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Grau

from page 11

we have the right weather conditions. This will be true with any bermuda-grass in southern Maryland, but more severe with the Arizona common seed.

Q—Your Q & A in last February's issue on superintendents becoming managers has raised some serious questions. Members of our group disagree heartily with your concept of the relationships. Superintendents represent an honored profession, as do managers. We think that the two should remain separate and distinct with no crossover, even though many of us are trained both as turf managers and as businessmen. True, our profession does not have the glamour because our operations are removed from the hub of things. We are not proud when one of our "greenkeepers" moves to the other side and becomes a manager. None of us can condone consolidating "the two most important functions of the club." Any light that you can shed on the reasons for your position shall be appreciated.

(Illinois)

A—In considering your thoughtful and honest letter, I can't get my mind off some of my long-time "greenkeeper" friends who have become effective and honored club managers. The golf course superintendents who work with them enjoy a favored position, because they operate in conjunction with a manager who understands the problems of coping and working with nature. When a manager has technical and sympathetic understanding of golf course conditions, I see a harmonious relationship that is good for 1) the superintendent, 2) the manager and 3) the club.

When a superintendent gains the expertise to cope with a manager's problems and frustrations and goes into it with his eyes open, why should I oppose it? I see a gain for the superintendent.

I see no good reason for anyone to consider the "greenkeepers" as one faction and managers as another, continuously at odds. Why should not these two most important functions of a club be harmonious? Both serve the same club and the same members. This unwillingness to "give and take" does not seem to be in the best interests of those you serve.

I have no desire to change your way

continued on page 18
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