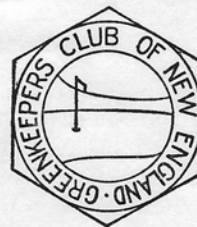


NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1955



This March issue of the Newsletter is generally written on the first day of Spring, March 21, with the usual comment about this bright and glorious time of the year. But what Mother Nature did to us this year on this eventful day might well be deleted. Moreover, there is little room for fat this month due to a good supply of lean meat.

Our March meeting at Waltham was one of experimentation and progress. The former because of both a morning and afternoon discussion and the latter because of the action taken on changing the name of our organization (More about this later). Tony Sperandio, as chairman of our educational committee, has had the feeling that we should expand the educational possibilities of our monthly winter meetings and arrange both a morning and afternoon session in order to take full advantage of this meeting day. Providing that it meets with the approval of the Field Station Staff and has the support of our membership. What do you fellows think? The morning forum, March 7, was devoted to fairway mowers ably explained by the Sawtelles and the Clapper Company staff and the afternoon discussion was on the subject of new equipment. For the benefit of those who did not attend or those who did not take mental or physical notes here are a few grease and oil suggestions:

For Worthington Gang Mower gear housing use Mobilgrease No. 1 or Texaco Marfax 00. Roller bearings on new type use 1 lb. tube outboard motor gear grease. Do not use pressure gun. For Jacobsen Power Greens Mower use regular gasoline (not high test). Use S.A.E. No. 30 outboard or non-detergent oil. Use Champion spark plug J12J or outboard motor type or equivalent. For Toro Mowers a special Lubriplate grease has proven very satisfactory. The new Jacobsen Power Greens Mower now has 9 blades on the reel, a new carburetor and an improved change on the hub transport wheel. The Clapper Co. have at least two new items of interest, The West Point Airlift, a low platform transport cart, and all models of the Royer Shredder.

The attendance prize winners were O'Grady, McBride, Alcott, and Conners. At the afternoon business meeting two applications for membership were announced, John Mello, Long Meadow G.C. and John Mileski, Duxbury Yacht Club. The momentous action taken was on the change of the name of our club. After due consideration and discussion it was voted

decided upon a common management problem and then presented it for general discussion. These discussions were aggressive, lively and constructive. Here is a summary of some of the high points.

Motorized Golf Carts. The Greenkeepers frowned on their use in this area. At some courses they are permitted only with a doctor's certificate. Where in use now definite rules have been set up to keep a safe distance from tees and greens. The use of such carts have abused, such as overloading with extra players and bags, quick starting at foot of hills, not avoiding soft areas, etc. There was a general feeling that motorized golf carts should be banned entirely from golf courses in this area. The results of a vote taken was 38 opposed to any motorized carts, 22 opposed except with restrictions, such as doctor's certificates, invalids, etc. Other subjects dealt with were: Thatch, Superintendents' retirement funds, accumulative effect of Maleic Hydrazide, sub-soil compaction by construction heavy equipment. It was reported that gypsum (75 lbs. to 1,000 sq. ft.) had been beneficial for loosening sub-soil. Dr. Roberts gave an interesting talk on liquid fertilizers. Then followed the winter school graduation exercises featuring a talk by Donald Mitchell on "The Need of Education on Turf Culture." The evening turf dinner and entertainment with remarks by Prof. Dickinson and Dr. Colby terminated a most interesting affair.

Saturday, March 12, at the Country Club a group of our golf course superintendents met with the U.S.G.A. turf service officials for a general discussion on turf problems. Mr. Radko, the U.S.G.A. regional director, advised against winter playing when surface thawing is taking place over solid frozen ground underneath because *it will result in bumpy greens during the regular playing season.* Mr. Radko also issued a bulletin last fall dealing in part with electric golf carts. He stated, "In the Northeastern region, where cool season grasses predominate, there is no question but that damage to turf will occur . . . During July and August when wilt is more likely to occur, the use of many electric carts may be the difference between turf and no turf".

"Wisdom prepares for the worst, but folly leaves the worst for the day when it comes"—Cecil.

Personals. It was learned at the close of the last Waltham meeting that Tony Caranci, Jr. was about to

24 to 2 to change the name of our club to Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. Since this is a change in our by-laws this notice is given to all members that final action will be taken at our next meeting, April 4. ARTICLE XIV under AMENDMENT of CONSTITUTION and BY-LAWS, states, "The Constitution and By-Laws can only be amended by a two-thirds vote of those present. Amendment shall lay over for one meeting and notice of such proposed amendment shall be put on notice of next regular meeting.

"The action of men are the best interpreters of their thoughts"—Locke.

Informality and chuminess prevailed at the one day Amherst turf conference held at the Hotel Northampton. Those in attendance (a goodly number) enjoyed the relaxing table seating arrangement for the afternoon round table discussions and the talk by Dr. Roberts. Everyone was assigned to tables of eight persons according to their birthdays. At least two men discovered a coincident date of birth. Each table

have an operation at the Mariam Hospital, Providence. We hope he is doing well now. - - - It was good to see Harold Mosher at the last meeting. - - - Tony Sperandio has appointed a special committee to assist him with the May meeting. This committee is asked to meet at Waltham April 4, at 11:00 A.M. - - - Ed Curran discovered in February that someone had opened a valve letting water into the drained system. Some \$2,000 loss may have occurred.

"We learn caution by the misfortunes of others."

Will you be present at the next meeting? Waltham, April 4—12:00 noon luncheon. Vote on changing the name of the club and listen to an excellent speaker, Mr. Wilbur Hawkins, on "How to Remember Names, How to Get Along With People, and How to Improve Yourself."

"People seldom improve when they have no other model but themselves to copy from"—Goldsmith.

H. DARLING, Editor

