

APRIL

NEWSLETTER

1956

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS
ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

Enclosed with this Newsletter is a copy of our association's by-laws. Because of the recent change in the name of our organization practically every page must be corrected. Therefore this seems to be the logical time to make any other changes that are deemed advisable in policies, clarification and workability. The By-law committee requests the cooperation of every member in completing this task. Please read through the entire book making notes wherever you think a change should be made in policy or ruling. Please do this as soon as you can while it is fresh in your mind and send your ideas to the editor. A better knowledge of these by-laws may help you.

Following are two questions for consideration:

1. Shall we increase our dues to \$15.00? We just about break even with our present dues of \$10.00. More money should be available for education. That is one of the primary purposes of our organization. See article 2.

2. Shall we tighten the qualifications for associate memberships, see paragraph b, article 3, requiring three years experience as a golf course superintendent rather than three years in golf course maintenance. Your ideas will be welcomed.

"If a better system is thine, import it; if not, make use of mine." Horace.

Our regular meeting, April 2, at Waltham, was historic in one respect. Perhaps never before in the history of our organization was so much snow reported on all golf courses at this date. It therefore, seemed pertinent to hold a round table discussion on this situation. For posterity here are a few notes. Except for the cape most courses reported, as of April 1, snow 12 to 14 inches deep on their greens with drifts 2 to 3 feet. Manchester, N. H., reported 18 inches and Bill Mitchell reported frost 4 feet deep and snow 3 to 4 feet deep at his N. Sutton, N. H., course. What to do about it? 16 Supts. planned to let nature take its course in melting the snow. 7 Supts. intended to push it off the greens. 12 planned to use a fungicide as soon as possible. Vespers Golf Club with 14 inches of snow and 4-5 inches of underlying ice had already used a bulldozer to clear off the snow. Mr. Martin, of the Mallinckrodt Company was present and offered his advice on the use of fungicides for snow mold protection. A similar round the room up to date report will be called for at the May meeting.

Bill and Sam Mitchell gave very interesting talks on golf course construction and Velvet bent sod. Here are the notes. Measure the length of holes from center of tee to center of green by the line of flight of the ball—Today, the demand is for less hilly courses—In course construction use all types of machinery as much as possible because of the cost of labor. Digging an artificial pond with a drag line has proven the most expensive. Traps are placed not so much to penalize

but to protect. Highly fertilized sod will not move as well as a hungry sod. Seed tees with the same grass mixture as used in the fairways. In the construction of greens a common mistake is the failure to remove a sufficiently large area of top soil to permit ease in contouring, not only the green, but the surrounding traps as well.

A representative from the Nitroform Agricultural Chemical Co., Woonsocket, R. I., explained the importance of their new nitrogen product, urea-formaldehyde, which releases its nitrogen slowly throughout the growing season. And finally, Orville Clapper introduced the latest addition to his line of equipment, the Golf Pony, a one man power golf cart.

At the business meeting Robert St. Thomas and Thomas Niblet, were voted associate memberships. President O'Grady announced the new Welfare Committee to be, Albert Allen, Arthur Cody, and Guy Tedesco. By the way, hats off to President O'Grady for so ably representing us at the P.G.A. banquet held at the Statler April 9. His Irish brogue and sharp wit nearly stole the show from the guest speaker Ben Hogan. He received a tremendous ovation after completing his remarks to the assembly.

NEXT AND FIRST OUTDOOR MEETING

Date: May 7.
Place: Bellevue Golf Club, Porter Street, Melrose, Mass.
Direction: Take Route 128 — turn off at North Street, Wakefield. The course is near the Melrose Hospital.
Who: All members assistants are invited.
Time: Demonstrations 10:30. Luncheon 12:30. Golf Tourney 2:30.
Subject: Demonstrations by our Members.

Arthur Anderson — Ford Root Cutter and Greens Air Special.

Albert Allen — Care of Equipment.

Phil Cassidy — Trap Care.

Narry Sperandio — Greens Mowers.

Paul O'Leary — Seeding.

Guy Tedesco — The Proportioner.

"Imparting knowledge is only lighting other men's candle at our lamp, without depriving ourselves of any flame." Jane Porter.

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