

July/AUG
1967

TURF CLIPPINGS

Mid-Summer Musings

Thoughts from the submerged - With over 6 inches of rain in the first two weeks of July, and over inches since June first, course conditions have again become a topic of locker-room conversation.

Member A to Member B (commonly known as S.O.) - "Say, I heard we're getting our water system assessment back."

S.O. - "Hell, I'm not only pushing for that, but let's cut that so-called greenthumb's salary, anyone can grow grass in this weather. And can you believe no carts today, why there's more grass than ever out there. It's just that they're too proud of the damn stuff to cut it. Just wait till I'm Green Chairman."

Member A - "You sure were great as Entertainment Chairman, that dance on the Practice Green was really novel."

So it goes. North Jersey is going down for the third time. South Jersey apparently can still touch bottom. And again, as in past years, the only way to view the present situation is with humor or drink (not water). Based on a bar-room survey, it's "wet", "wetter than recent memory", "wetter than ever", and on and on.

Art Elmers watered his fairways about a week ago, "just twenty minutes, no more". They must have needed it, or else we have the only man to ever water in water.

Pete Pedrazzi had an accident with PMA last week - overdose - but says no harm was done, after the rains last Saturday, he couldn't find the affected greens anyway.

McNally's pump mis-behaved the other day - only real damage was a temporary flood in the local Pub across the street.

Summer Philosophy

Isn't it amazing how a bright Saturday morning can make a golfer completely forget the floods on his way home the night before.

Benedict Arnold - The Green Chairman who has one beer and fades under the pressure to use carts.

Montclair's new plugged ball rule - "If it's deeper than 6 inches, please don't dig - Green Committee will supply new ball".

Quote - "Where are all the bargain fungicide pushers now that I need them"?

Past Meeting

The Picatinny Arsenal meeting was superb in every way, especially organization and course conditions. Mike George and Mr. Ferry had the welcome mat out right down to the guard at the gate, even though Williams did try to pull an 007 bit. The course not only proved to be an excellent test of golf, but was so immaculately groomed, one expected to see the "Don't Tread on Me" flag at each hole. It was also a minor point proved that signs on a golf course do not have to be placed in such a way as to resemble Burma Shave Ads in order to receive attention. Not to expand beyond reason, but another pleasingly amazing thing was the complete absence of litter. It has been said locally that nine-tenths of the litter is caused by caddies, and this course may prove the point without any apparent suffering.

Editorial

It seems to this writer, who at times has a tendency to run off at the mouth, that perhaps one of these well attended, summer meetings would be the time for a discussion among all members of just what we intend to be doing as an Association. At present we seem to be golf and socially oriented. Such is fine provided that all, or a majority, agree that this is our purpose. There is, however, a not so mumbling undertone that seems to feel either that we are doing our socializing badly, or that we should be doing more in other directions. It could be true, it might not be; it is only unfortunate that these opinions are never brought forth before a large enough segment of the membership to mean anything. The Annual Meeting is usually so poorly attended that the only struggle is for a quorum. We seem to have a structurally sound organization of Golf Course Superintendents, better than several in the area. However, we do appear slightly weak in comparison to other professional groups in our same industry. It would indeed be fortunate if those who so far have had nothing to say would speak up, and those who have much to say, would also do much.

Don Marshall & Garry Crothers