

study of course problems in a proper manner, it was not an uncommon thing to find greens smothered with worm casts daily during wet spring weather. It was impossible to provide a putting surface for golfers as they commenced their season. It is now possible."

#### GREENKEEPERS SHOULD STUDY FIXTURE CARDS

Mr. Sansom tendered a bit of friendly advice to his associates which did not directly pertain to their daily labors. He thought course superintendents might be well advised to study fixture cards, keep in close touch with club captains and by having their minds, on the minor events in their clubs assist the clubs in stimulating interest in the matches by providing perfect courses for the events. Mr. Sansom felt close cooperation would help the clubs greatly this year.

"The fixture cards of the clubs are out now," he said. "Every greenkeeper should keep them before him and do his utmost to have his course in shape for the club matches and also for tournaments. If the greenkeeper gives the golfer the course he expects for his club match which is as important to him as a tournament with championship at stake, the greenkeeper is assisting the club.

"The majority of greenkeepers should find that this is not a difficult task this year. On account of prevailing conditions they will have their same working force as in former seasons and are not confronted with the necessity of breaking in new men and inexperienced labor."

#### SENDING COALS TO NEWCASTLE

Announcement was made by Course Superintendent Hamm, of the Royal York Golf club, that the United States Government officials in Washington were sending him a supply of velvet bent to place in the Dominion Government's experimental plot on the club's course. Mr. Hamm said that U. S. government officials had expressed the belief that velvet bent might be successfully adapted to Canadian climate. [Editor's Note—Velvet bent is native to Canada and grows there and some of the seed comes from there.]

Velvet bent stolons and seed were sown in the Dominion Government's experimental plot last year. The catch from the stolons was poor which Mr. Hamm is prepared to attribute to the fact that the stolon was chemically treated as it passed through the states as a precaution against the Japanese beetle. The catch from the seed was excellent.

"Experiments conducted in Toronto show us that the

Washington and Metropolitan strains of bent are the best for Canadian courses." said Mr. Hamm. "We have planted twelve of the leading strains and come to the conclusion on the results we have obtained. In view of the experience in the United States with velvet bent which seems to last a season and does not stand cutting we will follow the experiment suggested by Washington on velvet bent with considerable interest."

Mr. Hamm stated that the Royal York course possessed sufficient Columbia bent on its own course to cover ten acres. Some use of it would be made, he added. He expects that Dr. Montieth and Kenneth Welton, a former Canadian now on the staff of the United States Department of Agriculture, will visit Toronto early in September to study the results of the experiments being carried on. Mr. Hamm noted that all stolons and seed sown in the Dominion Government's plot had been provided by the United States government.

## Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, Secretary



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

THE May meeting was held at Interlachen club in Minneapolis, where Alex Repin is greenkeeper. Sixteen members were present.

Alex showed us over the course and it certainly is a beautiful layout. It was the scene of the 1930 National Open, one of the most successful ever held. When Repin came to this club two years ago he was assisted by "Charley" Erickson of Minikahda who acted in an advisory capacity. The course had large, fine tees; soft, thick fairways, many trees and several lakes.

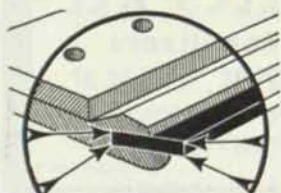
However, this club was one of the clubs that was unfortunate enough to get Virginia bent when bent first came out. It is a very hard grass to control and gets very coarse. In order to keep it as fine as possible the greens were cut closely. There was not enough mat for the ball to bite on so the greens were considered hard. It was a problem for anyone to tackle this grass.

The first thing Alex did was to spike the greens, let them grow longer, and dress with half peat and half sand. This has given him soft greens. I heard a pro say, "you can make a brassie shot stick now."

\* \* \*

Now Poe Annu has come in strong and Virginia is losing out. In time he will have Poa Annu greens. However they are not the most dependable greens so the club has a large nursery of a local bent and in time plan to

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change their greens. It is just too bad that this club got Virginia instead of Washington bent, because it is a sweetheart of a golf course.

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After eating all of Alex's pretzels we went across the way to Meadowbrook, Minneapolis Municipal course number four. Mr. Byrne is greenkeeper and he has certainly done well with his problems. Here are some of them—shortage of help, heavy play, cracks in peat fairways, poor drainage and reconstruction work to do beside maintenance. The course is interestingly laid out and the greens well shaped.

The bent is cut closely every other day with a power mower. The cracks in the fairways have been filled with peat most likely because lots of peat is available and because peat will expand and fill cracks well. There is a difference of opinion on this and it will be educational to watch Byrne's success.

\* \* \*

This course has a tee problem like every other public course. The players pay no attention to markers and shoot from the front of the tee until the grass is all gone. They continue to shoot from bare ground rather than sacrifice a yard of length by moving on to good turf. Byrne keeps improving the course all the time and works hard keeping it in good condition.

\* \* \*

They have reduced playing rates on his course and he is getting plenty of sand green golfers. The first Sunday after rates were reduced nine divots were taken out of a green. That is hard on a greenkeeper and adds to upkeep.

\* \* \*

Byrne and Repin are fine hosts and the meeting was very worthwhile. The next meeting will be held Monday, June 13, at Woodhill Country Club.

## Oklahoma News

By MERLE ZWEIFEL

**B**IGGER and better golf courses are in prospect for Oklahoma golfers if the intentions of the Green chairmen and greenkeepers are carried out.

Sapulpa, Oklahoma, has just started construction on its new nine-hole municipal layout—work on two new municipal courses was started last month in Oklahoma City—C. S. Avery is building greens for an 18-hole commercial course northeast of Tulsa, and the Tulsa park board have laid plans for the construction of an 18-hole course at Mohawk Park with greens to be planted to bent grass to replace the sand greens on the course now in use.

And the new Woodlawn Park course at 36th and Lincoln Streets at Oklahoma City will be opened for play within the next few days with brand new Cocos bent grass greens.

### HUBBARD NURSERIES CREEPING BENT STOLONS

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**DR. AMOS F. HUBBARD, N. Kingsville, Ohio**

The Capitol Hill Golf Club of Oklahoma opened last week with a nine-hole grass green course which will be operated on a fee basis by Pard Wood, owner of the club. Jake Veal, veteran Oklahoma greenkeeper, will have charge of maintenance.

\* \* \*

That the older clubs of Oklahoma have shamefully neglected their fairways during the last few years was "plain talk" at the recent meeting of the Tulsa District Association and greenkeepers which was held at Indian Hills last week. It was estimated that 95% of the clubs in Oklahoma never allow one cent for fairway fertilization and turf development when planning their future budget.

Last year a prominent club in central Oklahoma built a club house at a cost of approximately \$90,000.00. The services of a well-known golf architect were obtained to lay out a beautiful golf course. Thousands of dollars were spent on the soil structure and proper drainage of the greens and other thousands were spent in an effort to obtain a soft, velvety putting surface. But the directors of that club seemed to forget that the average golfer spends a considerable portion of his time on the fairways.

Since the opening of that course not one cent has been spent on the fairways except for mowing and general maintenance. Such conditions prevail at almost every club in Oklahoma and it seems that in the majority of cases fairways are never given a thought. When club chairmen realize the fact that good fairways are as important as greens or tees to members who play a good game of golf, then will Oklahoma courses be running a close second to those "up north."

*Elizabeth, Ill.*

Golf enthusiasts of this town and vicinity recently formed a golf organization in the K. P. hall. Plans are being made now for building of links here, to be located on the Burl J. Reed farm.

*Kent, Wash.*

Considerable improvements are under consideration on the Mountain View Golf course, and Francis L. James, famous golf course builder has been engaged to make plans at once. This is an 18-hole course.



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