out of turf problems.
2. There is a great need for more turf research and turf specialists.
3. The quality of the present research staff is good.
4. *Poa Annua* control is not very far off.
5. Compared to ten years ago real progress is now being made in solving turf problems.

6. It pays to brush shoulders with greenkeepers from all sections of the country and to mull over and absorb information available.
7. Probably the man who had the most miserable time at the convention was Narry Sperandio with carbuncle trouble.

A highlight of this conference was the tour of the famous Pine Valley Golf Club, Clementon, N.J. What sand. What hazards. What a course. Eb. Steinger, the superintendent did a swell job as a genial host. Miami has been selected for the 1954 convention. Here's a chance to visit Florida. Start saving now for this trip.

Those absent from our last Waltham meeting, February 24, missed one of our outstanding educational gatherings. Prof. H. B. Musser, Pennsylvania State College, one of our nation's turf authorities, talked on his pet subjects, turf fertilization and grasses. There is lack of room to include brief notes of interest. Picture slide illustrations accompanying Prof. Musser's talk added to the clarity and simplicity of its presentation. It was tops.

The annual turf conference at Amherst, March 12 and 13, was the next event to attract local and distant greenkeepers. This year it was a bit different. In the form of a seminar on maintenance problems. Round table discussions and opinions were intended to formulate conclusions and finally compiled for general circulation. The large attendance at this meeting by greenkeepers from many adjoining states was noteworthy. It was a distinct credit to Prof. Dickinson.

Finally we approach the last educational meeting of the winter series at Waltham, Monday, April 6. Again we will be honored with an outstanding agronomist and turf specialist. A newcomer to this section but an interesting personality from Texas with turf information everyone will appreciate. Dr. James Watson sponsored by the Toro Company and the Clapper Company. This will be a member guest meeting and a special cordial invitation is extended to the Rhode Island Greenkeepers and all others interested. If time permits Tony Sperandio will show his movies taken of our members last summer. This will be a big meeting. Come and join us. Luncheon at 12:30 by the caterer who is deserving of our thanks and appreciation for having served us with so many appetizing, tasty and generous meals. We'll see you there.

H. DARLING, Editor