exhale sufficient oxygen it will soon die
when adverse weather conditions arise.
Soils must be of good texture and porous
with both surface and subdrainage well
taken care of. When all of this is lacking,
it becomes no easy task to know
what is the proper amount of water to
apply when sprinkling a putting green.

The correct solution of a bad situation
is re-construction. This interferes with
play, also is very expensive, and is not
always possible at the moment. The new
aerification machines appear to be a long
needed answer to this problem. They will
remove soil cores from a green to the
dept of several inches. This in time will
permit the gradual resoling of an area
and it need not be taken out of play. It
affords an opportunity to provide a
change of soil composition to one that
absorbs water freely, permitting it to pass
to lower levels unobstructed and allows
the remaining pores to become filled with
air.

Last year quite a bit of grass was lost
all over the country due to the conditions
already mentioned; it occurs every season,
but in some years is more pronounced
than others. However, it was my observa-
tion that some strains of bent fared better
in Virginia than others during bad spells
of weather, namely: C-1, C-7, and C-28.
As we had a large practice green of 7500
sq. ft. in Arlington (C-1) bent, it was
decided to introduce more of this desirable
grass into our putting greens. We pur-
chased an aerifier for the purpose. The
project was started in early October and
four greens were planted before cold
weather came along and stopped our work.

The job was accomplished in this man-
nner: The machine was set for a cutting
depth of 5 in., the old earth cores brought
to the surface were entirely removed from
the green, and in their place tightly
inserted pieces of C-1 sod. They were
about one inch in thickness. This left an
unfilled space of several inches at the
bottom of each hole, which affords plenty
of room for the new grass to develop a
deep root system. After planting was
finished, the surface was rolled with a
light roller, closely mowed and then
heavily top-dressed.

In mid-April these four greens had
come through the winter months in good
shape. The color and density of their turf
had a mid-season appearance. The in-
serted bits of sod knitted in well and had
extended long roots down into the core
holes. These four areas have received a
heavy spring topdressing and now putt as
true as any green on the course. There
are no signs of a heavy operation hav-
ing been performed. I expect them to
stand out as the best greens on the course
this season.

As mentioned, C-1 was chosen because
the grass was on hand in quantity. How-
ever, a C-7 and C-28 both seem to do
very well in the southern bent section.
The first mentioned colors up very early
(a light yellow green), is more upright in
growth than most bents, therefore it does
not grain. C-28 forms a dense tight turf
and attains its best color in very hot
weather, which is a very deep green. As
a matter of choice, I like the last two

University of Michigan course where USGA's first National Junior championship will be played
Aug 11-14 provides a top test of golf for the youngsters.

June, 1948

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