

Greenkeepers' Association of New Jersey

By H. T. Isleib

Our association was organized in October, 1926. Its purpose is purely educational. To quote from the by-laws, its aims are, "(1) The elevation of greenkeeping to a dignified and worthy status; (2) The advancement, by cooperative effort and concerted action, of the welfare of its members and such clubs as may employ them; (3) The establishment of a system of cooperative education and training among ourselves whereby we and those assisting us may benefit."

Our membership covers the State of New Jersey and Staten Island. It is composed of regular members, which include greenkeepers; and associate members, which include foremen who have served as such for at least one year. We also have at present several honorary members, of whom we are naturally a bit proud.

Our meetings are held regularly the first Monday in each month, usually in the evening. Our recognized meeting place is the Newark Athletic Club, although during the year several of the meetings were held at New Brunswick. The subjects to be discussed at the various meetings are planned in advance by a director of lectures, who also designates the member who is to lead in the discussion either by delivering a talk or reading a paper.

The subjects presented at the respective meetings during the past year were as follows:

January. Power greens mowers, their benefits and disadvantages.

February. Kinds and working efficiency of fairway mowers.

March. Progress in Japanese beetle control during two years.

April. Spring preparation of greens.

May. Planting greens with stolons.

June. Summer top-dressing of greens; materials, frequency, and quantities.

July. Brown-patch control; effects and cost.

August. Value of proper drainage during construction; actual experience.

September. Various types of sprinklers; their effectiveness and efficiency under proper pressure.

October. Practicability of preparing approaches to greens.

November. Preparing greens for winter play.

December. A 200-word paper on the subject of greatest interest on the course during the year with reference to maintenance or construction or any other feature of the work, to be presented by each member.

The presentation of the talk or paper at the meeting is followed by an informal discussion.

The officers elected for the year 1930 were as follows: Chairman, H. T. Isleib, Locust Grove; first vice-chairman, William Finley, Norwood Country Club; second vice-chairman, Edward Stroud, Laurence Brook Country Club; secretary, George Kells, Orange Mountain Golf Club; treasurer, A. Burton, Mountain Ridge Country Club; trustee for 3 years, J. Anderson, Crestmont Country Club; trustee for 2 years, F. J. Roth, Plainfield Country Club; trustee for 1 year, William Sharkey, Sr., Essex County Country Club.

We have a membership committee and an advisory committee. The function of the latter is to assist our members in solving any special problems with which they may happen to be confronted.

During the past year we have visited several courses, including

the Merion Cricket Club, at Haverford, Pa. We also have our annual shore outing, and a theater party for the ladies during the winter. Next season it is our plan to hold meetings at a number of points throughout the state. As yet we have not established a publication of our own, but are given considerable favorable publicity through several of the newspapers. The growth of our organization has been altogether satisfactory and a keen interest is being sustained in all of its activities. Our enrollment is now about 47 members.

The officers for 1931 are the same as those listed above with the exception of the secretary. William Sharkey, Jr., Essex County Country Club, West Orange, has succeeded George Kells as secretary of the organization.

Maintenance Section, St. Louis District Golf Association

By D. R. Niederlander

Although the St. Louis District Golf Association has in previous years occasionally given attention to turf maintenance problems, the establishment of a special section to consider these problems was not undertaken by the association until the spring of 1930 when, on the urgent recommendation of Col. A. J. Goetz, its maintenance section was organized. Colonel Goetz was appointed chairman of the section, and D. R. Niederlander, 9 Parkland Place, St. Louis, Mo., secretary. No other officers were appointed, and it is expected that these two will continue in their respective capacities during the season of 1931. Leo Bauman, chairman of the green committee of Westwood Country Club, is chairman of the turf-garden committee. The purposes of the maintenance section are to advance the art of golf course maintenance, secure collaboration and interchange of ideas among chairmen of green committees and greenkeepers, hold machinery demonstrations, and promote good fellowship. The section itself does not as yet hold tournaments nor issue a publication. Two meetings were held during 1930, one May 9 at Algonquin Golf Club and the other July 16 at Westwood Country Club. The first meeting was attended by 19, representing 12 clubs, and the second by 32, also representing 12 clubs. Those in attendance were chairmen of green committees, greenkeepers, and others interested in the work. These two field meetings proved to be highly instructive and otherwise successful. Following each meeting a dinner was served in the club house, where great benefit was derived from the hosts of ideas, theories, and discussions presented.

No definite restrictions are placed upon the membership in the maintenance section. The association itself covers a territory within a radius of 125 miles from St. Louis, and invitations are sent to all chairmen of green committees, green-committee members, greenkeepers, and professional-greenkeepers within this territory, and they are asked to bring with them any who may wish to be informed on the problems of course maintenance.

A subject of interest to the organization is the newly established United States Golf Association Green Section demonstration turf garden located at the Westwood Country Club. This garden was planted in 1930, and several of our members were present at the time of planting. We expect that in 1931 and later years this garden will prove of much interest and value to all our members.