

confidence in the nation's future, more than three hundred representatives of Canada's commercial, industrial and cultural life were able to share in the thoughts and concerns of a few of their fellow-countrymen through this conference.

The papers form an invaluable commentary on Canadian thinking to-day, and on Canada's prospects to-morrow. Fortunately, the Canadian Westinghouse Co. has now published the papers in book form*, thus making available for a much wider audience the deliberations of this very balanced and comprehensive conference.

ROBERT W. STEEL

* Published by the Macmillan Co. of Canada, Ltd., 70 Bond Street Toronto. 3.50 dollars.

THE SPORTS TURF RESEARCH INSTITUTE SILVER JUBILEE

TO mark the silver jubilee of the Sports Turf Research Institute, a conference and open day were held at its headquarters, St. Ives Research Station, Bingley, Yorkshire, on July 1. A most satisfactory attendance, including representatives from sports clubs, sports associations, education authorities and municipalities throughout the British Isles, was presented with a very full day's programme in which major items were experiment plot demonstrations, educational exhibits, displays of modern machinery and the presentation of various papers on turf topics at intervals during the day.

The director of the Institute, Mr. R. B. Dawson, spoke about the developments of scientific turf management during the past twenty-five years, stressing particularly the big improvements in design and range of equipment that have taken place. He referred also to the growth of the experimental and other work of the Research Station. Mr. J. R. Escritt (soil chemist) discussed the relative importance of physical and chemical properties of soils for turf production, and Mr. J. Drew Smith (plant pathologist) dealt with turf diseases and his own work on fungicides. The fourth paper, given by Mr. G. Wright, a member of the Board of Management, described turf research work in progress at several research centres in the United States, emphasizing the big problems created in some parts by climatic factors adverse to good turf production.

The Institute (formerly known as the Board of Greenkeeping Research) has the stated aim of raising the general standard of sports turf. It is supported by subscriptions from numerous interested bodies, including sports clubs, golf clubs, industrial welfare clubs, sports associations, public authorities and education committees. Management of the Institute is in the hands of a Board of Management which includes representatives of the main sports controlling bodies, namely, the English Golf Union, Scottish Golf Union, Golfing Union of Ireland, Welsh Golfing Union, Football Association, Football League, Ltd., Lawn Tennis Association, Rugby Football Union, Rugby Football League and the English Bowling Association. The Board has available both scientific and practical advisory committees for consultation. In pursuance of its object, the Institute has a comprehensive research programme for investigating problems of general turf management, problems of individual management of turf for particular purposes and, of course, the control of weeds, pests and

diseases. Extensive field trials running to many hundreds of plots are backed by useful laboratory facilities.

Field work at present in progress at the Research Station (and demonstrated on the open day) includes trials on height of cut, top-dressing materials, long-term fertilizer treatment, weed control, disease control, grass growth stunting and seeds mixtures. Although the main experimental ground bears a considerable number of trials, many experiments can only be carried out satisfactorily at outside centres; for example, at present a new series of simple trials on seeds mixtures for renovating football grounds is in progress. Turf diseases and their control are receiving particular attention at the moment, with attempts to produce cheaper and more efficient materials for controlling known turf diseases. It is interesting to note that this concentration on disease problems has revealed that one or two new diseases previously unrecognized occur quite frequently, and work is proceeding on methods of control.

Knowledge gained from the various trials is passed on through the advisory work of the Institute, through instructional courses for groundsmen, greenkeepers and other interested persons and also through lectures given by members of the staff at various centres throughout Great Britain. In addition, an annual *Journal* is produced and also brief quarterly *Bulletins*, both these publications being circulated to all affiliated members. The advisory services are being increasingly called upon, and more and more is being demanded of the staff concerned in this work.

The Institute was founded in 1929 by the golf clubs through the four national Unions; but the great expansion of activities, particularly since the Second World War, in various other directions, led to a reorganization and the formation of the Sports Turf Research Institute. The status of the organization as an independent non-profit-making scientific body was recognized by the granting of a licence from the Board of Trade in August 1951, thus permitting the Institute to be registered and to operate without the use of the word 'Limited' in its title. The former Board of Greenkeeping Research ceased to exist on September 3, 1951. It has become increasingly obvious that the Institute has an important part to play in the future as in the past. More and more its advice is called upon in the construction of new playing fields for all kinds of bodies. In particular, the educational programme of producing more new school playing fields demands a great deal of attention from the Research Station in order to enable the education authorities to produce fields of sufficient quality without unnecessary expenditure of public funds.

DEVELOPMENT AND UTILIZATION OF WATER RESOURCES

THE eighteenth session of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, which opened in Geneva on June 29, discussed among other items a report on the Development and Utilization of Water Resources*. This report was prepared as a result of earlier resolutions calling for information on the work being done by the specialized agencies and

* United Nations: Economic and Social Council. Report on the Development and Utilization of Water Resources. Pp. 20. (London: United Nations—London Information Centre, 1954.)