

Mid-West Greenkeepers' Association

By A. L. Brandon

Our association developed out of a mass meeting of greenkeepers held in the Great Northern Hotel, Chicago, November 29, 1926, after golf courses in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana had been circularized. It was incorporated under the laws of Illinois, December 24, 1926. We have now 70 active members, who are located in a centralized area within a radius of 150 miles from Chicago. Any greenkeeper or assistant greenkeeper who has had 3 years of experience in actual greenkeeping and those holding the combined position of greenkeeper and professional are eligible for active membership in the association; any person directly or indirectly interested in the development of golf courses is eligible for associate membership. The annual dues are \$5, in addition to which there is a \$5 initiation fee. As stated in the corporate records of the organization the objects for which it was formed were:

"To associate and unite those persons engaged in the construction, reconstruction, development, improvement, and maintenance of golf courses and their attributes, particularly known and designated as greenkeepers.

"To promote, in any manner, the lawful and legitimate interests of its members; to assist in the development and advancement of the science of greenkeeping for the purpose of improving, standardizing, and developing methods of efficient and economic maintenance of golf courses.

"To collect, promulgate, and disseminate practical and scientific knowledge of problems and methods of greenkeeping of every kind and nature; to facilitate and promote the interchange of ideas among the members; and to edit, publish, distribute, and circulate magazines, periodicals, bulletins, and journals of all kinds pertaining to the activities and objects of the association."

Meetings are held monthly. Winter meetings are held indoors at the Great Northern Hotel and are educational in character, the round table discussions proving extremely valuable. It is the attempt of the association to present an authority at each meeting to address the membership. Summer meetings have been held at various clubs throughout our membership district since the existence of the organization. Members have visited a large representative number of clubs. Green committee members are cordially welcome to our meetings but we find it hard to gain a representative attendance.

The annual meeting of the association is held in Chicago, January 5. Additional meetings during 1930 were held as follows:

January 29. At this meeting arrangements were made for the participation of the association in the convention of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America at Louisville, Ky.

February 26. The meeting was addressed by C. M. Harrison, of the United States Golf Association Green Section.

April 9. The meeting was addressed by O. J. Noer, soil expert.

April 28. First outdoor meeting; Medinah Country Club, Medinah, Ill.

May 26. Chain O' Lakes Country Club, Antioch, Ill.

June 30. Harlem Hills Country Club, Rockford, Ill.

July 8. Meeting held in conjunction with the meeting of the

United States Golf Association Green Section, on the A. D. Lasker estate, Everett, Ill.

July 28. Skokie Country Club, Glencoe, Ill.

August 25. Shoreacres Golf Club, Lake Bluff, Ill.

September 8. Annual Mid-West tournament at Medinah Country Club.

September 29. Chicago Golf Club, Wheaton, Ill.

December 5. Indoor meeting, addresses by A. S. Dahl, of the United States Golf Association Green Section.

The officers of the association for 1930 were as follows: President, M. L. Bezek, Beverly Country Club; first vice-president, Pete Stewart, Lake Shore Country Club; second vice-president, John MacGregor, Chicago Golf Club; treasurer, Fred Kruger, Olympia Fields Country Club; secretary, A. L. Brandon, St. Charles Country Club, St. Charles, Ill.

The officers for 1931 are: President, M. L. Bezek, Beverly Country Club; first vice-president, Alfred Buller, Chikaming Country Club; second vice-president, R. N. Johnson, Medinah Country Club; treasurer, Fred Kruger, Olympia Fields Country Club; secretary, A. L. Brandon, St. Charles Country Club, St. Charles, Ill.

Green Committee, Chicago District Golf Association

By Guy M. Peters

The by-laws of the Chicago District Golf Association, which was founded in 1913, provide for various committees, one of which is the green committee. The writer has been chairman of that committee since 1927, and has been reappointed as such for 1931, with Ben Stevenson as the other member of the committee. Some years ago the green committee maintained a central purchasing bureau and a professional greenkeeper who gave advice to the member clubs in connection with problems in greenkeeping. In the earlier days the purchasing bureau was used by the member clubs and was instrumental in securing substantial reductions in cost of supplies. Later when the cost of golf supplies became more standardized it was found the member clubs could secure by direct purchase practically the same price as the purchasing bureau, and the member clubs thereafter availed themselves so little of either of these facilities that they were abandoned. Before the establishment of the turf gardens in the Chicago district by the United States Golf Association Green Section our principal activity was the holding of a joint meeting once a year of the chairmen of the green committees and the greenkeepers of the member clubs. These meetings consisted of machinery demonstrations in the afternoon and dinner in the evening, with a program of papers, usually by various greenkeepers, followed by the usual discussions. The meetings were popular and well attended. Our committee took an active part, in cooperation with the Mid-West Greenkeepers' Association, in securing the establishment of the turf gardens in the Chicago district by the United States Golf Association Green Section. Since those gardens have been established, our annual meeting has been held at the gardens, as part of the program of the United States Golf Association Green Section. This, in brief, is the extent of our activities.