

that I have hesitated to use the soda on a large scale. Am trying arsenate of lead on one green but haven't had time to tell as to its effect.

Have you had any experience with this weed? It is going to prove a bad one here on the coast. Can you give me the name or names of a couple of good books dealing with weeds, especially in reference to golf course work?

> R. E. M. (California).

### Answer

Sir:

Would advise that I have had no experience with the "brass-button weed" as such. Would suggest that you send a sample of this weed to the California Experiment Station asking them to give you the technical or scientific name of the weed in question. We would then be in a better position to give you more specific assistance for controlling it.

As a general rule, however, we have found that weeds of a matted type of growth, commonly found in fine turf, such as chickweed, fennel, etc., are readily controlled by the persistent use of arsenate of lead in the top-dressing. I therefore suggest that you continue the applications of the chemical to the green in question. As soon as you come to a definite conclusion, one way or the other, regarding the effect of the arsenate on this weed, let me know and the results will be published in GOLFDOM.

So far as I know the best book on the weeds of the United States was written by Ada Georgia of Cornell University and published by the MacMillan Co. Would also advise that the principal weeds of fine turf in this country have been illustrated and discussed in the various numbers of the Bulletin of the Greens Section during the past several years.

#### B. R. L.

## Question

Sir:

In October GOLFDOM, on page 12 I noticed that you state you have not had any information on the effect of arsenate of lead on Bermuda grass.

Bermuda grass is unquestionably the best grass for golf courses in the south. We have tried several different kinds, but invariably go back to Bermuda. There are two grades of Bermuda grass, one coarse and one fine. The best way is to get the Bermuda grass seed to insure getting the fine quality. Sometimes in winter a little



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Italian rye is sprinkled over the putting greens, which adds a softness to it. Putting greens with Bermuda grass, to insure a soft green grass, should be covered with sand, or top-soil, occasionally, just leaving a little of the grass showing and in a very short while the new growth comes through. Otherwise, you have more or less of a stiff, stubby green.

We have not had any experience in using arsenate of lead. We do have a little trouble with cricket moles and are using a preparation made by the Paramount Chemical Company, Columbus, Georgia, which seems to be very effective. I would like to inquire a little about arsenate of lead. Do you know of anyone who has had the experience in using it on St. Augustine grass? This, of course, is much coarser than Bermuda and will grow in the shade right up to the tree trunk, which is quite an advantage. But, there is something that attacks the root, I think they are called cinch bugs. The grass begins to turn brown in spots and unless it is checked will spread over a wide area. I have read of your experience with arsenate of lead for other purposes and I am of the opinion that it might remedy our trouble with the other grass. If you know of anyone who has had the experience kindly let me hear from you.

T. J. P. (Florida.)

# Answer

Sir:

We have as yet, had no reports of the use of arsenate of lead on St. Augustine grass. As regards the control of cinch



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bugs attacking the roots of this grass would suggest that you collect a few samples of this insect and send them to the Florida state entomologist for a scientific determination. We would then be in a position to give you a more intelligent answer as to whether arsenate of lead would prove satisfactory as a control agent for this insect.

The local names of weeds and insects vary so much in the various sections of the country that it is very difficult at times to know what the insect or weed concerned really is. The scientific name of a weed or insect, on the other hand, is always the same, consequently if we have this we can readily find out what is known about it in the general reference books and advise you accordingly. You can always obtain the scientific name of a bug or weed by sending it to your State Experiment Station.

B. R. L.

# Golf Taxation Plan Fits City Growth

By A. P. GREENSFELDER Chairman, Committee on Parks and Playgrounds, St. Louis County, Mo.

I N October GOLFDOM there appeared an article, "How Long Is Cry for Tax Justice to Be in Vain?", which interested me very much indeed, and I am taking this occasion to present to you our problem which might help to solve the above tax question.

Several of us who are members of a country club moving farther westward and who are also deeply interested in regional and city planning are concerned with the problem of the future of a large number of privately owned golf courses now in existence in this district.

It seems quite plain to us that it is in the interest of the general community that these club-grounds now privately owned should become publicly owned in time. In other words, it looks foolish to us that these private golf courses should be sold for land subdivisions, built up with expensive buildings and then have the com-

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