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The NATIONAL GREENKEEPER and TURF CULTURE

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Contents

| THE EDITOR'S CHAIR | |
|--|--|
| PROMINENT MEN IN THE TURF CULTURE TRADE | |
| ABOUT BERMUDA GREENS By J. C. Jenkins | |
| PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF SOILS AND THEIR RELATION TO TURF MAINTENANCE—Chapter II By O. J. Noer | |

| DESERT GOLF COURSES IN EGYPT By Hamilton M. Wright | 9 |
|---|----|
| FAIRWAY WATERING By Fred Holmes | 11 |
| WORTHINGTON TO BUILD NEW MOWER | 12 |
| QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS | 13 |
| TRADE NEWS ABOUT TURF CULTURE | 14 |
| MARKET PLACE AND BUYERS' GUIDE | 15 |

The Editor's Chair

7

A TENDENCY seems to exist among owners of fine turf areas that their grass plants will grow and flourish without food and protection against winter frosts. One might as well tell his growing and healthy child that he cannot eat for a week. The result is disaster and expensive doctor's bills.

26 26

Some sage said, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." This saying has come down through the ages and has never been contradicted. Personally I cannot understand why those who have oodles of real cash invested in golf courses, lawns, cemeteries and school and college grounds, dissipate it deliberately only to discover when it is too late that the "ship is sinking."

24

T HE groundkeeper is no magician. He cannot overcome the inevitable laws of Nature no matter how skilful and experienced he may be. He may temporarily defeat diseases but the enemy of vegetative decay is pushing him back every day, and without reinforcements in the way of seeds, fertilizers and compost, he will sooner or later have to surrender.

* *

I WISH I could truly convey to our readers how serious and imminent the situation really is. Every day lately I hear statements from golfers that such and such a course is in terrible condition. As I go about I see fine lawns that look like mowed pastures. Whose fault is it? None but the owners who are or want to be ignorant of the facts. When the fatal day comes they will, of course, blame the groundkeeper even though he works from daylight to dusk with a shorthanded crew and then worries through the watches of the night.

* * *

I t costs so little to do the right thing at the right time. If an expensive machine in a manufacturing plant begins to go bad through wear of bearings or other parts, the owner who needs it in his business replaces them and gets the money somewhere. But he forgets he needs and will miss the healthful recreation and fresh air of his golf course and the solace of his lawn and grounds.

* * 1

DRIFTING down the tide of procrastination in turf culture will next year cause such a "squawk" from hundreds of thousands of golfers and lovers of the out-of-doors generally, as will be heard in far-off Siberia.

WE ARE desirous of obtaining wide-spread opinions on all phases of turf culture practice. The Question and Answer Department was designed for that purpose and we urge groundkeepers who have solved important problems to send in very briefly the facts as they found them. Practical experience is the best teacher always and discussion through the columns of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER AND TURF CULTURE will be distributed through our world-wide circulation. We will pay \$1.00 for each contribution.