

serious effort to find and develop better strains for use on greens. This offers great possibilities, and may be the answer to better summer greens in the South, rather than trying to grow bent grasses.

With age, greens developed from Atlanta strain of Bermuda seed show the same patch-quilt appearance as mixed bent greens in the North. The differences exist, but are less marked. Some strains are leafy and develop denser turf, others are coarse and stemmy.

Differences were very striking on some of the greens in the Miami district of courses not being maintained this summer. Soon after mowing stopped, differences became more striking. Some strains seeded profusely. They were coarse and stubby. Others did not produce seed heads. They stayed vegetative. Grass was dense and fine textured. Leafiness was more pronounced and turf resembled northern bent.

Eventually somebody will awaken to the possibility of Bermuda. A serious effort will be made to select, test, and develop desirable strains for greens. In the beginning propagation will be by vegetative means. It will start by taking a small plug from the center of a promising patch. This will be torn apart and planted in a row on an area which is absolutely free of Bermuda. Then stolons from the row will be used to plant a small plot which will be kept cut to putting green length.

To resist invasion by native Bermuda the finer leaved type finally developed will make a very dense and tight turf. Inability to do that under close cutting was the reason why African Bermuda failed as a putting green grass.

Brisk Wartime Program at Fort Wayne (Ind.) CC

FORT WAYNE (Ind.) CC has one of the finest wartime programs of any club in the country, Sec.-Mgr. Carl J. Suedhoff claims and has evidence to substantiate his statement.

Among club events that recently got prominent publicity in Fort Wayne newspapers was a bridge party given by 75 of the club's women, proceeds of which were used for paying for a telephone conversation between a Ft. Wayne boy now in the naval hospital at Pearl Harbor, his mother at Fort Wayne, and his sister at Norfolk, Va.

Another activity at the club is that of the junior girl golfers at the club who hold bridge parties and other events to



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raise funds for buying gifts for members of the club now with the nation's Armed Forces. Older women golfers at the club add to the youngsters' fund by having penalty days and giving the penalty collections to the service men's gift drive.

Caddie supply for the wartime players is kept adequate by such affairs as a recent party at which a club member in the ice cream business provided the Fort Wayne CC kids with many gallons of his ice cream, and wafers. Louis Fritz, the club's caddie-master, has an attractive program for the boys. Several of the lads have bought \$50 War Bonds and almost all of them are devoting part of their earnings to stamp and bond purchases.

Southern California's Situation In Golf Better Than Expected

A Los Angeles district pro observes the golf situation in that territory in the following comment to GOLFDOM:

"Public fee courses still doing swell. Private club play light. That's the story out here . . . tire rationing, for some reason, hasn't made much difference in the play. Sunset Fields and Griffith Park are having the best summer in ten years. Best play ever. I think this can be laid directly to location . . . both are in the middle of heavily populated sections . . . the story there is just this—many golfers who did not like the crowded conditions or the lack of interest in the courses (Sunset Fields and Griffith) were driving on out into the country 9 to 10 miles to play on a more interesting courses. NOW, they are playing on the golf course closest to their homes. We have several golf courses that are taking a beating and in every

case it is the distance from town that I think is doing it.

"Tournaments going like hell. . . . The American Golf Assn. just finished its State Medal Play championship at Ellsworth Vine's Southern California G&CC, with a record entry list . . . crowded the course all day long in spite of daylight time. Inglewood City Championship, just a little event the past few years all of a sudden becomes an important event . . . golfers anxious to play in events. Maybe a little more money jingling in the boys' pockets. At any rate, it is encouraging to see the response to tournaments.

"Driving ranges. BAD! Night dimout will close most of them in California. Ball shortage is going to close them anyway, but heavy play Saturdays and Sundays on some ranges.

"Equipment is not selling as it should. Trade-in rather slow in spite of more money in the pocket. . . . Soldier participation picking up. . . . Newspapers not giving golf any too much space, but that's not exactly golf's fault. Space is tight everywhere. . . . From present indications gallery interest in Open tournaments this winter an unknown quantity . . . with the boys going in the service I just don't know what kind of a show we'll have for the golfing public. . . . Winter tournaments should draw good galleries with the lack of night amusements, etc. Money may be available for gallery tickets. . . . All in all, golf holding up far beyond my fondest dreams . . . to date, at least."

Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., announces its annual golf course superintendents' conference for March 11-12, 1943. The conference fee will remain at \$1.