

Mid-West Greenkeepers' Page

BY A. L. BRANDON, *Secretary*

RECENT rumors have reached us that our friend C. M. Harrison of this district's Green Section is planning to get married. Allow us to extend our congratulations together with those of other Mid-west greenkeepers.

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Midwest members don't forget that your Green chairman is always welcome at our Midwest meetings. As October ends the fiscal year for many clubs, which means club election, new budgets, etc., and not to forget many new Green chairmen taking office, and the probability of some not any too well acquainted with their new jobs but very interested in making 1931 the best season their club has had. So the next time you see him speak to him about it.

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Apropos the gentleman who wildly dashes into the locker room shouting that all his clubs are working to perfection—the hooker, the slicer, and the misser—to be downright ornery we could mention a few Midwest members whom have had similar experiences.

Quite a discussion was had on grubs at the October meeting, it seems almost everyone had experiences to tell, with most of them occurring this past season.

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Plans are being made to hold an open meeting in the near future for all greenkeepers and turf enthusiasts, to be sponsored by the Midwest Greenkeepers organization. It is planned to have prominent speakers on turf problems and turf maintenance, etc., anyway it will be an evening well spent for those who plan to attend. Dates for this meeting will be announced later.

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The late fall rains have as yet failed to materialize, deficiency since January 1st being 7.79 inches.

Lately we have been wondering if there may be any relation with brown patch and this late discovery concerning black stem wheat rust, which has puzzled pathologists for a generation. Miss Hart found that in the majority of the strains of wheat in the experimental planting that the stomata (myriads of small opening on the underside of the leaf through which the plant breathes, it is also from the air that the plant gets most of its dry weight) opened within a half hour after the first rays of the morning sun.

Some strains opened within five minutes, still others kept their leaf apertures tightly shut until they had been exposed one and one-half hours to sunshine. These latter strains under field conditions, did not very often suffer much damage.

In other words these wheats had escaped by the simple process of keeping their stomata closed until the morning sun had dried the dew and destroyed the growth of the spores which had germinated in this moisture the night before. Those strains of wheat which opened their apertures before the dew had dried and therefore permitted the rust spore to enter were infected.

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