

Greenkeeping Notes

THE freight situation in the East should be considered by all far-sighted Green Committees when thinking about Spring requirements. The congestion all over the country is very great and if material is to be on hand when needed, it is most important to send orders in NOW for seed, humus, mowers, implements, and the many other things necessary for Spring work. It is impossible for any shipper to guarantee shipments under present conditions.

The season of 1915 was not a normal one, and many clubs were deceived as to the condition of their course and did very little work on them. The results of this policy will be apparent this Summer in the shape of dead or sickly greens and fairways. An early start this Spring will help greatly. A systematic plan for taking care of any Golf Course will not only produce good results but will maintain it at the highest possible pitch.

The wet, muddy condition of the turf during the Winter and Spring is due principally to the movements of millions of worms, which loosen the soil and throw to the surface much slimy mud. If any attempt is made to make the turf firm by using a roller, the casts either stick to the roller, or else they roll down hard and smother out the finer grasses. If they are swept off with a broom, the grass is not only impoverished by the loss of soil, but becomes unhealthy by being smeared over by the mud, and the broom bruises the surface roots. In either case the lawn remains soft and sticky. The only thing to do is to remove the worms, an operation which may be performed with ease and at small expense. After the worms are eliminated by the proper method it will

be a long time before further attention is required, and the club will save considerable labor expense. We will be very glad to supply further information on this point to anyone interested.

Lime should never be mixed with manure as it liberates the nitrogen into the air. Good compost piles are frequently rendered valueless by this treatment.

Peter Lees

THE GOLF COURSE articles on green-keeping from the pen of Peter Lees are of the utmost interest, for he is regarded as an unquestioned authority. Previous to 1911 the course of the Mid-Surrey Club in the old deer park at Richmond, England, was not looked upon as a particularly satisfactory test of golf. Peter Lees was the Mid-Surrey green-keeper, and, together with J. H. Taylor, the renowned pro', he introduced a scheme of grass hollows and mounds which relieve the flat inland course of its monotony, and almost in a night, made it famous. Experts from all parts of Great Britain and the Continent flocked to Richmond to investigate the "Alpinization," and departed enthusiastic over the prospect of a new era for inland courses.

The work of mountain and valley treatment was accomplished on a large scale, and the rugged ranges rose in places to a height of sixteen feet, and in some instances they were as much as eighty yards long and thirty yards in width.

Lees came to this country to take charge of the construction of the new course of Lido, and his ingenuity is reflected by the work there, and experts agree that the new links will rank among the greatest in the world.