

scientific information, for 1931 is going to be a year in which the knowledge of the basic principles of turf culture will be of high value.

The Green chairman and greenkeeper must both understand and appreciate the ability and weaknesses of each other, and be tolerant. Where one is better suited for leadership, he should lead, but he should give way to the other when the proper occasion arises. The chairman may be the better leader through the mazes of club officialdom and club policies, but not over the green path from tee to green.

*Next Month*—Similarity between golf course maintenance and factory operation.

## Canadian News

By J. H. EVANS, *Golf Editor, Toronto Globe*

**G**OLF history insofar as the Dominion is concerned was written recently when Secretary B. L. Anderson, of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, appeared before the Ontario Greenkeepers' Association at a luncheon in Toronto, to secure the assent of the organized greenkeepers to the golf association's plan through which it will carry on demonstrations in the culture of grass, the maintenance of equipment and other work in Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal this year.

However, before Mr. Anderson secured the assent of the Ontario greenkeepers to the golf association's scheme, President W. J. Sansom let it be known that the organized greenkeepers were engaged in the study of problems twelve months in the year and that any proposal which precluded the greenkeeper from expressing an opinion would fall short of its purpose.

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"No doubt, the green section of the Royal Canadian Golf Association will accomplish a good deal," said Mr. Sansom. "At the same time, the greenkeeper feels that a green section composed of chairmen of Green committees alone will not achieve its purpose. It is obvious, it is right and it is natural that greenkeepers who are called on to maintain courses to a high standard are capable of carrying on the work proposed if properly organized.

"In no sense can we be classified as a labor organization. Greenkeeping at present is something more than manual labor," he continued. "We have the publication of our monthly magazine entirely devoted to the interests of the greenkeeper and golf course maintenance. Practical experiences are set down through articles contributed from course superintendents working under the greatest possible variety of conditions."



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While Mr. Anderson listened attentively, Mr. Sansom sketched the development of the Ontario Greenkeepers' Association and told of the work which the National Greenkeepers' Association of the United States was accomplishing. Mr. Sansom referred to President John Morley in glowing terms and pointed out that clubs of the United States on many occasions had sought his advice.

The proposal of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, while it accords no written recognition to the organized greenkeeper, depends on him if it will be a success. The proposal contemplates the establishment of plots for demonstration, not experiment, and the results of these experiments will be distributed four times a year in the form of bulletins to be approved of by committees in Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal.

These committees are composed of laymen who must depend on course superintendents and the better posted greenkeepers for opinion and judgment. As a consequence, the green section enterprise of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, is depended on the greenkeeper, and is in all likelihood the reason why it was submitted to the Ontario Greenkeepers' Association for its study.

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The arrangement which the Royal Canadian Golf Association has reached with the Federal Government is that the government will create plots in the three cities on the distinct understanding that experimental work will be carried on only by government stations and

farms. The plots are for the purpose of carrying on demonstrations of government experiments which have for instance reduced 52 varieties of bent grass for use on golf courses to four types.

The Federal Government has guaranteed seed, stolons, fertilizer and other material required for the plots, and insists on providing the detailed specifications as to their use. The plots are to contain practice fields so that work can be carried on under real playing conditions.

Four times a year, the three committees are to pass on to the government the results of their observations. For instance the committee in Ontario is composed of Dr. A. B. James, Gordon Cassels, Horace Grout and Frank Hay. The committee is composed of a medical doctor, a lawyer, a railway superintendent and a business man. The Montreal committee is made up of H. M. Maxon, George H. Forester and James Buchanan. C. W. Jackson is chairman of the Winnipeg committee.

It is probably a safe observation to make that the members of the three committees will consult their greenkeepers throughout the season before passing judgment on the results of demonstrations, the responsibility for which must be accepted by officials of the Federal Government.

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An illustration of the problems which will confront the committees is to be had in the dispute between an official of the Quebec Golf Association and Stanley Thompson, who is favored by the Royal Canadian Golf Association with the reputation of being Canada's best authority on golf courses and their maintenance. The official of the Quebec Association was formerly employed by a seed firm. His claim is that only seeded greens, of other than bent, are lasting and successful, and also that bent greens are entirely unsatisfactory.

The Ontario section of the R. C. G. A. relying on experience and the advice of Mr. Thompson is strongly in favor of bent grasses. It also relies on experiments carried out by the United States government. Mr. Thompson's opinion is that bent stands the winter, matures early and lasts longer, although he is willing to admit that the green of another type may have some advantages over the bent green for a brief period during the summer.

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Both Mr. Sansom and Mr. Anderson agree that the Royal Canadian Golf Association must not duplicate work being done by the Federal Government, from which they are receiving assistance, and must proceed slowly to avoid the necessity of developing a new policy.

The luncheon at which the Royal Canadian Golf Association's plan was presented to the Ontario greenkeepers was attended by Major Black, Canadian Industries, Ltd.; Professor Tomlinson, Guelph Agricultural College; Secretaries J. Cameron, E. C. Bowyer, A. Tulloch, J. Perkins and T. Perkins, from local golf clubs and all greenkeepers. President Collyer, of the Royal Canadian Golf association, was unable to attend the luncheon.