

Greens Job Demands Study

DO greens chairmen realize and give serious thought to the vast responsibility placed in their hands and are they accepting that responsibility?

When you, Mr. Greens Chairman, were appointed to your office you accepted as it were the trusteeship or individual management of the property, insuring its proper care to three hundred or four hundred owners of that property. The turf on your golf course which cost the club something like \$75,000.00, if yours is an 18-hole course of the first class, was placed in your hands to nourish and superintend and care for during the term of your office. In accepting the position you assumed the responsibility of maintaining that turf in perfect condition while you held your office.

Let us suppose you personally were hiring an individual to look after one of your \$75,000.00 properties. Would you demand that he know something about the nature of that property? Since you have assumed the responsibility of supervising the care of the golf course turf, is it unreasonable for your four hundred members to ask that you attempt to learn, if you do not already know, the details as well as the fundamentals pertaining to the work of nursing that property?

What You're to Know

Would you mind asking yourself: What do I know about—

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| Quack grass? | Clay soil? |
| Brown patch and its cure? | Lowlands? |
| Sour soil? | Drainage? |
| Fungus? | Slopes? |
| Crab grass? | Hard Pan? |
| Chick weed? | Native grasses? |
| Plantains? | Fertilizers? |
| Dandelion? | Mowers? |
| Ants? | Rollers? |
| Worms? | Tractors? |
| Grubs? | Plant life? |
| Good soil? | Trees? |
| Poor soil? | Garden flowers? |
| Sandy soil? | Shrubbery? |
| Grass seed—amount to plant? | |
| Type seed for various soils? | |
| Seeds best suited for tees? | |
| Most economical grasses for greens? | |
| Fundamentals in producing dense turf? | |
| Cost of preparing seed bed? | |
| Reasonable time required to mow a green? | |

Reasonable cost to mow 18 fairways?
Number of men required to properly maintain 18-hole course?

Cost of mowing the rough once?
Approximate number of times necessary to mow rough?

How often should fairways be mowed?
When should greens be watered and how?

When to exterminate worms from green and how?

Cost per green to remove worms?

When are fertilizers necessary?

What kind of fertilizer is best suited to soil on my particular golf course?

What causes winter kill and how can it be eliminated?

What is a reasonable amount of grass seed necessary each year for re-seeding tees, greens and bad spots on fairways?

Which is the best seed to buy—the cheapest or most expensive?

How much does it cost to prepare seed bed in ratio to cost of seed?

Why are light hollow rollers used on tees and putting greens?

These and many other questions will arise as time goes on and you will find many articles of interest in this magazine devoted in its entirety to the betterment of golf courses while working for economy and efficiency on the part of the employes.

The point is, Mr. Greens Chairman, that the more you know about your particular duties, the more interesting they will become and the more efficiency you will find instilled by your suggestions to the greenkeeper. You have the capacity and undoubtedly have the time since you accepted the responsibility, to thoroughly master the greenskeeping profession and the greenkeepers are willing to help you if you will but take the interest in it. It is our intention to give this information without the use of technical or Latin names; every article will be readable and understandable to all green keepers and they will be most interesting to those greens chairmen who really want to know something about the duties they assumed.

Ask Yourself

Turf on the putting green originally cost, or would cost, approximately \$1,000.00 to reproduce. If you have eighteen of them you have \$18,000.00 invested in your care in the greens alone and your fairways are just as important, if you but

knew it, as are your fine putting greens.

What kind of grass do you have on your fairways? Are your fairways becoming thicker or thinner each year? Is your rough kept clean and about four inches long or is it mowed once-in-a-while and always looks ragged? Are your members thoroughly satisfied, and what is more interesting, are you personally satisfied with the results of your efforts to produce a better course? Why do you use a heavy roller in the springtime? Do you know the value of using a light hollow roller continuously? And, why should you not cut young grass until it has grown two inches high or more?

Good articles on greenskeeping are found few and far between but the practical knowledge on greenskeeping is obtainable from hundreds of green keepers who have devoted fifteen to twenty-five years of their lives in this work and it is our intention to give you this data as fast as we can obtain it.

We should be pleased to hear from you if you care to have us ask for information on particular subjects.

Took Bent in Easy Stages

By A. S. WITWER,

Chairman Greens Committee Joliet (Ill.) Country Club.

WE had heard and read a great deal about the beauties of creeping bent for putting greens. The bulletins of the U. S. Golf association, greens section, recommended bent of the Washington or Metropolitan strains. After investigating we decided to put in one green to bent and at the same time a nursery from which we understood we would be able to obtain a continuous supply of the stolons.

In the fall of 1924 we purchased enough stolons to carry out our plans and planted them under the direction of a member of Chicago District Golf association.

In preparing our green we did nothing more nor less than pile up our black dirt in the shape and with the contour we wanted our green to have. The surface was raked over carefully to level it off and to keep it free from weeds until such time as we were ready to put in the bent. The bent was planted in the conventional manner; taking a narrow strip at a time, spreading the bent and then topdressing, rolling and watering.

Both the green and the nursery were watched carefully and watered morning and night until well into the fall. They

were not covered over through the winter and came through in fine shape.

The next spring a second green, one that had been prepared the preceding fall, was put to stolons, using our nursery for the first time. The first green was put into play the latter part of May and the second one late in the summer. Both greens came along beautifully and we all were proud of them. We have continued, each fall and spring, converting other greens to bent until at this time we have ten bent greens, all of which will be ready for play by Decoration day. Our five oldest greens have beautiful putting surfaces and are all that any one could desire.

We have had one or two cases of the small brown patch, but have caught it before it had a chance to get a start on us. We have had no other trouble. From our experience the thing that is necessary with bent greens is careful watching. We give each green an application of ammonia sulphate every four or five weeks, oftener if they seem to need it. We clip them close and topdress frequently, watering often during the dry summer months. They have been in fine playing condition all through both of the last two seasons.

We are converting the rest of our greens. All of our greens were planted with stolons taken from our original nursery, replanting the nursery, of course, a number of times. Given good soil and proper care bent is, to our minds, the best grass known at the present time for putting greens. Some of our members are putting it in their lawns.

What strain of bent have we? We bought it for the Washington strain and have been told it was the Metropolitan. Whatever kind it is we wouldn't change it.

Organize to Boost Golf

CHICAGO, ILL.—National Golf Extension society, organized late in 1926, has for its purpose the promotion of golf in the smaller communities. This work is to be done by such methods as motion pictures, speakers, data on the experiences of courses in the smaller cities, and other educational activities. Offices of the society are at 33 South Clark St., Chicago. Directors are: Robt. T. Stanton, New York; Louis A. Lecher, Milwaukee; Jos. G. Davis, H. S. Ayres and A. W. Wilbur of Chicago.

Response to announcement of the society's formation points to success for the undertaking so its directors state.