

## A MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas time is here again. Its spirit has prevailed nearly 2000 years and it has remained steadfast in all these years. What is Christmas? It is good will toward man. It is the strong deep kinship that brings a family together. It is the warmth that spreads through a congregation gathered in reverence. It's the tears that comes to the eyes upon seeing the delight of a child receiving an unexpected toy.

Christmas is faith and hope. It's the warmth in your heart toward your neighbor, your friend and the stranger passing by. It is peace on earth, good will toward men. Let's all have warm hearts and smiling countenances this Christmas Day 1954.

It was just like home again to be back at the Waltham Field Station for our December 6 meeting. And that bountiful tenderloin roast beef luncheon was fit for a king. Much praise is due our caterer for such splendid meals. Keep 'em coming Tony. (The editor regrets having to miss the next meal at the January 3 meeting). On top of this full meal additional servings of door prizes were drawn for Prof. Dickinson, and Messrs. Cronan, Farrant, and Connors.

The educational program was contributed by the active heads of the Agrostology Department of the University of Massachusetts. Dr. Colby, Prof. Dickinson, and his new assistant, Dr. Roberts, and by the dealers, Orville Clapper, Ross Sawtelle, and Mr. Leonard, International Chemical Co. Dr. Colby pointed out that there were three phases of their work at Amherst—teaching, research, and extension. Each phase requires the full time of one or more men but one man has been carrying on the physically impossible of nearly all phases combined. Dr. Roberts, who made an excellent impression on our group, discussed briefly, his proposed endeavor to concentrate on the art and science of greenkeeping.

Prof. Dickinson expressed his disappointment regarding the impossibility of running the annual March Turf Conference at Amherst in 1955. This is due to the fact that Stockbridge Hall is undergoing a complete renovation and because of the rapid growth at the University, no other space is available to accommodate a group of this size. Later, after Prof. Dickininson and his party had left for Amherst, at our business meeting, it was the concensus of opinion that an Allen; 3rd Vice-President; N. J. Sperandio; Secretary, William Ash; Treasurer, Sam Mitchell; Trustee for three years, Paul O'Leary; Educational Committee Chairman, A. J. Sperandio; Golf Committee Chairman, Joe Butler; Auditing Committee, George Webster and Howard Farrant.

The problem of raising the funds to send our President each year to the National Turf Conference came up for the annual discussion. A commmittee of three, Arthur Anderson, Arthur Cody, and Tony Sperandio, was appointed by the chair to investigate and explore this question so the solution may be found.

The NATIONAL TURF CONFERENCE as you know takes place at St. Louis January 16-21. Arthur Anderson was voted our delegate. Here is some brief transportation information:

#### Via Air-

T.W.A. Convention Special, round trip including tax, Boston to St. Louis, \$122.65; Eastern Air Lines— Boston to St. Louis, round trip including tax, \$108.02; Leave Boston 10:00 A.M. Arrive St. Louis 5:07 P.M. By Train—

Boston to St. Louis, round trip, \$113.64; pullman for two, \$27.94. Leave Boston 11:15 A.M. Arrive St. Louis next day 11:35 A.M.

# NEXT MEETING OF THE GREENKEEPERS CLUB JANUARY 3

### At the Waltham Field Station

This is the annual meeting. A full attendance is expected. One of those superb luncheons at 12:00 ncon. Dr. De France is expected to be present.

Officers of the Rhode Island and Connecticut Greenkeepers Clubs and their members are cordially invited.

Hoping that this News Letter reaches you in time to say, A MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU.

### A CHRISTMAS DREAM

Twas the night before Christmas, when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse. And I had a dream, on the golf course it was About fellows I knew, it gave me a buzz, Suddenly on the links there arose such a clatter, I opened my eyes to see what was the matter, When what to my wondering eyes should appear afternoon and evening meeting might be held at the Hotel Northampton. This could be a get-together along the lines of previous years. That of a bull fest, discussions and renewing acquaintances, all depending, of course, on the sanction of Prof. Dickinson and the backing of other Greenkeepers Clubs. The editor was delegated to convey these thoughts to the Prof. which he has already done.

The dealers contribution was a general discussion of new equipment, new materials and the complications involved in offering quick, efficient service in equipment and parts on last minute ordering.

Evidence was presented that everyone is benefitted by early ordering. Every Club able to do so now, should place orders for spring use.

At the business meeting of the Club the nominating committee reported the following slate of officers for 1955 to be voted upon at the annual meeting January 3: President, Michael O'Grady; 1st Vice-President, Manuel Francis; 2nd Vice-President, Albert

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but a miniature sleigh and eight uny remueer, With a little old driver so lively and sprite I knew in a moment it must be St. Mike More rapid than eagles his chargers they came And he whistled and shouted and called them by name, Now Manny, now Narry, now Albert and Bill. On Sam, on Arthur, on Tony and Phil. They came down the fairway without even a fall, For they were sure footed and so proud of their haul, Right up to the club house the coursers they flew With the sleigh full of joys and St. Michael too, And then, in a twinkling I heard at the door A knocking with fists that set up a roar, I opened of course with glee and much mirth, To see the round little man so full at the girth, He spoke with a brogue and a bit of gruff But his eyes had a twinkle and were not very tough, He came with a message for the boys we know In case the news editor might be slow His words of cheer were happy and bright Full of joy and glee for your Yuletide night And I heard him exclaim ere he drove out of sight HAPPY CHRISTMAS to all, and to all a good night. H. DARLING, Editor