

The GOLF COURSE

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ONE of the most vital topics of the day is preparedness, and no matter whether we may be in sympathy with the doctrine so far as the policy of our nation may be involved, we must recognize the fact that no success is certain without careful and intelligent preparation.

To those whose duty it may be to devote their energies to the development and upkeep of golf courses maybe this theme of preparedness will furnish a not uninteresting tabloid sermon. Let the text be "Prepare Ye At the Time Appointed."

To those who have followed closely the production of turf, there can be no question of the desirability of seeding in the Fall rather than in the Spring. Seeds sown in the Spring months fall upon ground scarcely recovered from the chill of Winter and cluttered with embryo weeds, which although hardy enough of themselves, increase their baneful influence through the nourishment which is supplied to invigorate the grass. Then, too, the blistering droughts of Summer usually burn out the tender sprouts.

In the Fall when the weeds have exhausted themselves and the ground is still warm, grass seed finds greatest encouragement and achieves a sturdy, unmolested start which it carries over until the following Spring. Certainly in many instances Spring seeding results in no more than a thirty percent germination. Now there is nothing new

in all this and any experienced greenkeeper will confirm it, but strange to say thousands of bushels of seed are scattered on ground which is not prepared to receive it.

Now let us go back to the text of preparedness and quickly to a conclusion. Assuming that you will seed this Fall you may not depend entirely upon Nature's assistance. As the estimable Colonel Roosevelt has said, "Trust In God and Take Your Own Part," and so let it be with your anticipation of Fall seeding;—Put your trust in Nature but prepare for it.

During these Summer months compost piles should be accumulating. Nearby woodlands should be searched for rich deposits of leaf-mold. If tests prove that your soil is sour, lime must be introduced to sweeten it. Suitable fertilizers should be mixed with the heaps of soil which is to be used for top dressing; and thus in many ways preparation should be made for the introduction of seed during the Fall months.

Only too frequently attempts to produce the ideal golf turf result unfortunately, and in every instance the fault may be traced to unintelligent treatment and in the great majority of cases to unpreparedness.

The Publishers take this opportunity of announcing that Mr. T. H. RIGGS MILLER is no longer associated with PETERSON, SINCLAIRE & MILLER, Inc.

PROFESSIONALS and greenkeepers frequently request us to advise them where they can secure situations. We shall be glad to furnish the names of competent men.