

# Canadian News

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

**A**FTER months of discussion and considerable deliberation, the expected step toward the development of something akin to a green section in the Royal Canadian Golf association has taken place under the auspices of the government of the Dominion of Canada.

The step was the establishment of a plot for experiments in the culture of grasses in general use on golf courses. The plot was laid out on the Royal York golf course on account of its proximity to the majority of the courses in Toronto. Greenkeepers and course superintendents in other spots of the Province of Ontario who wish to follow the experiments will be expected to make the necessary trip to the Royal York course.

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During the January meeting of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, the association's secretary, B. L. Anderson, announced that the association had been able to persuade the government to assist golf through the location of plots for experimental purposes in Toronto, Montreal and Winnipeg. These plots were to be laid out and maintained by the government when the association selected the courses on which they would be established.

Late in August, the Government sent an expert from its Federal Department of Agriculture to lay the plot out in Toronto. All strains of bent grasses, all fescues were sown by seed and stolon—all told 72 varieties. More than 10,000 square feet of ground was used for the purpose. In October the greenkeepers of Toronto and clubs of the Province will go to the course to study the result of the first effort of the Royal Canadian Golf association.

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Although greenkeepers were not consulted by the association or the government when the work suggested by the government was undertaken, they adopted a liberal view toward the effort to do something for golf in the Dominion and express the hope that something may come from it.

For six years, the greenkeeper through his organization has done more to place the care of the course on a scientific basis than anyone else. His accomplishments have been the blending of the practical and the scientific, such as was brought to him on occasions by members of the staffs of agricultural colleges and government departments. The Royal Canadian Golf association on its part has attempted on an elaborate scale and through literature from its office to develop a green section with brief success and now it hopes to benefit by its mistakes. The results of the experiments will be embodied in leaflets which will go to club secretaries and thence to the officials and employees in charge of the courses.

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The first leaflet was to have appeared in the spring to be followed by another bulletin in the summer. Their non-appearance evoked some interest. The explanation

is now forthcoming with the statement that there could be no bulletin until a plot had been established and the result of experiments could be reported for the benefit of clubs and their officials.

While the majority of course superintendents in the larger centres may gather little from these bulletins, it is expected that the greenkeeper in the smaller cities and in the towns of the Dominion may derive a great deal from them.

\* \* \*

The Government will experiment with fertilizer. At the same time, the clubs have before them the offer of one nationally-known company which is willing to conduct experiments in the manufacture of fertilizer as suggested by course superintendents and greenkeepers and then place the result on the course.

Thus the clubs and their employees may derive benefit which comes from competition between the Government and private enterprise which is out for business, frankly admitting it desires every cent of business to be secured from golf clubs.

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The reports from greenkeepers through eastern Canada is that the month of September will provide many problems unless there happens to be a sudden change in climatic conditions. The courses suffered severely in July, but recovered somewhat during August. Now the drought of late August and early September, along with heat, has burned them again.

As much water is being used on the courses now as during the excessively hot weather of midsummer. Clubs in Toronto without access to natural supplies of water were compelled to pay several hundred dollars monthly to municipalities for water which under normal conditions would have been a nominal amount.

# Philadelphia News

By M. E. FARNHAM, *Secretary, P. A. G. C. S.*

**A** REGULAR monthly meeting of the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held Monday, August 31, at the Rolling Green Golf Club, Media, Pa. There were 36 members and guests present.

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During the afternoon quite a number contested for the monthly prizes which are played for on a Kickers' Handicap basis. John R. Wiley, Penn C. C., won first money. R. C. Lane, Bala Golf Club; Joseph Kelly, Old York Road C. C.; J. V. Comito, Huntingdon Valley C. C.; and E. Steiniger, Pine Valley G. C., were tied for the remaining two places.

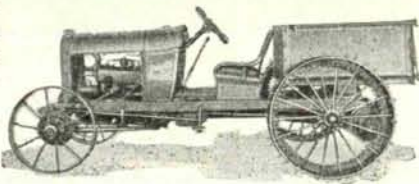
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The Rolling Green G. C. is one of those which has been afflicted with Virginia Bent. During the past season a number of greens have been sodded with Metropolitan Bent. They also have Washington Bent on one of the greens in the woods, and the 15th was sodded last fall

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\* \* \*

Our friend, Joseph Ryan, is to be congratulated on the excellent results of his past year's work and especially on that Velvet green. I understand Joe raised the sod for this green, from turf which he obtained from Joe Valentine, by planting small pieces of the Velvet 2 to 3 inches apart, and that the sod was only about a year old when used.

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After dinner at the club house we held a meeting during the evening. Dr. A. L. Patrick of the Pennsylvania State College was the guest of the day. Dr. Patrick showed us, by lantern slides, some pictures of, and charts summarizing results at the Rothampstead Experiment Station in England. The striking point brought out by the summaries Dr. Patrick has made, is the similarity of the results at Rothampstead and State College.

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Dr. Patrick also raised the question as to what aspects of turf work it may be desired to consider at the time of the Conference at State College in February, 1932. The aim is to take up questions which have the most universal interest. The suggestion was made that anyone having ideas along this line communicate with the Committee

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(of which Joe Valentine is the head) before they meet with the College authorities probably some time in October.

## New French River Course

By E. H. BANKS

AT a meeting held at French River Bungalow Camp, French River, Ontario, Canada, on August 3, E. F. Seagram, Waterloo, was elected President of the newly-formed French River Golf and Country Club. William Bricker, Waterloo, was chosen as vice-president, and Jack G. Strathdee, manager, of this C. P. R. Bungalow Camp, secretary-treasurer.

These appointees will also act as directors, in addition to R. W. Scott, E. H. Banks and F. Marsh Richardson, all of Toronto. Mr. Seagram will be chairman of directors. The course is considered one of the trickiest nine-hole courses in Eastern Canada.

Built four years ago by Mr. Strathdee, at the instigation of Mr. Seagram, it is in fine shape and a most popular adjunct to this well-known Ontario bungalow camp. At present slightly on the short side, arrangements have been made to lengthen several of the holes. Applications will also be made in due course for affiliation with the Royal Canadian Golf Association.



Mrs. E. F. Seagram, wife of the president of the French River Golf and Country Club, putting on the seventh green. Note the wonderful view of the bay in the background.