The Market Place

Recent letters from advertisers in the Greenkeeper clearly prove our point brought up in the November Market Place columns, that if advertising pays, it sells itself. We wish to extend our sincere thanks for the whole-hearted support that has been extended to us during 1927 by manufacturers and dealers in golf maintenance equipment and supplies.

Not only have they increased their space in our magazine for 1928, but many of them have gone out of their way to recommend the advantages of the National Greenkeeper to others who contemplate joining our advertising family this coming year.

That the members of the National Association fully appreciate the loyal support that has been given their magazine is evidenced by discussions at local meetings of greenkeepers held during the month of November. The editor was present at two of these meetings where the president of each local organization asked the members to write our advertisers when in need of equipment or supplies. "Don't forget them, for they are standing by us," said Fred Burkhart, of the Cleveland district, at the November 14 meeting.

News of Grass Seed Market

The price of grass seed from year to year is largely controlled by crops, and Henry A. Dreer of 1306 Spring Garden Street, Philadelphia, advises that "new crop and imported domestic grass and clover seeds have now arrived. This year has produced crops of fine quality on all important varieties, fully equal to our usual high standard samples, being of good colored and high purity and germination. Prices, particularly on the principle domestic grasses, Kentucky Blue and Red Top, are slightly lower, and probably, of the imported varieties, Kentucky Blue grass is the only one to be a little higher in price, but improved quality justifies the increase."

Shrubbery for Spring Planting

The Dreer nurseries and farms totaling over 400 acres and with greenhouses covering in the aggregate, 10 acres, are situated along the Passaic River in the Garden State of New Jersey, and are well stocked in readiness for the coming season. Quite a number of very attractive shrubs, chief among which is our attractive new Hardy Red Leaved Barberry, are on hand to assist in the beautification of the club grounds, while numerous other decorative plants, and particularly Ferns, Palms, and Roses, all specialties with us, are being wintered over, ready for their appointed place either inside or outside of the club house. Borders of hardy shrubs make beautiful backgrounds, while what can possibly be more beautiful and useful than a rose bed or border, with a ready supply of perfumed blooms for the ladies' rooms, dining rooms, and porches? Their new 1928 Garden Book, fully illustrated and descriptive, will be ready Jan. 1st, and a copy will be mailed to any greenkeeper interested.

Milorganite Used in South

The Milwaukee Sewerage Commission recently reported that Milorganite is being used successfully on many southern courses. Since the fall of 1926 nine car-loads have been shipped to Miami, Florida alone. Southern soils are especially in need of nitrogen, and are greatly benefited by generous applications of Milorganite, which can be used with little danger of burning the turf. Milorganite is especially adapted to use on sandy soil where nitrogen losses are most severe as a result of excessive leaching.

The nitrogen of Milorganite is almost entirely insoluble in water, but is gradually converted into forms required by the turf. This reduces the danger of loss from leaching and also provides a uniform and continuous supply of available nitrogen over longer periods. In addition to the nitrogen Milorganite also contains some readily available phosphoric acid.

Milorganite is also adapted to use on winter seeded greens. If applied prior to seeding with redtop and rye grass it can be made from these points. These annual dinners are now well established, and each year a larger number of guests enjoy Mr. Johnson's hospitality.

Sixth Annual Party

J. Oliver Johnson, Inc., Chicago. The regular annual dinner given by J. Oliver Johnson, Inc., to the greenkeepers, professionals, chairman of Green committees and others of the Chicago district interested in golf was staged at the company's plant on Saturday, October 29.

Covers were laid for 160, and among those present were quite a number of the members of the Mid-West Greenkeepers Association.

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Demonstration of Royer at New Jersey Show

On October 27th a Golf Course Equipment demonstration was held at the Shackamaxon Golf Club, Westfield, N. J. under the auspices of the New Jersey Golf Association and the Service Bureau of the Metropolitan Golf Association. A complete line of golf course equipment and supplies was shown by some 35 concerns and as usual outstanding features were evident among them being the showing and operating of the Royer Compost machine. Three Royers, one model "K" and two model "M" were sold directly after the demonstration and orders for ten model "M" machines were taken for spring delivery. Moving pictures were taken of the operation of this machine and these will be shown during the week of the Chicago Golf Show at the booth of E. L. Winn, Inc., Elizabeth, N. J.

Changes in Pennsylvania Mowers

The Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Works writes us: "We have as a result of suggestions made by some of the greenkeepers, made some slight changes in our famous Roller Putting Greens machine, improving the front roller castors by a new type of bearings, also changing somewhat the angle of the bottom blade to avoid this touching the green except on the front edge."

"The 1928 model will be equipped with our new Braun self-aligning ball bearing, which combines the best features of both balls and rollers in the one device. We are making a special inducement to Clubs who will place their orders at the present time, of an extra 10% beyond our last quotations of $135.00 per Unit on the Super Trio and Quint. This has not been widely advertised, but you are at liberty to quote it. Orders must reach us before January 1st, however."

Who Decides What to Buy?

Here is another actual circumstance, reported to us by O. M. Scott & Sons Co. of Marysville, Ohio: "Golf Clubs may have plenty of committees and numerous names on those committees but the real thinking of golf course management is done by one of our men was called to a near-by city recently to talk creeping bent stolons to a Green committee of three and the greenkeeper. The Greens chairman was on the job and his two assistants were playing when told that the "expert" had arrived and that planting of the new greens was about to be discussed, the following response issued: "Now Charlie, you know more about this than we do. You and Lucas (the greenkeeper) do the deciding and whatever you fellows conclude to do will be all right with us."

That is the reason the two "greens" keeper and chairman, are a mighty valuable pair around a golf course. Usually what they say goes, not so much from personal choice as from the willingness of the others on the committee to let George do it."

"Committees will continue to be appointed, but you can always put your hand on one or two men who are doing the constructive work and surprisingly little golf playing."