

condition, but its fairways frequently suffer from drought. The club has decided to construct a watering system through its entire course to protect itself, but the work will not be undertaken until the fall.

* * *

Vice-president W. J. Sansom will attend the executive meeting of the National Greenkeepers' association at Philadelphia, June 22. He is still awaiting the appearance of the bulletin of the Royal Canadian Golf association. This bulletin was to be one of four issued annually to assist course superintendents and greenkeepers. It was to be compiled by a committee of the Royal Canadian Golf association.

Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA



H. E. STODOLA
Secretary, Minnesota
Association of Golf
Course Superintendents.

THE Minnesota Association met at the Somerset Club, Monday, June 8th, for their monthly meeting. The members inspected the tool house and saw a well-equipped shop with tools and machinery kept in first-class condition.

Max Schieffner, who has charge, has been with the club since it started ten years ago and he knows every blade of grass on the course. A record is kept of everything that is done on the greens, and no two greens are taken care of alike. The grounds are a model of neatness from a well-groomed course to the best grass tennis courts in the Northwest.

Somerset club is gradually changing their greens to Seaside bent. They have several Seaside bent greens already and the members are so satisfied that they want all the greens of the same grass. One interesting thing about this course is that a large part of it is made up of a beautiful orchard.

After going over the course the members met in the office for their business meeting. President Erickson read a letter from Mr. Power, Editor of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, asking him what he thought of the name "greenkeeper." Because we do not like the title greenkeepers, for want of a better name we changed our name to the Minnesota Association of Golf Course Superintendents. The more we see that name in print the less we like it because we realize how inadequate it is. We have decided to adopt the name that is chosen by the National Association.

Thursday, June 12th, we meet at Golden Valley, where the Trans-Mississippi tournament is to be held Monday, June 15th.

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Pacific Coast Gossip

By ARTHUR LANGTON

THE Ventura County Country Club of Saticoy, California, has a design somewhat unique in at least this area. It is an eighteen-hole, or rather eighteen-fairway, course with only nine greens.

Originally the club had a regulation nine-hole layout but it later was re-designed so that each hole is played twice, each time from a different tee. This has been made possible by some ingenious planning and is practical because the location of the club in an agricultural district does not make for congested play.

In this way the pleasure of an eighteen-hole course is afforded the club members without all of the expense involved in the upkeep of a regulation full-sized links.

* * *

As far as current business conditions are concerned, neither the pay nor the employment of most Pacific greenkeepers have been changed. They have felt the depression in that they have been ordered to curtail expenses, but their ability to respond to this demand has kept them on the job when men in other walks of life are tramping about in the army of the unemployed.

Many courses have felt the consequences, but as a



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whole one can get just as good a game of golf now on the Pacific coast as he could before the Hoover administration. Only the most observant players notice that the rough is untrimmed and that the trees and shrubs may not have been pruned.

* * *

However, the groundsmen themselves, have not been so fortunate as their immediate superiors in regard to employment, but their conditions have not been too difficult on many courses. Greenkeepers, on receiving orders to cut down the grounds crew by one or two men, have deliberately disobeyed orders and have pro-rated the discharge among the whole crew over a period of one year.

Thus a greenkeeper instead of firing two men outright as ordered will give two of his men a week's vacation without pay. The following week these two return and two more take their place. Thus unbearable hardship is inflicted on no one.

* * *

Professor R. L. Webster, head of the Washington State college department of zoology, has been conducting a research study pertaining to the cutworm and his habits. Although this work was carried on primarily for the benefit of the farmers of Washington, his remarks are of interest to greenkeepers because cutworms have a harmful habit of nesting in bent grass nurseries.

"Cutworms do not 'swell up and bust' as stated in some quarters," declares the Washington zoologist, "nor does the hot weather kill them. They merely complete their usual development in a normal manner when they cease operations on crops in the early summer. Hot weather may accelerate the growth of the pest but it does not kill it.

"The eggs from which the cutworms hatch are laid by the parent moth sometime in late summer and usually in grasses. The young hatch in the fall and begin feeding at once, going into the winter only partly grown, consequently they greet the spring with enormous appetites.

"Cutworms feed mostly at night, hiding all day in the soil within an inch or so of the plants they attack. They mature in June, transform to the intermediate pupa stage in the ground, and the adult moth later emerges from this pupa. Most cutworms have but one generation during a season."

Professor Webster recommends the following poison bran mixture for the checking of cutworms:

Bran—1 quart.

Paris green—1 teaspoonful.

Molasses—1 tablespoonful.

Water sufficient to moisten the bran.

Mix the Paris green and bran thoroughly, then add the molasses dissolved in water, stirring until the bran becomes barely moist throughout. The scientist intends

What They Say About—



10-6-4 TURF BUILDER

"We used Turf Builder on our greens last year and are using it again this year. Our experience has proved that Turf Builder is the ideal fertilizer for

holding up color and developing healthy turf," writes Frank Balding, Greenkeeper at Sunnyside Golf Club, Decatur, Illinois.

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this mixture for use in gardens, but there seems to be no reason why it could not be used between the rows and around the borders of bent nurseries.

* * *

Again the ever-popular topic of California weather comes up for consideration. In March, southern greenkeeper were loudly lamenting the fact that they had not had their quota of rain for the season and could not even hope for more because it was too late in the year.

But they did not know California weather; nobody does; that's why it is always "unusual." More rain came, bringing the total to near normal. What is more, there has been no scorching heat so far this season and the skies on a large percentage of the days have been beautifully overcast, thus eking out the ground moisture.

Nobody knows what it is going to do in the Golden State until it happens. Every year the oceanographers, the Indians, the old-timers, the astronomers, and the men with sensitive corns have a merry time deciding what the weather will do, and usually all of them are made to look ridiculous.

Mid-West Notes

By A. L. BRANDON, *Secretary*

REGULAR June meeting will be held Monday, June 29th at the Biltmore Country Club, Barrington, Illinois. Mr. Henry Wiest is the greenkeeper at Biltmore.

* * *

Quite a group of the boys made the trek to the Chikaming Country Club at Lakeside, Michigan, for the May meeting. Some of the boys covered a distance of nearly two hundred miles to attend this meet. All agreed that the trip was very worth-while and Mr. Buller proved a most excellent host.

The Chicago district has been enjoying periodic rains plus warm weather which is keeping the cutting units plenty busy. The deficiency in rainfall at the present writing is only .47 of an inch.