

Annual Summer Greenkeepers' Meeting Held June 4 to 6

Mother Nature gave further proof of her custom of supplying elements for the greenkeeper to combat, by sending rain and mist to Atlantic City on the morning of June 4. Despite the disagreeable weather, however, many golf course enthusiasts were on hand. The Country Club of Atlantic City played host, and the course provided entertainment in the morning for those who cared to play. After lunch Mr. H. Kendall Read, chairman of the Green Committee of the club, guided the convention over the course of which he is justly proud.

Special attention was given to the natural use and effects gained with the sandy and gravelly seaside soil. Although the terrain is flat, the architecture and construction of the course were so well worked out that, by accentuating natural contours, it appeared as a naturally rolling terrain. Beautiful effects were gained in the construction of the putting greens by large shallow bunkers, tilted putting surfaces, and long slopes from every elevation. Large areas of sandy waste, with bunches and tufts of coarse marram grass here and there, accentuated the seaside effect and were made to look wind-swept and natural by the manner in which the sand appeared to have drifted and by the rough, naturally overhanging turf on the lips of the traps.

While going over the course, turf building and maintenance methods were pointed out and discussed besides the construction problems. One striking point was the excellent turf that has finally been procured on what was once a barren sand and gravel waste. The new district experimental plots which have been laid out on Mr. Read's course by the Green Section came in for a good share of interest and discussion. Before dinner the meeting spent an interesting hour examining the water plant and sewage disposal system, both of which are perhaps the latest things in that line.

Dinner was served in the club, and an informal discussion kept the ball rolling during the evening.

On Tuesday, June 5, the convention arrived at the famous Pine Valley Golf Club, near Philadelphia. Some of the more daring played golf, but for the most part the members of the convention were content to admire the tremendous carries, the bold bunkering, the fine turf, and the natural and picturesque scenery of the whole grand layout.

Wednesday found that the convention had gathered some new faces, notwithstanding a few of the attendants had left. In any event the interest was very keen at the Green Section's turf garden at Arlington Farm, which was the attraction for the final day. The numerous plots were clearly outlined with cord boundaries, and signs were plentifully placed, so that comparisons and results were easily made and seen. The research work was explained by the members of the Green Section. Turf of various varieties, fertilizers, soil acidity, turf diseases, putting surfaces, arsenate of lead, annual bluegrass (*Poa annua*), maintenance, rate of seeding, height of cutting, seasonal differences in strains and varieties, and disease-resistant varieties, were among the many phases of work that the Green Section had on hand for those interested.

Gentle slopes are desirable. Sharp banks on which a ball can not stop are certainly undesirable.