

TIMELY TURF TIPS

THATCHING OF CREEPING BENT

Densely turfed greens are advantageous for play and maintenance. But heavily matted grass is bad from both angles.

When properly cut, thick grass provides a true putting surface. It enables players to hold a pitched ball without the necessity for over-watering—a vicious practice responsible for much turf damage. By minimizing surface evaporation in hot weather, dense turf prevents formation of hard surfaces. On hot days, this skin-like crust forms on thinly turfed greens before midday, even though watered the night before. Instead of more water as demanded by players, denser turf is the answer. That thick grass simplifies clover and weed control is an accepted fact.

Thickly matted greens foot-mark badly and are prone to scuff around the cup. Accurate putting becomes impossible, especially towards the close of a heavy day's play. The long stringy stems present in matted greens cause the ball to hop and deflect it from the cup.

Matted grass is a distinct maintenance menace. Top-dressing fails to make contact with soil below. The surface to a variable depth consists of alternate layers of soil and buried stems and leaves. Such greens become "hide-bound", because the surface is impervious to water. In dry years soil becomes bone dry and in wet seasons the matted surface water-logs quickly. Fermentation of buried stems and leaves generates heat and loss of grass ensues.

Surplus grass is best removed in early spring before growth starts and prior to the first top-dressing. Alternate cross-raking with a thin-bladed sharp rake (or Del Monte rake) followed by close cutting is the proper procedure. Later on in hot weather severe raking is too drastic and dangerous.

Tell us about your Turf Problems. Write to:

Turf Service Bureau

THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION

Milwaukee

Wisconsin

MILORGANITE
for BETTER TURF

Samuel Pepys Goes to the Show

By

William D. Richardson



Bill Richardson, veteran golf writer and Associate Editor of *Golfdom*, presents plaque to Col. John Morley, 73-year-old president emeritus of the GSA, at the greenkeepers annual banquet. Col. Morley, greenkeeper at the Youngstown (Ohio) CC, was founder of the association and was its first president.

Tuesday, Feb. 6.—Off to the New Yorker where I met Charley (Good Time) Burns of the Good Park GCse in Akron, Ohio, best public relations counsel we ever met anywhere. . . . With him to view the exhibits, more than thirty of them, all interesting—a fine tribute to the work done by that young Adonis, Don Boyd of the Portage CC, Akron. . . . What is this? . . . Akron week in New York? . . .

Talked with Ed Cale of Canoe Brook, in Summit, N. J., who has arranged for the speaking talent which reads like who's who in turf wisdom. . . . Read two interesting posters, the work of Battling Burns. . . . One showed that if all the golf holes on America's courses were placed in a line they would provide an 8,000 mile highway capable of accommodating sixteen cars abreast—a highway stretching from New York to Boston, thence westward to Seattle, then down to Los Angeles and finally back to Philadelphia and New York. . . . Gives you some idea of the magnitude of golf. . . .

Here's some more of Charley's handiwork: American golf course superintendents maintain a turf area of 510,740 acres—800 square miles—while on the 5,300 courses 800,000 caddies are em-

(Continued on Page 6)

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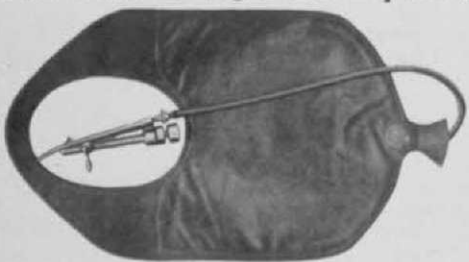
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The Latest Contribution to Labor Saving Devices for treating Greens and Fine Lawns for Brown Patch, Worms, Grubs, etc. Also for Distributing Soluble Fertilizers, Weed Killers, etc.

Greenkeepers and Dealers everywhere are unanimous in their praise for this new device.

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It will actually save, in time alone, several times its cost in one single season.

It will pay you to Budget for Perfection Products in 1940.

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Pepys Goes to the Show

(Continued from Page 2)

played as well as 75,000 individuals engaged in the operation and maintenance of courses that represent an investment of \$724,000,000 in land, buildings, equipment and furnishings. . . . BIG BUSINESS! . . . Yet they call it the Scottish game! . . . 2,162,000 golfers now (figures by courtesy of Golfing and Golfdom which calls 'em golfers only if they play ten rounds a year) . . . They figure 10,000,000 by 1960! Estimated that 69,000,000 rounds were played in 1939, representing a walking distance of 238,000,000 miles. . . . Whew! . . .

Joe Burbeck, superintendent of the famous Bethpage Park on Long Island, that sumptuous layout that Bob Moses has built for the public linkers, opens the show by tracing the game's development. . . . Wander back to the exhibition area thronged with people, most of them prospective buyers. . . . U. S. Department of Agriculture has a most entertaining exhibit showing the little man who WAS there treating turf with arsenate of lead to control the Japanese beetle. . . . Also quarantine stations. . . . All in miniature. . . . Those things always fascinate me, just as they must have fascinated O. J. Noer, of Milwaukee, Wis., (our birthplace) and Harold McManus, supervisor of New York's city courses. . . .

Turf G-men on Job

They tell me the old beetle (Japanese) which came to America as a stowaway in a consignment of iris a decade and a half ago does \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000 damage in the course of a year. . . . But crime doesn't pay, for the turf G-men have got 'em on the run, what with mickey-fins in the way of lead arsenate and the newly-discovered micro-organism, a species of nematodes, small round worms that attack the beetle grubs and adults with the same effect as when the Finns attack the Russians. . . .

Met W. J. Tanner, manager of the Westfield GC in Lorain. His course has watered fairways, as is to be expected since he is also fire chief and head of the constabulary force. . . . Responding to an alarm once, he discovered it was in a clothes pressing establishment wherein reposed one of his suits. . . . "No hoses, men, until I rush in and save my suit!" he ordered. . . . His suit saved, on went the water. . . . Fireman, save my (che-e-ild) suit!

Wednesday, Feb. 7. . . . Up at an unearthly hour and back to the New Yorker for the first educational conference at which such "big shots" as Dr. E. E. Evald of Penn State, Dr. John Monteith, Jr., of the USGA Green Sec-
(Continued on Page 10)



Golfers everywhere are itching to get out and play a round or two as soon as possible.

Help to keep up this early season enthusiasm by installing Lewis Washers at every tee. A clean ball means fewer lost balls — faster play—longer drives—and all around enjoyment of the game.

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Pepys Goes to the Show

(Continued from Page 6)

tion, and Mark L. Putnam of the Western Electric Co., were the principal speakers. . . Other participants: T. T. Taylor, Westchester CC, Leo J. Feser, Woodhill, CC, Robert Pollack, Llanerch CC, Eberhard Steiniger, Pine Valley (America's No. 1 course), Kingdon Troensegaard, Old Oaks Club, and Gerald Dearie, Edgewater GC. . .

"Angels" Have Flown

"Doc" Monteith, who is perhaps the world's greatest authority on turf, pleads for golfers to pay more attention to their nine and eighteen holes than they now do to the "nineteenth" and calls attention to the change the new economic order has brought on. . . The "angels"—those men of means who used to come to the rescue at the faintest call for help—have practically vanished from the earth, he pointed out, and the exigencies of the times demand a more thorough knowledge of greenkeeping and finance.

Most impressed by the unusual keenness of the greenkeepers, many of them young, all of them alert, indicating a new order of things. . . Saw many pros in attendance—"Stew" Boyle of Oakland, Jack Mackie of Inwood, Frank Turnesa of Briarcliff, George Heron of Meadow Brook, Jack Patroni of Ekwanok, Bob Thomson of Greenwich, and many others. . . Met some interesting characters in the greenkeeping field, one being W. F. (Bill) Riley of Crestmont who, at the age of 65, still cuts fancy capers on the ice a la Sonja Henie. . .

U.S.G.A. Gives \$313,312

Joe Dey, executive secretary of the USGA, has sent over a fine exhibit from the Golf Museum and calls attention to the fact that the national body has contributed \$313,312.21 of its income over the past thirteen years to the Green Section. . . Top year was 1931 when the sum of \$45,230.14 was spent on the section. . . Last year 97.6% of receipts from dues, or \$23,452.85, was utilized for the purpose.

Met one of the oldest greenkeepers at the meeting—John Pressler of Allegheny in swanky Sewickley Heights, near Pittsburgh, home club of such high income bracket families as the Mellons, Fricks, Joneses, Laughlins and the Byerses. . . Born in 1868, John has served the club continuously since 1897. . . He's also the ranking law enforcement officer in the township and woe be unto those who break the laws out there, not even excluding the above mentioned barons of finance. . . Robert Trent Jones, one of the country's outstanding golf course

(Continued on Page 12)



*"and the green
grass grew all around"*

Your greenskeeper, manager and board of governors would be singing, too, if you had a Royer Compost Mixer at your golf club!

They shred, mix and aerate compost, manure, sod, peat, dried sewage sludge or any other material for top dressing and soil building, reducing it to fine particles that quickly yield their nutritive elements to hungry greens; and remove sticks, stones and trash, so detrimental to lawn mowers and load onto trucks, wheelbarrows or piles in a fast, single operation. Too, they mix sand, marl, lime or agricultural chemicals with soil in any proportion.

No screens to clog, just the rapid, positive "combing belt" action. Handles compost, wet or dry, as fast as one to three men can shovel.

Write for New Bulletin and List of Users.

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"It's a birdie," says Alvin Young, greenskeeper at the beautiful 36-hole Sportsman Golf Club, (daily fee), at Northbrook, Ill., of his Royer.



Pepys Goes to the Show

(Continued from Page 10)

architects, is in attendance. . . . He's just finished a course for the Cromwells on their New Jersey estate. . . . You know them. . . . He's the new ambassador to Canada and she's the famous Doris Duke of tobacco fame and fortune. . . .

Bumped into Art Peterson, one of the exhibitors. . . . Art managed Vardon and Ray when they made their second American tour in 1920, one of the most successful in history, both financially and in point of victories. . . . Those were the days! . . . No beetles, no turf and no greens such as we have today. . . . The Akron delegation claims their city the most golf-minded town in the country. . . . Twenty-four courses in a city of 250,000 inhabitants. . . . Who can match that? . . . Home to bed and head awhirl. . . . No, not from what you might guess—demon rum—but from facts and figures on golf.

Attendance Hits New High

Thursday, Feb. 8.—Back to the show where they divulge the information that the registration already has reached an all-time high of more than 700 and that the New York show and conference has and will top all others. . . . That's great news. . . . Tonight's the night—of the banquet—but before that there's work to be done, things to be learned. . . . The conference session begins with a talk by Ralph Childs of Columbia University, aided by "Good Time" Charley Burns. . . . "Handling One's Self" is the topic and the greenskeepers are told how practice makes perfect in expressing one's self. . . . a cold sweat breaks out on this brow at the thought of addressing the banqueters. . . . Speakers, think we, are born, not made. . . .

No One 'Cut Class' Here

And then comes the most interesting discussion of all, at least for the greenskeepers — "Fairway Renovation and Maintenance." . . . M. E. Farnham of the Philadelphia CC, scene of last year's National Open championship, takes charge and the professors—J. O. Pepper and Dr. Fred Grau, entomologist and agronomist, respectively, at Penn State; Dr. B. O. Dodge, pathologist at the New York Botanical Gardens, and Charles K. Hallowell, one of the county agents in Pennsylvania—jump through the hoop at his command. . . . Knows what he's talking about, this man Farnham, and does a good job. . . . The talks are pretty technical for a layman, but the greenskeepers drink in every word.

Then the banquet, attended by 300

(Continued on Page 14)



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persons—a sellout. . . . Met one of the old standbys on the way in—John Anderson of Essex County (N. J.) and his charming family. . . . Up at the table among others are President Frank Ermer of Cleveland's Ridgewood, who has made a fine executive; his predecessor in office, Joseph J. Ryan of Media's Rolling Green in Pennsylvania; Gene Larkin, for years chairman of the Metropolitan Golf Association's Green Section; Robert F. Arnott, who has served in the same capacity for the New Jersey association; Joe Dey of the USGA; A. L. (Gus) Brandon of St. Charles, Ill., the indefatigable secretary-treasurer of the GSA, who is a camera fiend; and Col. John Morley of the Youngstown (Ohio) CC, about whom more later. . . . Herb Grafis is toastmaster and what a TM! . . . Merry quips fly off the tip of his tongue like sparks off a mower grinder. . . .

President Ermer makes a fine opening address, giving snatches of association history, tracing its development from the "trial and error" days, when it was a case of every greenkeeper for himself and devil take the hindmost, up to now. . . . Ryan gets a silver service so big he'll need a trunk to carry it home. . . . A swell token of appreciation for a swell "guy" who would grace any banquet table. . . . Looks a mite like "Black Jack" Pershing when John was younger. . . .

Service Award to Col. Morley

It is my pleasant duty to present the association's "distinguished service award"—a handsome silver plaque—to "Kid" Morley who is alleged to be in his 73rd year but neither looks nor acts the part. . . . Has been at Youngstown CC for 26 years and in club and golf management for 45 years. . . . Is the

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"father" of the GSA, its first president, holding that office for six terms, and now president emeritus—the only one. . . . He gives a fine talk in accepting the honor bestowed upon him, sounding his "haitches" as is natural for a person born in Shropshire, Eng., as he was. . . .

Don Boyd is called up to receive the "swag" he won at the association's championship at Beverly last fall—a silver platter that Herb said was so heavy it brought on his hernia trouble again just to lift it. . . . Don fashioned out a total of 154 in topping his fellow competitors for the honor. . . . And the floor show! . . . Best these aged eyes have ever looked at. . . . A swell crowd of entertainers who went "all out" for the audience. . . .

Pepys Late for Final Round

Friday, Feb. 9.—Awakened by a pleasant-sounding voice saying: "It's 3 o'clock, may we make up the room?" . . . Three o'clock in the afternoon. . . . And we've missed the first lecture. . . . It's on, of all things, "Residual Poisons," and led by Dr. Walter S. Eisenminger of Mass. State College and participated in by Prof. Lawrence S. Dickinson of the same institution and Edward J. Casey of the Wykagyl Club. . . .

Breakfasting on alkalis we hasten down to hear a paper written by Dr. Howard B. Sprague of the New Jersey Experimental Station—"The Superintendent and his Future." . . . Traces the history of greenkeeping work from the early days up to the present time when so many men are graduates of universi-

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Engine driven tines prepare deep, finely pulverized, completely aerated putting green foundation—fertilizer worked in evenly from top to bottom—ready for planting. Rototiller also tills soil, weeds out quack grass, and with accessories, mows lawns and rolls greens. It'll pay for itself in a hurry! Write for catalog.



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Turned out to be weeds . . .

He forgot 'twasn't Scott on
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All Wilson greens and fairway fertilizers now contain the proper amount of DOLOMITE. DOLOMITE not only aids in the prevention of excess acidity—it also adds magnesium to the soil.

Magnesium deficiency may be limiting to turf development—in fact, it has been termed the "fourth plant food element." It is supplied without additional charge in Wilson fertilizers.

When you feed with Wilson Fertilizers you furnish:

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2. The fourth limiting element—Magnesium.
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ties and when at least four universities conduct schools especially for greenkeepers; he says greenkeeping has changed from a trade to a profession and points out the opportunity that awaits trained men. . . . Other speakers were John Counsell, president of the New England Greenkeepers Club, Peabody, Mass., Fred J. Roth, Plainfield CC, Lester R. Moffit, Walkill CC, Alex H. Reid, Twin Brooks CC, and Fred Ingwersen, Shore Acres Club. . . .

When the conference was over scarcely a stitch of the exhibits were left, having been packed and removed. . . . It was finis for the No. 14 meeting. Hands were clasped, farewells said. . . . All over but the business meetings. . . .

John Gray Takes Over

Late in the day came word that the veteran John Gray of the Essex County Town and Country Club, Windsor, Ont., had been elected "prexy" for the coming year. . . . His club only last month gave him a 25-year contract . . . 57 years old, born in Aberdeen. . . . Been in Canada since 1910 when he came over to superintend the construction of Essex's first 9-hole course. . . . Has served as G. S. at the club for a quarter of a century. . . .

Saturday, Feb. 10.—A final business session which awards the 1941 show to

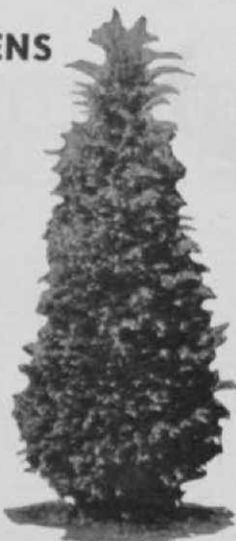
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Detroit. . . . Sometime in February. . . . Qualifications resolution adopted. . . . To become a member in the future applicants will have to pass tests based on the one Bob Mitchell of the Edison Club, Rexford, N. Y., won the recent competition with. . . . Six zones will be established for the 36 states in which there are members.

Also decided to hold outdoor conference in the South, either in Atlanta, Augusta or Pinehurst. . . . National tournament to be held at same place and time. . . . Learn that Ed Cale is appointed head of the Federal Research Committee which will attempt to get Congress to vote funds for the study of turf.

According to Dept. of Commerce figures \$200,000,000 is spent annually in the U. S. on upkeep of lawns, estates, cemeteries and courses. . . . Bill presented a year ago was side-tracked by the political "big-wigs" for lack of a lobby and funds. . . . Also because of erroneous impression it was for benefit only of followers of "that wicked, rich man's game—golf." . . . "Thousands for the azalea growers, tobacco growers, etc., but not one cent for golfers who are the heaviest taxpayers!" Sounds pretty dumb. . . . Suggest inviting congressmen to next conference and show. . . . They'd learn something!

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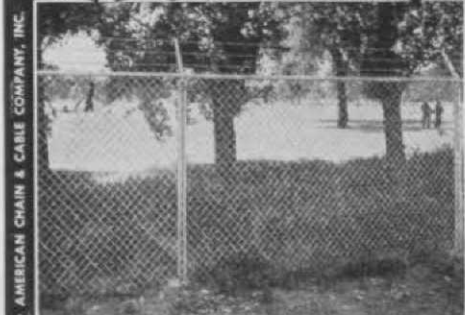
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