

Reading, Penna. October 3rd 1935

The resident of the P.G.A.

Dear Sir:

I motored here yesterday and registered at the Abraham Lincoln hotel, where, by appointment, I was to meet P.G.A. members later in the evening. The requests for our service at Reading had been made to Ed Dudley, president of the Philadelphia district of the P.G.A. and to whom I am sending a copy of this report.

My first inspection today was over the course of the Berkshire Country Club at the request of P.G.A. member Harry Markle. I was accompanied by Markle, the greenkeeper, Alfred E. Lundstrom (a most capable man) and the chairman of the green committee, Frank S. Richardson. Their chief problem was represented by the third green, a thoroughly antiquated affair with a poor turf condition caused by lack of drainage. It was so bad that I advised them to bring in fill and construct an entirely new and properly contoured green. Lundstrom had been of this opinion, I ascertained afterward. This course shows unmistakable signs of decadence and I learned that the turf has been steadily failing. A forced policy of economy has sadly interfered with needed fertilizing.

I then visited the Manor Country club at the request of P.G.A. member Bob Venables. I inspected parts of the course, where the proprietor (this is a public course) J.C. Shouder, wanted particular advice. The turf on the greens was quite good but I advised the necessity of keeping the sea-side bent from setting, which it is doing, - to some extent. I gave definite instructions (and a sketch) for the contouring of a new second green, which they desire to build, and also investigated a condition of seepage on the third fairway.

Very truly yours

W. T. Simpson