



Newsletter

August 1959

The Association's regular meeting July 13, at the Metacomet Golf Club, East Providence, R.I. was another real success. But before reporting some of the details of this meeting this writer has the urge to elaborate on the disheartening news which came during our Secretaries reading of correspondence. This was the resignation at the University of Massachusetts of Elliot Roberts, and Dale Sieling and the retirement of O. J. Noer at Milwaukee.

We are all very sorry to see these two gentlemen leave Massachusetts but we congratulate and wish them well on positions which offer far greater opportunities, financially and otherwise. Many of us realize this again means quite a set-back in a Turf Grass Research Program. Under the inspirational leadership of Elliot Roberts a real good organization of the Mass. Turf and Lawn Grass Association was just emerging and prepared to go places. Now the faucets are closed and the reservoir is dry waiting upon the University to develop another supply of good fresh water.

There may be good reason why these and toher valuable men are leaving the University but what ever the reason, steps should be taken to rectify the situation. A large growing institution can ill afford to lose key men, and make a name for itself.

Research men in agronomy and fine turf are very scarce and are fast falling behind the demands of a rapid growing recreational field. It is amazing though how much good work has already been accomplished by so few research workers throughout the country. It is an example however, of what might be accomplished if the turf research program was greatly expanded with the necessary researchers. We, the Golf Course Supts. see the need of hardier, disease and drought resistant grasses to withstand the ever increasing traffic wear and tear. We hope the general public will soon catch on that all the good work done for golf turf likewise benefits the millions of lawn grass owners through the country and further that golf is no longer a rich mans game but is rapidly increasing in popularity everywhere because it is the only healthful recreation that can be thoroughly enjoyed by both young and old. Anyone who agrees with these ideas should get their shoulder to the wheel and start talking and selling. Incidentally, we are all greatly pleased to see that O.J. Noers friends are honoring his retirement by setting up an O.J. Noer Turf Foundation to carry on the good work of turf improvement so faithfully and tirelessly carried on by O.J. for so many years.

Getting back to the Metacomet Country Club, the boys all agreed that there have been few breathing spells this season. The greens were just about back to normal when Bing_____ A day of 100% humidity followed by a hot windy day resulted in wide spread wilt damage in spite of special effort. (There is no rest for the weary)

HOOKS AND SLICES....The tournament at Metacomet was the Association championship. Milt Brown with a gross 76 still retains his crown. William Carter with a 78 was the runner up. E. Wolfgang won first net with a 67.

The first annual Seniors Championship for all members over 55 years of age was won by H. Darling with a gross 90. M. O'Grady with a 93 was second.

What happened to the old duffers? We thought there was some good golfers left among the old timers.