½ inch cut had much more grass on them at end of season and were quicker to come back in spring. Since that time we have used this procedure and have never been without grass on our greens in the past five years.

Other experiments conducted with this same grass plot were with the application of fertilizers. Some strips were tried with ammonium nitrate, nitrate of soda, sulphate ammonia, Milorganite 6-8-8, 5-10-5, guano, Cyanamid, dried blood and sewage sludge, straight phosphate and potash. Various application methods were used. We achieved best results on greens by using a four-foot spreader, applying solutions dry and following with water.

In 1947 we were supplied with centipede seed grown by Tifton. This was grown and developed in seed bed, and later transplanted to fairways and tees. It did not work out too well. Season was too extremely hot and soil too tight. It would not take punishment in fairways with same height of cut as Bermuda and other grasses. We still have it but it is slowly being choked out.

Also in 1947 we developed a plot of velvet Bermuda #101 from strains furnished by Tifton. Attempts were made to get this in with the other Bermuda on the green. We have been unable to get this to take. It is a very fine Bermuda that compares with bent in many respects. It is very delicate and will not take a lot of punishment. It will not stand daily cutting unless cut is made at ¼ or ½ inch. This is reason why it is hard to introduce into the other Bermuda. If left to several inch cuts in rough it will spread faster than ordinary Bermuda. It has very little resistance to weeds and is very easy to become infested with foreign seeds after windy weather.

In March, 1949, we started with three cup changes of Tifton 57. By breaking them down we have today produced 500 sq. ft. in one season without too much trouble. This past year we started introducing this strain of grass into our greens with 4 and 8 inch cup plugs. However, Fred Grau tells me that faster and better results can be obtained with a 2 inch insert. We hope to have enough Tifton 57 to provide turf for three greens by the end of the year.

Some limited work has been done with St. Augustine grass. We started with 6 square yards this past July and have perhaps 36 sq. yds. now. We hope to use this in shady spots around the course.

Other experiments we have tried are with Zoysia, Japonnica, Zoysia Matrello, and Zoysia 53. The Matrello happens to be the only one we have had over one season. We are trying several tees with Zoysia Matrello and Merion bluegrass.

In October, 1950, we planted into our regular practice green 5 different types of cool weather grasses; Italian rye, red fescue, Iliahee fescue, Highland bent and Merion bluegrass. Up to January 1, the Iliahee had developed so much faster and looked so much better we were thinking about trying some of it in our other greens next year. Since that time I have sowed all the other plots again and top dressed. Now the Highland bent and the red fescue are making rapid strides to catch up. But I believe the Iliahee was much easier to get started, thus the reason for shaping up faster. Merion Blue hasn’t gotten a good start yet so can’t say what it is going to do.

Our experiments with carpet grass have led us to believe that by aerifying again in March and sowing with a whirlwind spreader we will get an established turf strong enough with carpet grass to overgrow Dallisgrass. For the past two years we have tried this on a small scale and had wonderful results. Unfortunately, our club has never had too much pride in their fairways. No fertilizer was ever used.

We have stopped top-dressing our greens. Since we have gotten them free of weeds some of our greens haven’t been top-dressed in five years. We aerify thoroughly many times a season but the only top-dressing brought in is when we plant our rye. We use our dressing from the aerifyer plugs brought to the surface. We in turn profit not only by the labor and time saved in preparing top-dressing, but also do not have the problem of fighting weeds brought in by top-dressing.

PART OF A PRO’S TOUGH JOB?

Alice (L) and Marlene (R) Bauer of the Spalding staff starred in an exhibition match at B. F. Goodrich Co. annual Tee Party held at the Goodrich Fairlawn CC, Akron, O. After the round the girls were entertained by Ed Kirby who has been pro at the club for 26 years. Ed does not seem to be regarding his overtime work as unpleasant.