



Upper left—No. 3 green at St. Thomas; a natural grass green. Upper center—Frank W. Currier, greenkeeper, St. Thomas Golf and Country club.



Upper right—No. 11 green; a two-year old hill-side green.

Lower center — No. 13 green; bent planted in May, played in July.

“Horse Sense” Guides to Good Greens

By FRANK W. CURRIER

St. Thomas Golf and Country Club

The St. Thomas No. 13 green, shown among the accompanying views, was built and graded last fall and planted with Washington bent the first week in May. We opened it for play the 4th of July.

No. 11 green was built two years ago this fall and planted with Colonial bent a year ago last spring. It was opened for play the end of June. The third green is five years old and has the natural grass.

In a previous note in GOLFDOM, I referred to my preference for fall planting, which undoubtedly is best, but on the two occasions mentioned above it was inconvenient. The fall plantings, however, saves a lot of

USE YOUR EYES

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anxiety about drought. Nevertheless, my spring planted greens have given me no worry.

I don't use dopes, relying on pure home made screened compost, light rolling, light watering, and great discretion with the mowing. I don't cut close too early in the season. Bent greens should not be cut quite so close as the natural greens, especially on the inferior strains of bent. I recently read one article in which a greenkeeper complained of his greens looking brown. Here is my idea of the cause; an inferior bent, cutting too close (all that is left on the green is the runners). The remedy is topdress lightly, and don't cut so close.

Another place I read of a greenkeeper watering from 7 p. m. to 6 a. m. All I can say is, if I worked that length of time I would never expect any greens at all. Where would we be if it rained every night for twelve hours? The land must be allowed to dry out sometime.

Still another greenkeeper says chemicals are the answers to most greens problems. Maybe so, but I differ, for it is my belief that there is a tendency on the part of too many greenkeepers to depend on some

chemical preparation to work magic on their greens. They use chemicals too loosely and the result is a "summer kill" for the greens are left in no condition to weather the winter.

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