

## What About the Drouth?

**T**HE drouth situation for 1930 and for 1931 up to the middle of February is summarized by J. B. Kincer, chief of the division of agricultural meteorology of the U. S. Weather Bureau in a bulletin issued by the bureau.

"The year 1930 was exceedingly dry and abnormally warm," Kincer writes.

The spring and summer combined, that is, the months from March to August, were the driest of record in Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, he adds. The rainfall in these nine states averaged for the six months only 58 per cent of the normal.

"For the year, as a whole, 40 of the 48 states had less than normal rainfall," he says. "The relatively driest state for the calendar year was Maryland, with 56 per cent of normal, followed by West Virginia, 59; Virginia, 60; and Kentucky, 61 per cent.

### DROUTH CONDITIONS

Drouth conditions continued during January, 1931.

"This month," Kincer says, "was the driest of record over a considerable area of the East-Central United States, and had large deficiencies in precipitation nearly everywhere, except in the west Gulf area.

"Much of the interior valleys received less than one-third of the normal rainfall, while deficiencies of 50 per cent, or more, were rather general east of the Rockies, except in the more southern and northeastern states.

"For December and January, combined, Nebraska, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Kentucky had the least rainfall of record, while for the period from October to January, inclusive, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York established new low records."

The mechanism of a drouth is well known to meteorologists but the causes for it are still a considerable mystery.

### NORMAL WEATHER CAUSE

Normally, there is a succession of low pressure areas moving across the United States, these "lows" being followed by high pressure areas. As long as these areas continue to move across the country there is fairly normal weather. The general direction of movement is from west to east.

Drouths occur when there is a stagnation of the air, causing an interruption of the general movement of the "lows" and "highs" across the country.

"Rain is produced by a considerable cooling of a great volume of humid air," Kincer says.

"During the drouth of 1930 atmospheric pressure persisted relatively high in more southern, especially southeastern, sections, and low, with high temperatures, over the northern United States and Southern Canada. This general stagnant condition caused a nearly contin-

## WAYSIDE GARDENS PLANT FOOD

### *A Real Foundation Fertilizer for Golf Courses*

This new ORGANIC Plant Food has been developed by plantsmen for the specific purpose of feeding grasses or plants low at the roots, promoting, as well as, inducing deep long root-action, thereby, building a thick sod and consequently a very dense growth. In general its action is similar to that of rotted cow-manure. It is not a by-product turned into a stimulant, but developed to produce sturdy growth, reducing up-keep costs to a minimum.

It does not contain any filler (is all pure Plant Food).

It saves on the quantity applied.

It is a one-application-a-year Plant Food as it lasts from twelve to sixteen months.

It does not burn, and can be applied at any time under all conditions.

Being organic, results are the same on all soils. Complete information may be had by writing to the manufacturers,

**THE WAYSIDE GARDENS CO.**  
MENTOR, OHIO

## *JUST OUT* **SECOND EDITION**

# The Lawn

**BY LAWRENCE S. DICKINSON**

Ass't. Professor of Horticulture  
Massachusetts Agricultural College

Defines and describes the Culture of Turf in Park, Golfing and Home areas.

### CONTENTS

The General View	Controlling Pests
Molding the Lawn	General Maintenance
Preparation of the Seed Bed	Lawn Mowers
Seed Selection and Planting	Park Turf
Important Turf Plants	Cemetery Turf
Planting a lawn with Stolons	Useful Tables
Fertilizing	

### Illustrated

128 pages---Price \$1.25 postpaid  
to any address

**The National Greenkeeper**  
405 Caxton Bldg. Cleveland, Ohio





**DIAMOND STEEL CENTER TRACTOR SPUDS**

Long wearing and sharp until completely worn out—because of hard tool-steel center—outside wears away faster. Made in all sizes to fit any size or make of tractor.

If your dealer can't supply you, write direct for sample or literature.

**DIAMOND CALK HORSESHOE COMPANY**  
4700 Grand Ave. Duluth, Minn.

**What They Say About—**

**SCOTT'S**

**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. . . .

**O. M. SCOTT & SONS CO.**  
Golf Course Seeds Marysville, Ohio

uous flow of descending, hence dry, air from south to north over the surface of central and eastern United States.

"In other words, the normal movement of 'highs' and 'lows' was interrupted by a persistently stagnant state of the atmosphere.

"Conditions attending drouths are well known to meteorologists, but just why these should establish themselves, and persist, as in 1930, has not as yet been determined."

## New Jersey Field Day

A field day program devoted entirely to turf culture will be held at the New Jersey State Agricultural Experiment station on Monday, June 15, 1931. The meeting is sponsored jointly by the New Jersey State Golf Association, the New Jersey State Greenkeepers Association, and the State Agricultural Experiment station. It is expected that a large number of people interested in producing and maintaining turf on lawns, golf courses, parks, etc., will be present.

The program will begin at 3 p. m. (Daylight Saving Time) on the experimental turf plots of the Agronomy Department at the College Farm, New Brunswick. Each of the several hundred plots will be labeled, so that visitors may draw their own conclusions as to the effects

of the various treatments and conditions. A discussion of the field experiments will be conducted during the afternoon.

At 6 p. m. the group will adjourn to the Hotel Woodrow Wilson, where dinner will be served at a cost of \$1.50 per plate. Following the dinner, there will be an evening program of talks on turf culture and a discussion of problems. Several speakers of national reputation will address those assembled.

## Lakeland Municipal Course

The municipal golf course at Lakeland, Fla., is the rather famed Cleveland Heights course, built for the developers five years ago by Toomey and Flynn. It is a standard 18-hole championship course, rolling in its surface with no two shots alike. Not only is every green a different sort of a shot, but the course runs its way through a citrus grove so that in season players may pick oranges from the trees as they go along.

## Dickinson Comes West

The next meeting of the Green Section of the Central Ohio District Golf Association, 513 Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Columbus, Ohio, is to be held at Scioto Country Club on June 12th, under the leadership of Prof. L. S. Dickinson. His subject is "Greens and Fairway Mowers."

This meeting is to be opened to the public, and would appreciate it if you would announce it in your next edition of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, stating that the only charge will be for lunch. It will be necessary, however, for them to make a reservation, so that arrangements can be made for lunches.



The Peerless is the only sharpener that replaces dull cutting units with keen razor-like edges. Sharpens all makes of power, horse and hand mowers. A great time and money saver.

## Helps Keep Lawns Trim

With the Peerless Mower Sharpener dull cutting edges give way to keenness that enables mowers to run easier, on less power, with more speed. New reconditioner permits "lapping in" with emery paste after grinding.



The Fate-Root-Heath Co.

825 Bell Street

PLYMOUTH, O

Write for catalog and list of users.

WASHINGTON STRAIN

**BENT GRASS**

Strong, vigorous, year-old stolons, true to type. Fine velvety texture. Shipped shredded, ready for planting. Write for particulars.

**HIRAM F. GODWIN**

Box A, Redford Station

DETROIT, MICHIGAN