

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON SPRING WEED KILLING

There have been a number of inquiries as to the best method of eradication of some of the early spring weeds, such as knotweed and chickweed, especially on fairways where bent grass is present. It is fairly well known that some of our weed-killers are injurious to bent. Bent grass has been found to be very tolerant to the arsenicals and for that reason sodium arsenite and arsenic acid are being widely used for the elimination of the afore mentioned weeds. However, it has been found that both of these weeds are pretty tough customers and that you really have to bear down on them to get rid of them. Light applications of arsenicals are, for the most part, ineffective. From experience we have found out that even repeated applications at the lighter rates of one or two pounds to the acre do not entirely control the weeds. If the weeds are localized, that is patches here and there in the turf, it is recommended that spot treating be done. This can be done and although the grass may be scorched by the chemicals, the appearance of the entire area is not effected too badly by the treatment, whereas if the entire area is treated at the higher rates, although damage to turf is superficial, the appearance is bad and sometimes leads to criticism.

Spot treating sounds like a big job, but with a good spray rig and two or three men with spray guns it is surprising how much turf can be covered in a short time.

In the case of knotweed, it will be necessary to repeat the first application due to more of the seed germinating after the treatment. Chickweed has been found to be much more difficult to control where it has developed a thick mat, such as in the rough or other long grass. On tees and short-cut fairways it has been found to have control with a single application, either killing the chickweed entirely or so thinning it out that it is no longer noticeable.

It has long been known that lead arsenate will eliminate chickweed, but it certainly has no effect on knotweed.



WISCONSIN GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

The regular April meeting was held on Monday, April 19 at Brynwood Country Club with Les Verhaalen as host. Golf in afternoon and the business meeting at the Bavarian Club, 5423 N. Port Washington Road, Milwaukee. The May meeting was on May 3 at Morse Hills G. C., Beloit with Fritz Reinhardt as host.

Future meetings will be as follows.

June 1, North Shore G.C., Menasha, H. Hanneman, host.

July 12, Merrill Hill C.C., Waukesha, Al Decker, host.

August 9, Maple Bluff C.C., Madison, Bill Brady, host.

September 13, Brynwood C.C., Milwaukee, Les Verhaalen, host.

September 20, Butte Des Morts C.C., Appleton, Jack Taylor, host.

SPREADING IT THIN

We reported in our last issue that Lake Shore Country Club was having troubles renewing the lease on the land on which 11 holes of the course are situated. Adolph Bertucci, Golf Course Superintendent, with a big smile on his face, reports that differences with the owners have been ironed out and that his club has a new 15-year lease on the ground. Adolph had an idea that everything would come out all right and kept the greens and fairways cut and in playing condition thruout the controversy. We are indeed very happy to see this beautiful course in business again.

The McIntosh brothers, Jock and Dave, have completed the remodeling of the Tavern Room at Oak Hills. The room is now equipped with a new bar and picture windows. Without this thought in mind, of course, but how about a meeting at Oak Hills in the near future?

Mel Warnecke of Evanston C. C. is now able to wear suits he gave up more than five years ago. We envy you your streamlined figure, Mel.

We are happy to report that Oscar Borgmeier is recovering rapidly from his recent illness and expects to be back on the job very soon. However, he may take a little trip in the meantime and Chuck Daugherty will fill in for him as he has so capably done during Oscar's illness. We will all be most happy to have Oscar's genial presence with us at our meetings again.

Lawrence Marczinski of Rolling Green had his car stolen late in April and recovered it 11 hours later. Not even the change in the glove compartment was taken. Lawrence says that he will from now on remember to lock his car and remove the key when he parks it.

Fred Grau, now of the West Point Products Company, put on a convincing demonstration of the Aerifier and the Verticut machines at Glen Eagles. Fred makes the following suggestions to get the best results from the use of these machines — "First go over the area in two directions with the Aerifier. Set the Verticut to just cut the grass so it will just nip off the surface runners. Now Verticut twice in different directions. This will pulverize the cores and provide top dressing. Now go over the area with a steel drag mat. It may be advisable to go in two directions with this operation. Now mow and you are ready for business. The putting surface will be more accurate and smoother than before. The Verticut will remove the Poa Annua seed heads and stimulate the bent to more active growth."

The Superintendents watched the operation of the two machines in spite of the raw, cold wind which swept over the hills on which Glen Eagles is built, and Fred reported great interest in the operation.

In an argument later with Ray Gerber, Fred agreed that in some cases the greens will be so smooth already that it might not be possible to make them smoother. This would be the exception rather than the rule in a great many instances.

Our Association has received high honor. Midwest member Ray Gerber, Superintendent of Glen Oak Country Club has been asked to accept the Chairmanship of a newly-formed Manufacturer's Relations Committee of the National Association. National President Norman Johnson made the appointment immediately following the meeting of the board of Directors in St. Louis last month.

Agar Brown, Secretary of the National, speaking of the meeting at St. Louis of the Board of Directors says it was like a meeting of church deacons, no drink-

ing, no smoking, no card playing and some of the guys even got up to go to church on Sunday morning. Agar further reported that the 1956 meeting of the National will be held at Long Beach, California, February 5-10. The Show and meetings will be held in the Long Beach Municipal Auditorium. Remember, boys, this meeting is in 1956 and we go to St. Louis in 1955. How about Chicago in 1957?

Long Beach is about 25 miles south of Los Angeles on the Pacific Ocean. Save your money, boys, we have got something to look forward to.

At dinner at Glen Eagles, Fred Grau kept busy spreading cheese on crackers and passing them around. The Mole regretfully reports that Fred is one of those thin spreaders.

Gerald Dearie made a rare appearance at our Glen Eagles meeting. We should see you more often, Jerry.

John McNulty, owner of Glen Eagles, had dinner with us and supplied the after dinner drink for which we are very much appreciative. Many thanks for your hospitality, John.

Ray Davis, of the Entertainment Committee reported that the Spring Dance at Midwest showed a profit of \$30.20. This is nothing unusual for Ray. He has been putting on our dances for years, showing us a good time without costing our treasury a dime. Some of the members are already figuring out how to spend the dough, but Ray says he is turning it over to the Treasurer to apply on the expenses of our next social get-together. More power to you, Ray.

Frank Mastroleo, Seniors President, played with Tournament Chairman Bill Krafft at Glen Eagles, and since he was the only Senior brave enough to play on that day, Bill ruled that there would be no prize for the Seniors, but would apply it to the next meeting when it is hoped more of the old boys would feel spry enough to brave the elements. Seriously though, by June 7, the date of our next meeting, we should have some nice, warm weather. President Mastroleo has as yet made no announcement of the Seniors Championship, but it should be coming up in the near future and there will be a number of the men who will try to unseat Ray Gerber from his throne as champion. Frank Dinelli says the Tournament was held too early last year for him to be eligible to enter, but he is ready this year, so better practice up, Ray.

Ed Stewart of River Forest got his picture in the garden section of the Tribune May 9th.

Wes Updegraff of Oak Park C.C. is now at home at 228 Pleasant Street, Oak Park, Ill.

The acoustics of the rooms in which we hold our meetings are sometimes not good but the guys in the back of the room feel that they would be better able to hear and understand what the President is saying if he would remove his cigar when talking and give them at least a chance to read his lips. One guy commented, "I don't mind him speaking so low, but that cigar sure interferes with my lip reading". Which reminds us of the time years ago when we had a Secretary who had the same habit. One day some unkind soul substituted a loaded cigar for the one he had laid out ready to light as soon as the meeting started. The resulting explosion was very embarrassing to say the least to the Secretary, coming during the reading of the minutes. Needless to say, there was much merriment over the incident. We can't remember if it cured him of the habit or not, though.

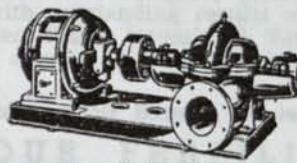
Our July meeting will be at Woodridge C. C. on July 12. Supt. Peter Bild and Owner Ted Hammer-schmidt, hosts.

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