

a number of rules of the game, and the members were asked to decide which player won the match.

There are innumerable variations of these evenings, and any of them are worth trying at clubs where entertainment features in the past have consisted, as the Fattest Member complained, of "dances and dances and dances."

## "THE MAKERS SAY"

### Lecco Tells Experience of Users.

MANY greenkeepers still wonder whether it is possible to get along without a compost pile. Quite a few others—greenkeepers not tied down by a lot of traditions anent the raising of grass,—have discovered that it is not only possible to do away with a compost pile but that such procedure is the most effective method of producing a set of uniform, healthy, fine, thick turf greens of a rich shade, says the Lyman Carrier organization.

The experience of Grange Alves, pro-greenkeeper at the Acacia Country club, of Cleveland (Ohio) district, ought to prove interesting to anyone vested with the responsibility of raising fine turf.

Alves has done away with the compost pile at Acacia. In his own words this is the result—"This year everything is Heaven around the course. Everybody, the green committee chairman, officers of the club and the members are more than pleased with the excellent condition of the green." Acacia, according to both Alves and the assistant greenkeeper, H. W. Smith, is freer of weeds and clover than at any time since the opening of the course in 1924. The course has had hardly any brown patch.

All Alves uses on the greens at Acacia is Lecco, and sand. The sand, free of pebbles and sediment, is used as a top-dressing. The sand is distributed with a Stump & Walter top-dresser and rubbed into the turf with a cocoanut mat. The Lecco is applied by hand. Alves has been applying 60 pounds of Lecco on a green of 5,000 square feet. On a green of 9,000 square feet, he has applied 80 pounds.

Prior to the introduction of Lecco and sand, one half catcher full of grass cuttings were taken from the smallest green. Lecco and sand were first used in April. Three or four days later, the grass cuttings jumped from half a catcher full to four catchers full. The second application went on in June. In one week's time, an

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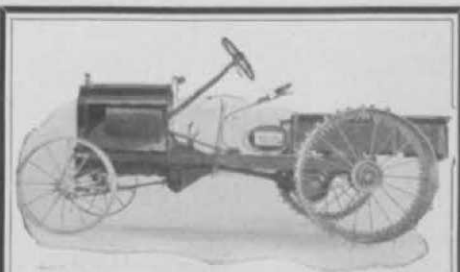
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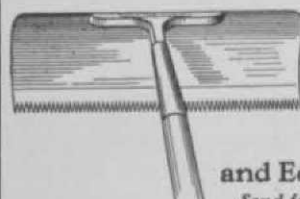
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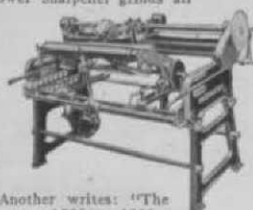
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average of seven catchers full of cuttings were taken from the green daily. On July 11 there was an average of eight catchers full of cuttings throughout the course.

In past seasons Acacia spent much time and labor weeding out the greens by hand. No hand-weeding has been necessary this year. Acacia at one time was troubled with brown patch. Only one spot has appeared this year and that quickly disappeared after two or three applications of Lecco.

The No. 6 green at Acacia exhibited signs of going bad in May. Alves decided to disc this green. Accordingly, the green was disc'd four ways and then given a top dressing of Lecco and sand. It came back in one week. Today it is the best conditioned green on the course.

The soil around the Acacia course is very poor for top dressing. It is very rich and clings when wet and cakes when dry. Acacia tried this soil on its greens last year, much to its sorrow. According to Alves, this top-dressing shut off the air from the roots and prevented the grass from breathing. The sharp sand and the sharp materials in Lecco have succeeded in breaking up this silty soil, thus opening up the aeration system. Plants must have air to live. Not to give them air is like painting the body of a human being with several coats of paint and stopping up the pores.

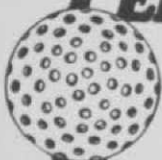
The grass at Acacia is growing so abundantly this season that it is with difficulty that the mowing squad keeps up with this growth.

One of the most conservative greenkeepers in the country is W. H. ("Bertie") Way of the Mayfield Country club, Cleveland. Way, like Alves, has had little use for a compost pile this year. Way has applied 15 tons of Lecco to the greens and fairways at Mayfield and the course was never in better condition. Mayfield has always been noted not only for its greens but fairways as well. Way says, "I have used Lecco on all greens and fairways at the Mayfield Country club and like the result very much."

The first application went on the Mayfield greens and fairways in May. The growth of grass was immediately stimulated and gradually the weeds began to disappear. While Lyman Carrier recommended only 50 pounds of Lecco to an average green of 5,000 square feet, Way decided to experiment on his own hook. On some of his larger greens he applied only 30 pounds of Lecco. On smaller ones he applied 70 pounds.

The most startling thing Way did was to give the No. 2 green, smallest on the course, 150 pounds of Lecco in one hour. That was on July 5th. The green at that time was brown in color and Way be-

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lieved it had gone. In a little over a week this green had come back a richer green than ever. The blades of grass were noticeably finer and the grass in general denser over the whole green. The sudden and noticeable change brought forth many compliments from the club's officers. Although Carrier recommended two applications in the Spring and one in the Fall, Way has been applying Lecco right along. The last application went on June 11.

"Giving the grass Lecco is like giving cream to the fellow who for a long time has been trying to get along on skim milk. The skim milk made him thin, sickly and of little use. The cream instantly brought about a vast change. His health came back and he filled out. Health brought action." That's another way "Bertie" sizes up Lecco. Way has adopted Lecco for not only Mayfield but many other courses he is building throughout the country.

One of the first clubs to discard its compost pile was the Kirtland Country club, of Willoughby, Ohio. Kirtland enjoys a national reputation for its greens and fairways. This course is in charge of Arthur Boggs. Like "Bertie" Way, Boggs uses only Lecco and a sandy loam as a top dressing on the greens at Kirtland. Boggs also uses Lecco on his fairways. Not so long ago, all the greens at Kirtland went bad. They were replanted with Washington creeping bent stolons. This year ten of the greens, those on a slope, were seeded with Cocos creeping bent seed. Kirtland had excellent turf before the majority of the clubs in the Cleveland district were opened this past Spring. Boggs attributes this to the fact that the greens and fairways were given plenty of Lecco in the Fall of 1927. This year Boggs has applied Lecco at about monthly intervals and the results have been more than satisfactory. The growth of grass has been remarkable. Kirtland is not bothered by weeds or brown patch. The chief occupation of the maintenance men is to keep the grass watered and cut. Kirtland is through with the compost pile for all time. It was a disease-breeding compost pile that spread brown patch all over its greens five years ago.

The Pepper Pike Country club, of the Cleveland district, does not stop at expense to have fine turf. Lecco and a sandy soil is all that the Pepper Pike greens ever receive. Pepper Pike also uses Lecco on all its fairways.

The Metropolis Country club, of White Plains, N. Y., was troubled with brown patch or fungus. The greenkeeper, Mr. King, called in a group of technical men from a New York college to make investigations and recommend a remedy. After working two weeks on the problem, the college men recommended a mixture of



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(A. B. V.)

## We Slipped On Cover Credit Line

JUNE GOLFDOM'S cover showed the 18th hole at Monterey Peninsula Country club, with Miss Marion Hollis sinking the decisive putt which squared her match with Mrs. Miriam Burns Horn in the finals of the recent Pebble Beach Women's championship, eventually won by Miss Hollis on the 20th hole.

We put the wrong credit line on this; this error now being the subject of mutual cussing by the printers and the editorial staff.

Sorry, so hope Hall of the Del Monte press bureau will forgive and forget.

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