

Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, *Secretary*



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THE September meeting was held at the Keller and Hillcrest courses. There were sixteen members present. Keller has eighteen greens of Seaside bent, one practice green and a large nursery of the same. It was all planted by seed. It does not form a mat and grows fairly upright. However, those clubs that have greens with a mat have this advantage. The pitch shots and even long irons and spoon shots light on the green and imbed themselves in the mat before they roll. The mat shows up their ball and also protects the green. Where there is no mat the ball goes through the grass and brings up dirt.

Therefore, there is an advantage in a mat that Seaside does not have.

KELLER KEEPS GREENS ON DRY SIDE

AT KELLER we have to keep our greens on the dry side, otherwise they would be punctured full of holes. Some of our members play at the University course which has stolon greens and then come back and complain that ours do not stick as well.

They say, "Why can't you develop the mat that other courses have." They do not realize that this mat is a breeding ground for disease. They do not realize that this mat needs continual raking and a matted green does not give the truest putting surface.

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We like this about Seaside. A real Seaside green is beautiful. We know that because we have several. The color is a light apple green and stands out from bluegrass approaches and fairways. The grass when fed and watered properly remains fine-textured and upright. It can stand brown patch and snow mold quite well.

The results with Seaside at Keller are encouraging and with proper care and more experience they will have all fine greens there. The U. S. G. A. plots for this section are located at Keller and are well patronized by the public.

MAKING COMPOST AT KELLER

THE compost making at this course is business-like. A hammer mill crushes the peat, compost and sand, and blows it into bins, two for (compost) peat, one for compost and one for sand. Each bin has a hopper. Below these four hoppers runs a track. On this track is a small

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car that has a scale on it. It takes a certain weight of peat, compost and sand and stops before a large concrete mixer. There is a certain amount of arsenate, Calo-Clor and fertilizer added and then all is dumped into the concrete mixer. From here an elevator carries the mixture to two bins. These bins have shoots on the outside, alongside of which a truck can run and be loaded up.

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After looking this plant over the greenkeepers left for Hillcrest club, where Stan Graves is the greenkeeper. Stan runs this course with five men and himself. He has fifteen bent greens that are fine greens, healthy, heavy growth and upright. Each year he improves one or two holes and now is in a process of moving a green. He is adding trees and shrubbery each year.

Hillcrest will some day have a fairway watering system and then will be the equal of any course in the Northwest. Stan cuts his greens with a power mower and they surely look good. Hillcrest owes much to Stan Graves, who is bringing the course to the front more and more each year.

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The next meeting of the Minnesota Association will be at Midland Hills and the University course, the second Monday in October at 2:00 o'clock.

Indiana Speeds Along

By CHESTER COVAL, *Secretary*

THE regular monthly outdoor meeting of the Indiana Greenkeepers' Association was held with Mr. Jerry Helvie, LaFontain Country Club, Huntington, Indiana, with the largest attendance of the season.

Following a round of golf and an inspection tour of the greens a delicious luncheon was served with a "Roosevelt Tonic."

The business meeting was called to order by Mr. Carl Coy, vice president, and many interesting topics were discussed, one of which was "the organizing of the District Association."

Indiana speeds along with seven new members which were initiated into the Association at this meeting. We sincerely hope every meeting will be as successful as this August meeting.