If you've got a question you want Dr. Fred V. Grau to answer, please address it to Grau Q&A, Golfdom, 407 S. Dearborn, Chicago 5, Ill.

**Quo Vadis** is a term familiar to every first-year Latin student. It is a term that suddenly has assumed great significance in the turfgrass profession. It will be a big factor in committee deliberations.

Several translations are possible. "Whither goest thou?" is the classic interpretation. We might ask the question, "What goal have you established?" or "What level of quality do you want?"

It was evident at the GCSA conference in Washington, D.C. that often there exists a wide discrepancy between the quality of the turf that the supt. tries to provide, on the basis of what he believes club members want, and the funds that are provided for the purpose. The most common source of discontent seemed to be the demand for "economy" on the course to permit the expenditure of large sums in the clubhouse.

This seems to be the right place and the right time for a frank statement. The members of a club have a perfect right to demand any given level of quality in any department of the club if they're willing to pay for it — who shall say nay? If they are perfectly content with mediocre turf why shouldn't they have it?

But — and this is important — the supt. has an equal right to request, in writing, a statement of the level of quality that is desired. It is senseless for the supt. to eat his heart out — trying to provide optimum quality when the budget and members ask only minimum quality. A cut in the budget may simply be another way of telling the supt. that they really do not care too much if the greens go to pot. If the members say, "We want nothing but the best," the supt. then has a free hand to draw up a budget that will provide optimum quality.

In developing a budget the supt. must provide unerringly for those items which are designed to produce the highest quality in turf. He must know costs and must be prepared to defend the selection of items which he knows will aid him most in achieving the goal agreed upon. Some items may be unfamiliar to committee members. Education of these people then becomes the first order of business. Some supts. are disheartened when the material which they have chosen to aid them in achieving desired quality is not allowed and they are told to buy a "cheaper" material which the supt. knows will ultimately be more costly to the club. The committee has a perfect right to enforce such a demand upon the supt. The supt. has an equal right to set forth in writing all facts at his command to prove that his choice would be the wise one.

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**Q.** Kindly advise what is the best application on greens containing Astoria colonial and seaside bent for removal of chickweed which is coming in more heavily all the time.

**(New York)**

A. I would recommend use of lead arsenate which can be a very effective material against chickweed in mixed bent greens. Lead arsenate is safe and, if used at the rate of 10 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. once a year, either spring or fall, should get rid of chickweed gradually and safely.

If there are stubborn spots that you'd like to get rid of quickly, dust them with calcium arsenate. This material is a little more active than lead arsenate and will cause chickweed to disappear more rapidly. But it also does a little more damage to the grass if used too heavily.

Control of disease is very important in keeping the turf healthy and resistant to invasion of weeds. Your fertilization program also is extremely important as well as the irrigation. Well fed turf, with minimum irrigation, is a good defense against weed invasion.

**Q.** I am supt. at a club in Washington. We have a problem involving one of our greens in that the poa annua type grass does not survive summer heat and fungus damage.

We are interested in obtaining a type of bent which will be most adaptable to our climate and conditions. Our plan is to kill all existing plant life, spike as much as 20 times and then topdress and replant with a suitable strain of...
much  better  off  using  a  coarse  sand  which  is  highly  resistant  to  snow  mold.  If  you  have  to  plant  grass  where  it  has  been  damaged  by  snowmold,  you  might  consider  better  protection.  Another  possibility  is  that  the  rate  of  aeration  is  too  low.  If  you  do  not  correct  the  basic  faults  you  will  have  it  all  to  do  over  again.

After  you  have  corrected  soil  and  drainage  and  perhaps  a  matted  condition  of  the  turf  plant  Pennscross  seed,  at  one  lb.  to  1,000  sq.  ft.  Take  a  check  on  the  soil  to  learn  what  you  need  in  the  way  of  minerals.  Your  Soils  dept.  at  Pullman  can  help  you.  You  may  be  able  to  get  a  Soils  man  to  examine  the  green  with  you  and  analyze  the  situation.  Read  past  Q.  and  A.'s  for  discussions  on  soil  mixtures  for  greens.

Q. We  use  Calo-Clor  each  Fall  just  before  the  first  snow,  but  we  always  have  considerabe  snowmold  kill  on  our  course.  What  is  the  best  way  to  restore  our  turf  to  its  best  condition  for  play?  Snows  are  heavy  each  year.  We  often  have  one  to  two  ft.  of  snow  on  the  greens  and  up  to  three  feet  on  the  fairways  in  April.

A. One  of  the  best  ways  to  restore  snowmold  damaged  turf  is  to  open  it  by  spiking  or  other  type  of  aerating  to  get  air  into  the  soil  and  permit  the  grass  to  restore  its  growth.  Probably  not  all  of  it  will  come  back,  but  frequently,  annual  bluegrass  fills  in  the  voids  and  can  be  quite  a  blessing  at  times  in  this  respect.  Spiking  or  aerating  can  be  helpful,  too,  if  additional  seeding  is  necessary  to  restore  turf  to  those  areas  that  do  not  heal  by  themselves.

I  would  like  to  consider,  for  a  moment,  the  rate  of  Calo-Clor  you  use.  Perhaps  you  are  not  using  enough.  It  may  be  likely,  also,  that  you  could  afford  to  use  it  twice  in  the  fall  to  obtain  better  protection.  Another  possibility  is  that  the  grass  you  have  is  highly  susceptible  to  snowmold.  If  you  have  to  plant  grass  where  it  has  been  damaged  by  snowmold,  you  might  consider  using  Congressional  (C-19)  creeping  bent  grass  which  is  highly  resistant  to  snow  mold.

Certainly  you  want  to  avoid  late  fall  fertilization  with  a  soluble  fertilizer  that  causes  grass  to  go  into  winter  in  a  soft,  succulent  condition,  making  it  more  susceptible  to  the  disease.

It  would  be  helpful  if  you  could  get  pictures  of  snowmold  damage  this  spring  and  let  me  have  a  copy  for  my  files.

Q. What  is  the  best  sand  to  use  for  topdressing?  We  have  been  using  pea-size  gravel  but  don't  seem  to  get  it  worked  down  into  the  soil.  I  am  wondering  if  a  real  coarse  sand  would  be  better.  (Kan.)

A. Pea-size  gravel  is  best  used  in  the  subgrade  or  in  preparation  of  the  putting  green,  but  certainly  not  for  topdressing.  You  would  be  much  better  off  using  a  coarse  sand  which  would  work  into  the  turf  and  into  the  soil  following  aerating.  When  pea-size  gravel  is  used  for  topdressing  there  usually  are  too  many  complaints  from  golfers  because  the  ball  is  deflect-ed  by  pebbles.  One  way  pebbles  can  be  taken  off  the  green  easily  and  quickly  is  with  a  curved  snow  shovel  which  is  used  to  windrow  the  material  for  easy  removal.

Q. We  have  sand  greens  on  our  9-hole  course.  We'd  like  to  experiment  with  grass.  Would  it  be  possible  to  give  us  an  estimate  of  the  care  they  need  and  the  expense  involved?  Also,  we'd  like  to  have  information  on  how  the  soil  should  be  prepared,  chemicals  needed,  watering  and  fertilization.  (Iowa)

A. It  is  impossible  to  give  exact  answers  to  your  questions  without  seeing  the  property  and  taking  into  account  all  features  including  water  supply  and  many  other  factors.

I  suggest  that  you  get  in  touch  with  Professor  H.  L.  Lantz,  Dept.  of  Horticulture,  Iowa  State  College,  Ames,  and  have  him  help  determine  the  answers  to  your  questions.  It  is  entirely  possible  you  may  not  be  in  a  position  to  attempt  grass  successfully  as  yet.  On  the  other  hand,  you  may  be  admirably  located  for  it.  Only  a  first-hand  inspection  of  your  course  would  reveal  this.

Stewart  Heads  Midwest

New  pres.  of  the  Midwest  GCSA  is  Ed  Stewart,  supt.  at  River  Forest  CC  in  Elmhurst,  Ill.  Vps  are  Peter  Bild  and  Dave  Mastroleo.  Adolph  Bertucci  is  secy-treas.  and  directors  are:  Walter  Fuchs,  Norm  Kramer,  Dom  Grotti,  Amos  Lapp,  Wes  Updegraf  and  Ben  Krone.

New  England  Picks  Francis

Manuel  Francis  of  Vesper  CC,  Lowell,  Mass.  has  been  elected  pres.  of  the  New  England  GCSA  for  1958.  Albert  Allen,  Paul  O'Leary  and  N.  J.  Sterandio  are  vps.  Secy.  is  William  Ash  and  treasurer,  Arthur  Cady.  Theodore  Swanson  was  elected  three-year  trustee.  Education  committee  chairman  is  Ray  Brigham;  Milton  Brown  heads  the  golf  committee;  and  Howard  Farrant  and  John  O'Connor  are  co-chairmen  of  the  auditing  committee.  Phillip  I.  Cad-dy  is  business  mgr.  of  the  New  England  group.

Kansans  Elect  Funk

Kansas  Turfgrass  Assn.  members  recently  elected  Bob  Funk  pres.  He  succeeds  E.  R.  Queen.  Other  officers  are  Ed  Nelson,  vp,  and  Bob  Lester,  secy.-treas.  Directors  are  Tom  Andrews,  Charles  Nelson  and  Joe  Holub.  Committees  are  headed  by  the  following:  Publicity,  Lynn  Burris;  Program,  Tom  Andrews;  and  Membership,  Ervin  Syfert.  Ross  McCausland,  Jr.  is  the  organization's  photographer.