We are pleased to learn that Mr. Leslie Barlow of Woodlands Golf Club, Mordialloc, south of Melbourne, is back in form again after a sudden illness. Leslie Barlow is President of the Victoria Curators’ Association and a keen supporter of international relationships; he is also President of the Australian Turf Management Association.

Mr. John H. Madison, Jack L. Paul and William B. Davis have produced a brand new management programme for maintenance of putting greens. They had seen thatch and compaction develop progressively and worked out the alternative.

Basically they provide light frequent top dressings of sand in the 0.05-1.0 m.m. range and lace it with Bentgrass seed, herbicide, insecticide, fertiliser, Dolomitic lime and mixed minor element chelates in varying proportions. When pesticides are included, they are added as wettable powders, and depending on season, various insecticides are included to make up the recommended rate.

The application works out at about 3 cu.ft. of sand and 1½ lbs. of additives per 1,000 sq. ft. This adds about ½” of sand per year to the surface. They do no hollow tine forking to maintain weed control and add no organic matter. Grass, they claim, creates its own organic matter.

Certainly the profile of their turf after two years treatment looks a lot more homogeneous than the control treated with conventional top dressings.

Turning a flooded golf course into a championship tournament course in less than two months for this year’s Canadian Open Championship was cited as one of the reasons Mississauga Golf and Country Club’s golf course superintendent, Paul Dodson, was awarded a “Citation of Performance” by his professional organization, the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA).

In making the presentation during the tournament’s closing award ceremony, Charles Baskin, president of the 3,700 member GCSAA, noted that not only had Dodson overcome the severe damage caused by flooding as late as May, but that he had provided a true test of golfing skills for the professionals, and an interesting course for the spectators. Those tournament spectators who saw 12 of the course’s 18 holes under the Credit River flood waters on May 17 could appreciate what Dodson had accomplished in preparing this course for the $200,000 prize money tournament.

When the suburban Toronto course was named as site of the Canadian Open for the sixth time, Superintendent Dodson could not have imagined the amount of work he would undertake to prepare his course for the tops in today’s professional golfing circle.