How Kirtland Came Back

By Arthur Boggs, Pro-greenkeeper
Kirtland Country Club, Willoughby, O.

One would hardly know to look at the beautiful course of the Kirtland Country Club that every green was wiped out by brown patch and had to be about completely restored.

To tell the story of the formation and building of the Kirtland Country Club is just a repetition of many similar organizations that have been formed and opened for play only to find that for some reason it was impossible to round the course into playing condition and the grass on the greens would not develop.

After the second year the greens came on in beautiful shape. In the spring the course was opened for play only to run into a season of brown patch weather that completely wiped out the greens and most all of the fairways. At this time advice was received from all sides with the results that no two agreed as to the cause.

Professor Lyman Carrier then of the U. S. G. A. Green Section, was called in and he pronounced it the worst case of brown patch he had ever seen and the peculiar thing is that with the advice we had received up to that time no one attributed the cause to brown patch, but to about everything else, even to some kind of a worm we found on one of the greens.

Professor Carrier recommended that we replant our greens with Washington bent stolons that were just coming on the market, which was done that fall. Since then they changed the name of the grass and every grass expert that visits our course has a new name for this strain of grass, which is the original strain developed by Professor Carrier and named "Washington." However, some day the truth will be learned about the changing of these names by the department in Washington.

The heads of the organization at this period put through a rule that should be adopted by all golf clubs, that every change or major operation on the golf course shall first be placed before the board of directors for their approval and they have in this way controlled every proposed change that has been made on the golf course.

Professor Carrier visits Kirtland twice a year and his advice is followed to the letter with the results that we have made no mistakes and have enjoyed good putting greens, he has also laid out a three year schedule of fertilizing for our fairways that will make them equal to our putting greens.

To know Professor Carrier is an honor and a privilege and for his advice and help the Kirtland Country Club is indeed very grateful.

Say you saw the ad in The National Greenkeeper