

Around the Office Desk

THANKS TO MACGREGOR

LET'S give a rising vote of thanks to John MacGregor for furnishing us his interesting and instructive monthly Almanac through 1928. John is not sending the Almanac through for 1929 because there is more or less repetition in the daily work of the greenkeeper.

"I would like to see something in the GREENKEEPER" writes MacGregor "which would stir up interest among the greenkeepers. I would like to start something and for a start put this question up to the greenkeepers."

"What has been your experience with Arsenate of Lead? Has it improved your turf, destroyed weeds, worms, grubs, and in what quantities did you use it per 1000 square feet? At what intervals and how often during a season do you feel it is beneficial or otherwise? This is a subject which is being discussed a great deal and your experience will be beneficial to all. Answer to the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER."

We might say for John's benefit that we sent out a questionnaire on Arsenate of Lead and have a number of interesting replies and we will take excerpts from them together with the new answers which come in and publish a story on Arsenate of Lead in the Big February Convention Number. See that your answers are in the Editor's hands by January 12.

BRITISH GRASSES

SPEAKING of the February Convention we have another treat in store for our readers; an article by Martin Sutton of the Royal Seed Establishment of Reading, England, entitled "Notes on British Grasses."

The Sutton family are probably the world's most famous seedsmen and his splendid article on British grasses is most interesting and instructive.

Writing to us under date of November 22nd, Mr. Sutton says,

"I have examined and congratulate you upon the admirable 'get-up' of your important paper, the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER; this I feel sure, must be proving a very valuable publication in the U. S. A."

STOLONS VS. SEED

WE HAVE another interesting story from E. S. Garner of the Rhode Island State Agriculture Experiment Station for the February Convention number.

"Stolons versus Seed for the Greens."

This is a subject where there is a nation-wide difference of opinion, but Mr. Garner has tackled it without fear or favor and his article is going to set everybody to thinking.

Mr. Garner is not a pussyfoot writer and what he says is straight-forward and to the point. We predict that this article will cause more argument than any which has been published in the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER for some time.

AGAINST MUSHROOM SOIL

HOW many of you greenkeepers are using mushroom soil on your putting greens? If so have you observed any brown patch tendencies?

We received a letter from J. E. Cannaday of Sedalia, Mo. a few days ago in response to a question we asked him about the use of mushroom soil.

"I am convinced that spent hot beds, such as mushroom soil is a very dangerous compound for putting greens. There is in this mixture a large quantity of remnants of organic matter, which have not gone through decomposition as thoroughly as it should be. In other words, there is not enough material in a spent mushroom compost for the growth of such mammoth growths, as mushrooms, but there is an enormous quantity of sustenance for the growth of the microscopic, or even macroscopic fungi."

If you have had practical experience why not let us have it for the benefit of your brother greenkeepers? That's what the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER is for—to exchange ideas and experiences for the betterment of golf.

A GREAT ISSUE

WE HAVE received numerous complimentary letters on the December issue and apparently the boys are doing a lot of serious thinking about soil conditions and brown

patch.

One of these from James A. Smith, soil expert of London, Ohio about covers the entire situation.

"This number is all 'meat'," writes Mr. Smith. "The thinking greenkeeper who has been doing research work and realized it, has never before felt at liberty to make public his findings. A careful check of this number shows the results of your efforts. Only a few are actually represented but their offerings are all fundamentally sound. This number, were all points made, fully carried out and properly correlated, would make a text book.

"E. S. Garner, in this publication, feels perfectly free to state an important fact regarding bent grasses corroborated by Dr. Hubbard in a subsequent article.

Mustard Greens, Carrots Sprout On Golf Green

SAVANNAH, Ga., Nov. 20.—(AP)—For days and days gangs of men worked on greens at the City Golf club, plowing, planting and rolling the ground. Savannah golfers would have fine putting greens.

Two days ago things began to come up. Seven greens must be made over because officials at the golf club decided Savannah golfers could not putt on the crop of mustard greens and carrots.

The packages from which the seed came were labeled grass seed.

CHEAP SEED IS EXPENSIVE

The above newspaper clipping was sent to us by Hugh C. Moore, greenkeeper at Brunswick, Ga. "This is the result of cheap seed," writes Moore, "and poor greenkeeping. It was supposed to be Italian Rye which is a large seed easily identified."