Here Are Puzzlers Asked at Phila. Superintendents Meet

QUESTIONS submitted at the special Open meeting of the Philadelphia Assn. of Golf Course Supts., held March 7, were so many and covered such a wide range of a greenkeeper’s duties, that GOLFDOM passes some of these puzzlers on to the greensmen in other sections who should find many of them applicable to their particular situation. We don’t know what would be considered a very good score on answering these questions, but if you feel satisfied after reading them over, that should indicate pretty well what you did on the examination. Here they are:

Is it the general belief that fairway watering during summer months will increase the growth of fall grass? Is it the general belief that a heavy watering once a week on fairways gives better results than a light sprinkle every night or even every second night? What are some of the bad conditions too much fairway watering produces or encourages? What is the Green Section doing along the lines of insect pests? What effect does the height of cut have upon grass?

Is the golf course acreage in the U.S. recognized as contributing to the solution of soil conservation? Does arsenate of lead on the greens poison the soil? How long will 15 lbs. of arsenate of lead to 1,000 sq. ft. give protection against the Japanese beetle injury to the turf? Can you treat all grass on your course alike and get the same results?

How many diseases attack grass? How much seed is needed for a new green of 7,000 sq. ft.? Do you find you have less trouble in summer following a severe winter than after a mild one? What can the clubs do to find employment for their golf course laborers during the off season? In view of the increased surplus of the USGA, should not more money be spent on turf research? What is the chief value of phosphorous in turf fertilizers? Is there any relation between close cutting of bluegrass turf and the depth of root system?

Which fairway grasses are most readily attacked by turf insects, chinch bugs particularly? Which is the best guide for fertilizer application, the grass or a soil test? Which is the more important: a lime test or a nitrogen test? How often does a grass plant renew its root system? At what period in the year is the supply of plant food in the soil the lowest? What is the best method of controlling crab grass on the fairways or on a lawn? Is it still possible to get true German mixed bent? What causes irregular patches in the fairway to dry out more quickly than the rest of the turf? To what extent will sodium arsenite and sodium chlorate be used on golf courses? How much organic nitrogen should we have in our fertilizers for greens or fairways?

Biel Forced to Rest from N. Z.

ARTHUR BIEL, hon. secy. of the New Zealand Greenkeepers’ assn., is in a hospital with prospects of a year’s stay until T.B. is arrested. Biel, like many other greenkeepers, felt he couldn’t confine his work to a normal stretch of hours and neglected to ease up long enough to care for a stubborn cold. Biel is philosophical about it. He figures the rest won’t do him any harm.

American greenkeepers can take a great deal of fraternal pride in the way their efforts have encouraged and guided colleagues throughout the world. The New Zealand greenkeepers freely acknowledge the tips they have received from the U.S. The New Zealanders, with plenty of financial problems to overcome, have published in booklet form a Report of Proceedings of their Fifth Annual Meeting. It is a valuable reference volume for any greenkeeper’s library. Biel and his associates may well be proud of their work for golf.

ONE club allows a member $10 credit in guest green fees for each new member secured.

A $10 green fee allowance also was made to each member who paid his annual dues prior to May 15.

WILSHIRE CC (Los Angeles district) is offering two prizes, to sons and daughters under 18 of Wilshire members, for essays on “What Golf Means to Me.” Essays will be printed in the Wilshire Club News.

Free Golf to Students—Monthly passes for play on the muny golf course of Palatka, Fla., are issued to local high school students. Passes are renewed each month to students who obey regulations governing use of the course.