



Victor George (right above) has seen many greenkeeping seasons come and go. His article, therefore, carries the weight of real authority.

"WHEN AUTUMN COMES,"

Says VICTOR GEORGE
Greenkeeper, C. C. of Lafayette, Ind.

"PLAN AHEAD, DON'T FALL BEHIND!"

ALL will soon be with us again and the time to sow, sod and plant is just around the corner; and now also is the time not only to prepare your work for the coming fall season, but to look ahead and get ready for the 1930 season.

You may think it rather early to plan a year ahead, but the live greenkeeper must have a lot of foresight; he cannot afford to plan his work for just a month or two, but must and does look into the future so as to be prepared to meet unforeseen conditions.

How pitiful it is to see a green attacked by brown-patch and the necessary chemicals not on hand to treat the sick green immediately. Then you see the keeper of the green jump into the Rolls, Rattler and Shaker and make a flying trip to every druggist in town, trying to buy enough calomel to overcome the attack. The average druggist has about one or two pounds of this chemical on hand and I have seen one of my fellow greenkeepers call on 14 druggists before he had sufficient calomel to treat the green.

Was it the greenkeeper's fault? To

some extent, "Yes," but the chairman of the green committee was also to blame, as there was no provision made for fungicide in the budget. He had not foreseen the need for fungicide.

Another sad case is to see some dead spots on a green; we all have had some of those; they may be caused by burns or any of the other 1000 causes. A good greenkeeper does not have to worry about a little thing like that, for in cases like these he goes to his up-to-date turf nursery and cuts enough turf to relay the bad spots, and no one ever will know that they have been there. So when you prepare your fall program, by all means include the planting of a good sized turf nursery; take care of this nursery the same way as you would of a green and I am sure it will pay you good dividends for years to come.

Writing this for the less experienced greenkeeper, I would also suggest that nothing but the best seed be used for your fall seeding; it is only a few weeks from now and seeding time will be here. August 15th to September 10th in my mind is the

best time to sow; it is during these four or five weeks that old mother Nature does her sowing and we all can learn a lot from the old girl, even if she does not like to work with us.

Avoid False Economy in Seeding

Do not economize on your seed but sow sufficient to get a good stand, which will winter early. This also will pay you good dividends the following season.

Take a walk over the course with your chairmen, be sure to have your note book and pencil, and estimate your needs for the coming season; figure how much chemicals, fertilizers, arsenate of lead, compost, new equipment, repairs on tees, fairways, roughs, machinery, etc., will be needed, then make notes through the rest of the season and when the new year rolls around you will know how much money you must have to keep your course in the shape you like to keep it and your members demand it be kept.

All construction work that can be done this fall should not be put off till spring. Do it now, give it a chance to settle; if it does not rain, set sprinklers, get your seed bed in the best of shape, sow good seed in sufficient quantities and by spring you will be just one season ahead. While seed can be sown in the spring, I believe fall is the best time.

Raise your own stolons, get a good strain and plant them this fall. By keeping your strain pure, that is, not mixed with any old thing that creeps into your nursery, you will always have a good stand of stolons for an emergency or for planting of new work; it costs very little to do this and it will save your club a lot of money.

Have Your Own Golf Show

Also if you are sure of the variety of your strain you will be proud of it; you will always be able to call your bent by its right name. Later in the season, when you are through with your equipment, be sure to clean it, wash it with gasoline to get off all the grease, look it over carefully, order new parts where needed, replace the worn ones, and paint all your machines. Then, when spring comes around and your local association of greenkeepers visit your course, you can have a little golf show of your own.

My association met with me on April 1st, 1929; this was our first out-door meeting; it was close to zero that day and not very pleasant to go over the course; but the boys spent a lot of time in that tool-

house and examined my equipment; some fellows asked me how I could afford to buy all new machinery and were surprised to find out that some of it was as old as 8 years. It pays dividends to have your machinery ready to go when needed. Keep enough spare parts on hand so you will not have to stop and wait for repairs, provide for this in your budget for 1930.

In closing I would like to suggest to all greenkeepers to become members of the Greenkeepers' association; if you are ineligible to join the National association, then get into your local. There is nothing that helps a fellow more than to associate with your fellow-turficulturists and visit the different golf courses in your district. I never attend a meeting without coming away feeling that I have learned and seen something new; keep your eyes and mind open, for we all have to learn.

Indiana golf courses this year are in excellent shape and it was a great pleasure to me to visit and inspect the Country Club of Indianapolis, where our old friend, Ed Updegraff, holds sway. Delaware C. C. of Muncie, where Esterline is greenkeeper, was in fine shape and if you think George Holmquist of Fort Wayne C. C. doesn't know his creeping bent, go and take a look at it.

Our secretary, Carl Bretzlaff, Meridian Hills, Indianapolis, is another boy who is always willing to learn and has one of the best courses in the state. These are only a few of the notable courses in Indiana, but I believe the gang is all interested in their association and are getting all that they can out of it. So it pays good dividends to be a member of your local association.

GRASS has no means of enriching itself, and providing there is no acidity in the soil it readily responds to a nitrogenous dressing. Clover, on the other hand, is able to draw nitrogen from the air, and if supplied with phosphates and potash soon assumes a lead in growth. It is obvious, then, that unless a green is sufficiently rich in nitrogen to supply the wants of grasses, phosphatic and potassic fertilizers should not be applied. It is advisable to keep a record of all manurial treatment, together with notes showing extremes of temperature and rainfall. In this way, one is able more readily to understand the peculiarities of certain soils, and the changes which take place in the botanical character of the turf.—*Journal G. G. A.*