and the tapered sides of the tube enables the core to slide up readily inside. The sample can be thrown out of the tube through the side opening for examination. One distinct advantage of this sampler is that the core is so small it need not be replaced and leaves no bad scar due to drying out of larger samples that are replaced after removal with a knife or other sampler.

By frequent use of a sampler a greenkeeper or his watering man can readily detect dry spots in a green. When he takes out cores from which he can readily squeeze out water he is warned that there is too much water for the welfare of his grass.

This sampler may also prove to be a useful way for a green-committee chairman to use some of his discarded shafts. A club of this design for special divot digging purposes would not be counted as exceeding the legal bag limit and it might be handy in convincing some complaining members that just because the surface of a green may look somewhat brown and dry the greenkeeping staff is not really "letting everything burn up."

## **Here Are Short Course Dates**

A<sup>S</sup> GOLFDOM goes to press, those schools that have announced dates for their annual greenkeeping short courses and turf conferences are Massachusetts State College, Rutgers, Penn State, Michigan State, and Maryland State College. Only tentative dates were given for Md's. course.

Fourteenth annual winter school for greenkeepers at Massachusetts State College, Amherst, is scheduled to get under way January 2 and close with the golf course maintenance conference and exhibition March 14-16. The course is divided into two terms, the first from Jan. 2 through Feb. 6, and the second from Feb. 7 through March 15. The second term continues the work of the first, and certificates are given only at the completion of the full 10 weeks' course. However, one may take the first term in 1940 and the second at some later period, if desired.

Applications for the 1940 course indicate there will be another fine group taking the course. Full information may be obtained by addressing R. H. Verbeck, short course division, MSC, or Prof. Lawrence S. Dickinson, chief of the section of agrostology at MSC, and who is in personal charge of the course.

Penn State College, State College, Pa., will hold its twelfth annual Fine Turf Conference Feb. 21-23. H. B. Musser, associate professor in experimental agronomy at the college, is general chairman of the course, and he is given most capable assistance by Fred Grau, also of the Penn State College staff. Further information may be obtained by writing either Musser or Grau at the college.

Annual turf short course at Rutgers University college of agriculture, New Brunswick, N. J., will be held Feb. 12-17. This is the twelfth annual greens short course held at the school. For applications and further information, write Prof. Frank Helyar, director of resident instruction, Rutgers U., New Brunswick.

Michigan State College, East Lansing, will hold its annual greenkeeping conference March 7-8. Range of subjects to be covered includes nature and properties of soils, suitability of soils to construction and maintenance, fertilization, insect control, turf diseases, and study of various grasses. Write Director of Short Courses, Michigan State College, for further details.

Second annual short course for greenkeepers at the University of Maryland, College Park, Md., will be held the latter part of January, probably the last week of the month, according to an announcement. Applications and further information concerning the course can be obtained by writing Prof. Ernest N. Cory, director of course, College Park, Md.

200 Attend Turf Field Day-More than 200 greenkeepers and others interested in the growing of fine turf met on September 13 at the F. H. Woodruff & Sons, Inc. test plots at Milford, Conn., for the an-nual Woodruff Field Day. C. W. Baker of the Woodruff company led those present in a personally conducted tour of the plots; F. H. Lindley, vice-pres., welcomed the group and told that the company was planning a bulb display next spring at the gardens adjacent to the turf plots that would contain over 150,000 bulbs. A display in the registration tent of various methods of merchandising seed mixtures was of considerable interest to the greensmen.