

Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents

By M. E. Farnham

Our association was organized September 14, 1925, with 24 members. The membership is now 51, coming from the Philadelphia district in Pennsylvania and adjacent New Jersey. Active membership is confined to greenkeepers; men other than greenkeepers who have rendered the profession special service are eligible for honorary membership. The officers of the association for 1930 were as follows: President, L. M. Evans, Cedarbrook Country Club; vice-president, Eugene MacFarland, Marble Hall Links; secretary, M. E. Farnham, Philadelphia Country Club; treasurer, R. C. Lane, Bala Golf Club.



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The purpose of the organization is to advance the science of golf course maintenance and its related fields in our district, and through frequent meetings to provide a medium for the exchange of ideas and experiences, and to promote cooperation. Meetings are held monthly, and more often when occasion warrants, usually on the first Monday of the month. The annual meeting is usually the third or fourth Monday in January. Programs for some of the meetings are of an educational character, speakers from outside of the association being introduced. At other meetings the program is informal; it is considered desirable to get together regularly even in the absence of special attractions. Three or four of the meetings are held at a restaurant in Philadelphia during the winter; the rest of the year the meetings are held at clubs in the district, an afternoon of golf or inspection being followed by dinner and the regular meeting. A tournament is held each fall to compete for the Howard C. Toomey cup and such other prizes as the association provides. The association sponsored a United States Golf Association Green Section demonstration garden, which was laid out at the Spring Mill Course, Philadelphia Country Club, in September, 1930. The Philadelphia Green Section and Service Bureau is furnishing the financial support for this garden.

In 1930 we held 12 meetings, which were addressed by the following: John Monteith, Jr., and Kenneth Welton, United States Golf Association Green Section; G. C. Cunningham, Philadelphia Green Section and Service Bureau; C. K. Hallowell, agricultural county agent; H. B. Sprague, New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station; H. B. Musser, Pennsylvania State College.

Our officers for 1931 are: President, T. E. Dougherty, Springhaven Club; vice-president, Eugene MacFarland, Marble Hall Links; secretary, M. E. Farnham, Philadelphia Country Club, West Conshohocken, Pa.; treasurer, R. C. Lane, Bala Golf Club.

Detroit District Golf Association Green Section

By J. McRae Hartgering

The Detroit District Golf Association was founded in 1915. It now consists of some 43 member clubs, which are located within a radius of 60 miles from Detroit, including several near-by clubs in Canada, although the membership is open to any club within an approximate radius of 75 miles from Detroit. The officers and directors of the Detroit District Golf Association re-elected for the year 1931 are as follows: President, W. G. Curtis; honorary president, John S. Sweeney; first vice-president, L. J. Lepper; second vice-president, N. A. Hawkins; third vice-president, Hon. Charles C. Simons; treasurer, C. H. Haberkorn; secretary, John W. Bryant, Jr., 2843 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, Mich.

The Detroit District Golf Association is governed by the officers and a board of 15 directors. The president appoints from the directors a committee chairman to take charge of each of the main activities, which include caddie welfare, club relations, green section, handicap, publicity, membership, public links, and tournament. The green section, of which I have been chairman for several years, is organized with the member clubs, and each member of the green committee of the several member clubs receives notice of the meetings. We now have about 150 members, all of whom are on the green committees of member clubs. The calls on our green committee for advice are numerous. If the problem presented in any case is such that we can not answer it offhand, advice is sought from some club which has had experience in the matter. A very large amount of work of this kind has been done during the past few years.

We do not have any regular meeting dates, but hold a number of meetings each year at various clubs. Each meeting is held in the evening, following a game of golf and a dinner. Some meetings are called to discuss a particular subject. For example, at one meeting last year we discussed the subject of watering fairways, and brought out some very instructive information. This was tabulated and distributed to member clubs. A club is free to bring up any subject it desires at a meeting. Five of these special meetings were held last year, several of them with the greenkeepers; the subjects discussed were equipment and maintenance of courses, fertilizers, grasses, watering fairways, and the three United States Golf Association Green Section demonstration turf gardens. Our association is maintaining these turf gardens on three different representative soil types found in the district. The gardens are for the benefit of members of green committees and greenkeepers. On June 30 we cooperated with the United States Golf Association Green Section in holding a meeting on the turf garden located on the course of the Detroit Golf Club. Several visitors from Toledo joined the large attendance of local greenkeepers and members of green committees in examining the numerous experimental plots on the garden. The work was explained to them by a representative of the U. S. G. A. Green Section.