

Newsletter

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

They came, a brave and hardy band, Undaunted by the task at hand To blaze a trail in this great land That others might in freedom live.

It took great courage for that first band of Pilgrims to venture across a wide, little known ocean to establish a home in a wilderness so far away. Perhaps it was more than courage. It might have been desperation. (Webster says, "desperation is usually an active state — the abandonment of hope impelling to a furious struggle against adverse circumstances, with a disregard of consequences.") What is going on in Hungary at this time is a good example of desperation. It is also an example of what happens when all of ones freedoms have been taken away.

We in America, blessed with so many freedoms, find it difficult to comprehend such a state of affairs. But if we give it a moments thought it is not too difficult to understand how we would feel if all the freedoms we now enjoy were taken away from us. It couldn't happen here. Who said so? When it comes by degrees and in small stages we don't notice small bits being taken away until it is too late. It can happen in our own back yard. And it is. When any organization can tell you, or your club, who you can and can't hire or fire then some of your freedoms are slipping. Club officials have something to think about in this regard and it is the duty of Golf Course Superintendents to keep the officials properly informed of all labor situations.

By the time this Newsletter reaches you the traditional Thanksgiving Day will have passed but the days of thanksgiving will still be with us. This is the appropriate time of the year to give thanks for all our blessings great and small. Count them, including all the trifle ones, and you will be surprised how rich you are.

News in this letter goes back to Monday, October 8 – The Pro-Supt. tournament at Brae Burn. More accurately it should be known as the John Shanahan Memorial Tourney. For the benefit of our younger members, John Shanahan was one of the founders of our club and was for many, many years, the greenkeeper at the Brae Burn Country Club. He was a man of sterling qualities, most conscientious, and loyal to his profession. His turf knowledge came from constant study and observation in the school of hard knocks and experience. When he voiced an opinion it was generally recognized as the best. It is fitting therefore, that this tournament be held annually at Brae Burn. And likewise fitting that it should be a Scotch Tournament thereby increasing the possibilities of a different winner each year as the records indicate. A best ball tournament it was felt would tend to restrict the winners to the better players and in the long run discourage a cosmopolitan entry which this type of tournament should encourage. The winners of this years Shanahan Trophy were Pro. John Bove and Supt. Bob St. Thomas with 83-68

Next Les Kennedy and Al Barney 79-69
Jim Browning and Phil Cassidy 79-71
Geo. Lane and Bob Musciarone 86-71
Vin Obey and Guy Tedesco had a low gross of 74 and Stan Brown and Milt Brown a 77.

It was a glorious day for it and made most enjoyable because of the excellent condition of the course. Arthur Anderson takes great pride in having the course in tip top condition at all times, especially for this annual affair.

October 29th was the last outdoor meeting of the season, held at the Highland Golf Club in Attleboro. Old timer, Elmer Fuller was the host Supt. He and his club are always the perfect hosts. This time it was noted that the ladies of the club put on a special hors d'oeuvres for our group in spite of the fact that another party was scheduled to follow ours. Thanks ladies it was nice of you.

The days program started off with equipment demonstrations in the morning followed by an excellent luncheon. Then the golf tourney and ending with a business meeting in the late afternoon. At the end of the day everyone agreed everything had been perfect. - The weather, the quality of the course and the harmonious atmosphere which prevailed. It was noted that new construction was in progress on the first hole. Elmer Fuller stated that this hole was being lengthened 120 yards which will make it a tough par 4. The new green was stolonized a year ago with CI, 19, 27. By the way, we forgot to ask Elmer about the lion we heard while on the course. Did anyone else hear it? We didn't think one beer would effect us that way. On the third hole it sounded like a lion's roar. On the fifth hole, deeper in the woods we were sure of it. Is there a nearby zoo Elmer? Or was it the beer?

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd is the date of our next meeting at the WALTHAM FIELD STATION Lunch at 12.30.

The program will be an interesting one. Come and see. Al Radko will be one of the Guest Speakers. This will also be the Dealers Meeting.

"Go often to the house of thy friend, for weeds choke the unused path." Emerson.

H. DARLING, Editor