

match and has had the handicap of others masquerading under its name. But its scores are in the books—and it is still scoring.

The strangest thing about this champion is that it is one of the oldest in the field. It will be twenty years old next September. A few months after golfers first played on a green of vegetatively-planted creeping bent the Washington bent was started on its way by Dr. Piper. It is truly remarkable that with all the practical men as well as the technical men like Dr. Piper who have looked for strains on thousands of putting greens in this country during the past twenty years none has so far selected a strain to replace this early selection.

Has Defects Also

After paying our respects to the champion, we can admit its weaknesses. For one thing it is entirely too susceptible to dollarspot. It also is too sensitive to cold weather and may be decidedly off color even well into the spring and in early fall. In extremely hot weather it may be easily injured and is rather slow to recover. Any newcomer which can play all the shots Washington plays as well, and in addition can beat it regularly on any of the above three weaknesses, will be hailed as a new champion.

Greenkeepers, members of the Green Section staff, and others have been selecting promising material for a number of years. A large number of these strains have been assembled at the Arlington Turf Garden for the qualifying rounds in the last two years. Several of them have beaten Washington and Metropolitan.

The leaders are now all set for the next test which will be conducted on golf courses in many districts under distinctly different soil and climatic conditions. Planting material has been raised at Arlington and arrangements are now being made for spring plantings on greens where they will be subjected to play. The plan is to plant several grasses on the same green so that the performance of each may be observed and rated in relation to the others growing under identical conditions.

Greenkeepers and club members will be asked to rate these grasses using the same numerical scoring system. In addition to the strains planted with the stolon method there will be seeded areas for comparison. When the scores come in at the end of the season we will know whether we

are likely soon to have a new national champion of bents. After all, the national champion in this greenkeeping field will no doubt be of far more direct interest than other champions of golf to the great body of average golfers who make most of the putts and pay most of the bills.

IT'S ON THE HOUSE

By TOM REAM
Mgr., Westmoreland C C

What is of more value to a club than that intangible asset—goodwill?

The only men who really know the club business are those who never stop trying to learn it.

The vacuum cleaner is the most effective weapon for prevention of vermin.

Preach and practice the gospel of good-fellowship.

Put some hot stuff through your peeler drain occasionally. The accumulation is starch principally, and hot and cold water only congeal it.

The brand must live up to its reputation.

A certain amount of interference can be absorbed—beyond that, the whole place suffers and your statement shows poorly. On the other hand, if you have free sway, make sure you justify your responsibility.

Go to any part of your club and visualize a fire there. Would you be able to reach the alarm and extinguisher apparatus easily? The suggestion is to do this before the fire—you'll find out soon enough after it.

The club employee who knows his business never has to explain that fact.

To succeed in the business of club hospitality, one must be service-minded.