

soul. Aside from this annual weeding they do very little weeding during the balance of the growing season. This is a fundamental mistake in fine turf management and can only result in poor and thin turf.

Instead of one grand orgy of hand weeding at the height of weed growth the operation should be made an important part of the routine work throughout the growing season. As a result of this early weeding the fine grass has its own way and, provided proper fertilization and topdressing is practiced, the turf will be thick and heavy by the time crab grass begins to make its appearance. Under the circumstances the soil surface will be crowded with fine grass and the crab grass and other seasonal weeds will have greater difficulty in getting established.

In the last analysis the weed control problem is intimately bound up with every other phase of turf management, and as stated above mistakes in the handling of turf hurts the grass and gives the weeds the edge.

What I have said above may sound to a certain extent like old stuff. Old it may be but nevertheless it is true. I have taken the opportunity of repeating these seeming platitudes because they must still be borne in mind by the greenkeeper even if he institutes the use of arsenate of lead on his course as a means of controlling the great bulk of weed growth by methods which I shall describe in October GOLFDOM. The chemical will control many of the most noxious weeds in fine turf but not all of them, hence good turf management is an essential adjunct to its use.

Questions **GREENKEEPING** Answers

Here Are Some Answers to Problems They Put Up to Us. Ask If We Can Help You. The Service Is Free

Editor, GOLFDOM,
Sir:

I shall appreciate your suggestions as to the proper treatment of our fairways which are becoming badly infested with dandelions and other weeds. The weeds seem to be getting the best of the grass which is becoming thinner and thinner. The soil is a rather heavy clay with a little black loam on top. The soil is so heavy that the ground becomes unusually hard in dry weather.

Five or six years ago all of the fairways were given an application of crushed lime rock with an idea of softening them. At the same time, or perhaps prior to the lime rock application, they were treated with bone meal but I do not believe they have had any fertilizer within the past five years. It is difficult for us to obtain any except commercial fertilizer.

R. L. W. (Illinois).

Reply

This is a condition of relatively long standing caused, first, by the application of lime and bone meal, both of which encourage weed growth and do not stimulate the grass, and second, soil poverty due to

lack of proper soil fertilization over an extended period.

A situation of this sort cannot be corrected quickly or cheaply and the club must be prepared to spend considerable money in order to get those fairways back into shape.

Annual topdressing with manure supplemented with ammonium sulfate three times a year, spring, summer and early fall, 150 pounds per application per acre would work wonders on this course in a few years and if the blue grass did not work in of its own accord the soil would then be in shape so that a seeding applied in early fall would catch. It is useless to apply seed until there is something there to feed it.

In the absence of manure would suggest a combination of milorganite, cotton seed meal and ammonium sulfate.

B. R. LEACH.

Treatment of Bermuda

Editor, GOLFDOM,
Sir:

I notice quite a lot of information in your magazine which I think ought to be valuable to every greenkeeper, especially