A Chat With Our President

John Morley

In reading the various articles in The National Greenkeeper, we should read them not merely to criticize, but to digest. What does not appeal to you, forget.

John Quaill of the Highland Country Club, Bellevue, Pennsylvania, is the new secretary of the Pittsburgh District Greenkeepers' Association. Now watch this district grow.

Keep a scrap book and when you read an article that appeals to you stick it in the book. At some future time it may be useful.

When the putting greens are firm and true, especially during the summer months, in order to give the members all the enjoyment possible while putting, don't topdress simply because someone else does. It is not always essential to do it. Try and avoid during extreme dry weather getting too much organic material into the soil. Of course we know that grass must have food, and this food must be well balanced. I used to think that by using only one fertilizer, sulphate of ammonia, it was all the grasses needed, but of late I have observed that they must have something else besides nitrogen. Nitrogen is the chief food for the blades of grass. The roots I learn need phosphorous, and if you desire a good color, grass must have potash. These three fertilizers must be well balanced, because if we use too much nitrogen it will have a tendency to make the grass too tender. If we supply the roots with too much phosphorus we are apt to encourage too many weeds, and if we get too much potash in the soil it creates too much clover.

Stanley Aldrich of Madison Golf Lakelands, Madison, Ohio has received a number of compliments for the fine condition of his course this season.

I hope that you have sent in to our secretary an application for a new member. If not our organization will be just like a person holding an important position. If we stand still we will commence to go backward, but by no means are we going backward. If you know of a brother greenkeeper who has not received a copy of The National Greenkeeper just send our secretary his name and address.

Addison Hollander is to be the greenkeeper for the new Mill Creek Park Golf Club, Youngstown, Ohio. When finished it will have 27 holes. Addison is now helping with the construction work.

Is corrosive sublimate used to prevent brown-patch on the putting greens good or evil? For instance take the putting greens in charge of John MacGregor of the Chicago Golf Club. He has been using three ounces to a putting green with success. His greens have been in excellent condition all season. This is the first season that I have used corrosive sublimate and by using three ounces to a green I found that about the first of August a serious burning of the turf resulted. It appeared to burn the poa annua more than the bent grasses. Another item which may be of interest, and may appear to be amusing is that prior to using corrosive sublimate, when the soil became warm after using sulphate of ammonia, the angle worms ceased coming to the surface of the putting greens which I presume is due to the fact that they do not like to work in soil that throws off a nitrogen gas. Since using corrosive sublimate we have on several of our putting greens every morning a number of worm casts. This leads me to believe that corrosive sublimate affects nitrogen fertilizers, and further, prevents the turf from holding its natural color.

What has become of P. Francis Siciliano, formerly of the Inwood Country Club, Inwood, Long Island. Francis, send in some of your experiences for you certainly had fine putting greens while you were at Inwood. Do you still cover your putting greens with tobacco stems during the winter?

Character is the response of the will in the presence of temptation. Character is temptation overcome.

Scott Tuppen of the Cleveland Heights Golf and Country Club, Lakeland, Florida has his putting greens planted with Atlanta Strain of Bermuda.

The real convictions that uplift humanity and create the will to fight for a better future are lodged in the convictions of minorities.

A number of greenkeepers would like to know why Mr. Robert E. Power, retiring president of the Ohio State Golf Association quit writing his able articles "What Golf Rules Affect the Greenkeeper." Mr. Power having been chairman of the Green committee of Westwood Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio for several years knows how the greenkeeper may help the player.

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ever, when one wishes to secure the best possible results, in the planting of evergreens, it is well worthwhile to take into consideration the desires and requirements of the various trees.

Swamp-loving Evergreens

The white cedars Retinosporas, and Arbor Vitae are all very close related and probably make up nearly half of all the different evergreens which are planted. Because they are planted in such large numbers and so often in places entirely unsuited for them, failures are very common. These trees in nature grow luxuriantly in deep swamps and marshes. Often times they make up almost entirely the trees along rivers and the borders of swamps. They grow so luxuriantly under these conditions that they are able to force out willows, poplars, and other equally swamp loving trees. When the needs of these trees are such it seems utterly foolish to plant them on high, dry, sandy knolls and well drained slopes. Entirely too often are they so placed that they struggle along for a few years and then give up the struggle to the great disappointment of the one who ignorantly planted them where it was utterly impossible for them to succeed.

Since the larch was mentioned in the early part of this article as a tree belonging in the group of evergreens, although it is not an evergreen, it is well to give its requirements at this point. Requirements of the larch are almost identically the same as those of the cedars and Arbor Vitae. One may secure a stunted, scrawny specimen when the larch is planted in moderately dry soil, but in order to get the best it should be planted in places such as those described for the immediately preceding species.

Junipers Flourish With Little Encouragement

Quite often it is necessary to select some evergreen which will grow in poor, rocky, dry, waste ground. When such is the case, select the junipers. There are many beautiful and desirable species together with scores of horticultural varieties. This makes up the group of evergreens that you can expect to grow into beautiful, worthwhile specimens, even though the soil is so poor that it is impossible to get anything to grow.

Editor’s Note: Mr. Scherer, in submitting the foregoing article for publication in the National Greenkeeper, said, “I only wish the information contained in this article could be broadcast to everyone who is thinking of planting an evergreen tree.” Now that you have read it once, you’d better go over it again.

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