

his budget and who can finish his fall program as planned is indeed fortunate. The one who has overdrawn his budget will have to ask for, and should receive an appropriation in order to carry out his program and complete his work. To refuse him is unwise. To curtail work in the fall is a mistake. Working conditions are ideal in the fall. Play has fallen off and there is very little interference. The damage to the turf from machinery is very slight, whereas in the spring, if you carry the work over you will find the very opposite. Weather conditions are against construction work, the players are "rarin' to go," and the greenkeeper with what little time he has between frosts and showers, is busy in the big race to get his

course in shape for the eager golfers.

Let the fall work go on. The condition of your course next spring depends almost entirely upon whether you do or whether you do not. Overhauling and repairing your equipment, and all of your painting can be done during winter. With this accomplished both greenkeeper and greenchairman can spend what time they have with that feeling of contentment and satisfaction which is theirs, and which they have earned in so far as their golf course is concerned. Early play in the spring over a course in good condition is a good thing for any club, but you must not hope for this unless you carry through your fall program to a finish. It just requires a little "foresight."

Divots from Leach's Mail-Bag

When to Water?

Sir:

Will you kindly give us your opinion of watering greens in the morning?

I have just advised that this method be discontinued, but have also just read the article on page 30 of the July issue, and as I am a mere tyro in course management, I would be glad to have your opinion on which is best for this section during the hot spell—morning or evening watering.

W. L.
(Ohio).

Answer

The perennial argument anent night versus morning watering of greens is wrapped around the question of brown-patch control. It is my candid opinion that the time of watering is greatly overrated as a measure for the control of this disease. In fact I doubt that it amounts to much.

In watering greens I would keep one point constantly in mind, namely, to get the watering done in ample time so that the turf is entirely drained and firm before the heavy play of the day begins. Tramping on soft turf is a mighty bad business.

B. R. Leach.

What About Ants?

Sir:

We have been reading your column with great interest and are glad to say that

arsenate of lead and ammonium sulphate have helped largely to give us the finest greens in the Islands.

Arsenate of lead, however, does not seem to improve the ant situation, and numerous little ant hills are a source of continuous trouble to our greensmen. Could you recommend anything, or any treatment that would rid us of these ants?

C. R. F.
(T. H.)

Answer

Sir:

In spite of all the research on this subject I know of no specific for this pest. As a subterfuge most greenkeepers simply pole the greens at intervals.

I note in July GOLFDOM an advertisement of an ant exterminator. I understand this is being used with success.

B. R. Leach.

Crab Grass Control

Sir:

In the fall of the year we are troubled more or less with crab grass on our greens at our club, and recently I read that this crab grass could be eliminated by using one pound of arsenate of lead in 15 pounds of soil and broadcasting it over the grass on the lawn or greens and should be done at a time before the crab grass makes any material growth. Of course, we do not want to put anything on our grass that

would be detrimental, so are writing to you to know if you have any information in relation to the above matter.

C. B.
(Mo.)

Answer

Sir:

Here in the east a very good degree of crab grass control has been obtained by the consistent use of arsenate of lead on greens. For this purpose it is best to begin applying the chemical first thing in the spring at the rate of one pound per thousand square feet of turf with each top-dressing and in addition would apply a three-pound application as soon as the crab grass begins to sprout.

B. R. Leach.

Why Not Hydrated Lime?

Sir:

I note in your article in GOLFDOM that you have a decided preference for any form of lime other than hydrated lime. Will you please advise the reason or reasons for your coldness toward the hydrate form?

Answer

Sir:

I have no particular objection to hydrated lime except the fact that it is chemically very active as compared with other forms of lime and consequently is not foolproof, consequently unless a man knows all the tricks it may cause severe burning. It should never be applied in heavy applications of 50 pounds per 1,000 square feet of turf but rather in small doses of 10 to 15 pounds at intervals of 10 days to two weeks. It should furthermore never be applied immediately after the application of nitrogenous fertilizers such as ammonium sulfate.

As a matter of fact hydrated lime is much more rapid in correcting sour soil conditions than ground limestone and in the hands of the experienced and careful man is a valuable commodity. For general recommendation, however, I believe I will lose less sleep by advising the slower acting ground limestone.

B. R. Leach.

When to Arsenate?

Sir:

Is fall a good time for applying arsenate of lead?

W. H.
(Pa.)

Answer

Sir:

For earthworm control and for the treatment of turf where grubs are work-

ing fall is one of the best times to apply lead arsenate mixed with milorganite. At this time the soil and atmosphere are cooling off so that the milorganite does not cause undue stimulation of the turf. In addition the arsenate has every opportunity to work down into the soil before the ground freezes.

B. R. Leach.

Getting Started Right As a Greenkeeper

Sir:

I read with great interest your articles in GOLFDOM and am writing for the purpose of getting some authoritative information from you on the possibilities which exist today in the "Greenkeeper" or "Golf Superintendent" field. If you are able to find time to drop me a few lines, I assure you it will be highly appreciated.

I am a chemist by profession but have not worked in the laboratory for 10 years due to poor health. I am now in good health and have for the past seven years been employed at one of the government establishments. In addition to having charge of rough construction work, excavating, concreting, etc., I have the farm under my supervision due to the fact that we raise on our own forage for our horses, which are a part of the transportation outfit.

About three years ago, due to the fact that I already was in charge of the farm, all grounds, including a 9 hole golf course were turned over to me. I have studied the golf maintenance problem considerably, like the work very much and have been wondering as to the possibilities in the field. I, of course, am aware of the fact my experience is very limited.

In order that you may be in a position to advise me as to whether my desire to follow the golf maintenance field is justified I will state that I am at present receiving a salary of \$3,400 a year with no chance for advancement. If the field is a good one I would make arrangements for competent instructions.

I thank you in advance for any information you may give me relative to average salary and demand for golf maintenance supervisors, I am

R. L.

Answer

Sir:

As regards your aspirations toward the greenkeeping profession would say that in my opinion every man should do that one thing which he likes best. If he has the

necessary qualifications, success, mental and financial, takes care of itself within reasonable limits.

At the present time there is a decided surplus of greenkeepers in this country. Good members of the profession are out of work. Experienced men, with a background of success, are getting along nicely as a whole, while the few men with practical experience and some college training seem to have no apparently great difficulty in obtaining a job. If I were in your position, with your background of experience, I would write Professor Dickinson, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., for particulars as regards the courses in greenkeeping given at that institution. If you can spare the time and the money the easiest way for you to break into the greenkeeping game would be to enroll under the Professor and have him try to put you into a job commensurate with your abilities.

As regards the money end of the proposition would advise that, compared with the average greenkeeper's salary you are doing pretty well where you are. The average greenkeeper in this country unfortunately does not receive \$3,400 per annum. High class greenkeepers in the metropolitan districts frequently get better than \$5,000, but it must be realized that these men are the cream of the profession, and they carry a heavy load on their shoulders. Aside from the metropolitan districts I doubt if greenkeepers average more than \$2,500 the country over.

B. R. Leach.

Look Ahead a Little

By H. D. FARRANT

Greenkeeper, The Country Club, Brookline, Mass.

HERE it is mid-summer and at this time of year most of us greenkeepers are having some sleepless nights, with dry weather and the possibility of disease of some sort breaking out on our courses at any time. Then that wonderful change comes—we have a shower or two, better air and cooler weather—so when a fellow turns in for sleep, he really has a contented feeling that perhaps this world is not so bad after all.

It is this kind of weather in mid-season that makes us think of fall and winter, and in our minds we go over the many things we would like to do. But then we say, how can it be done? That is just the



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