

You remember the name Indian Creek, mentioned earlier as running adjacent to the course? Well, it winds its way back and forth through 72 rolling, wooded acres.

"We wanted to change the name of the club when we came," Bud said. The Marion CC had never been successful in 20 years and we wanted to get rid of that stigma as soon as possible.

"So, we called it the Indian Creek club, and not just because we thought it sounded pretty, either.

"Some day, soon, we hope to have that second nine laid out on those 72 acres through which Indian Creek winds its way."

#### GO ALONG WITH NATURE IN GETTING GOOD FAIRWAYS

Charles Baskin, Waterbury, Conn., CC in addressing the GSA convention, counseled making a careful study of what grasses, soil conditions and watering naturally does the best job of developing fairway turf, and adjusting all maintenance practice to those factors nature has tested and proved.

Although standards of appearance, walking ease, playing conditions and weed control are sharply lowered by inability to apply fairway watering properly, Baskin remarked, "Healthy grasses growing on properly treated soils are not injured to any great extent by periods of drought, even though these grasses do become brown over dry periods. The turf merely becomes dormant and will again renew its normal growth when conditions become favorable. Under some conditions it may be necessary to change slightly the treatment of the turf and improve soil conditions some in order to make full use of our annual rainfall.

"On most Northern fairways which have no artificial watering we find a variety of grasses growing and thriving. Chiefly among these we find Kentucky blue, fescue, and a variety of Colonial bents. I think here I may say that most of these varieties of Colonial bents, cut at a height favorable to Kentucky blue or fescue make an excellent turf and a good fairway grass.

"From a golfer's point of view, I do think that up to now we have not found a grass more suitable for fairways than the grasses just mentioned, especially the fescues and Kentucky blue grass. That being so, then let us cultivate and cut these grasses so as to improve them. We should see to it that our soils do not become over-acid. Over-acid soils not only shorten the root growth of the plant, but it has been proven in tests taken that such soil will not absorb the rainfall. Consequently it allows a loss of valuable moisture.

"We should apply the right amount of a

April, 1947

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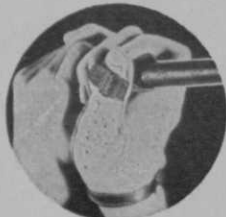
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well balanced fertilizer at least once a year. This fertilizer should be composed of organic nitrogen if at all possible and should contain a high percentage of phosphate. I prefer the fall of the year for application of these fertilizers because the action of the frost on the soil during the winter and early spring has a tendency to get that fertilizer right down into the soil where it belongs. This will produce a better and deeper root system for the grass during the hot summer months.

"No doubt the height and frequency of cutting has very much to do in maintaining the health and vigor of these grasses. I think we are safe in cutting as close as three-fourths (¾) of an inch during the heavy grass season if we cut often. By cutting often I mean as frequently as 3 times a week. As soon as we approach the dry, hot weather, however, we must raise that cut to possibly 1¼ inches. If we carry out a program of this type maintenance, we will attain a well covered, healthy, deep rooted turf which will result in less run off of rainfall, less browning during the dry, hot spells, and a much better lie for the golfer.

"Now let us consider fairway watering. First of all, it is a big capital investment. To this must be added a yearly expenditure of maintaining this equipment, the cost of water, plus the cost of labor to apply the water. The investment demands wise use.

"Next, let us look at courses which have installed water systems over the past 15 or 20 years. In cases we find such grasses as fescue and Kentucky blue grass completely gone. What has taken the place of these grasses that have gone out? Generally it is Poa Anna, clover or chickweed. In cases the disappearance of these grasses may be due to close cutting, which seems to be the demand of watered fairways.

"Watered fairways require more fertilizer than unwatered due to loss from leaching and because of certainty of fertilizer getting down into the soil.

"The weed problem needs consideration in determining proper watering practice. Weeds in unwatered fairways mostly consist of the broad-leaved variety, such as dandelion, plantain, and buckhorn. These weeds are now very easy to kill with 2, 4-D. In the watered fairways we find a majority of the smaller creeping type of weeds, such as chickweed, and the like, which are harder to eliminate.

"Hold on to the valuable grasses and improve them."

PENNSYLVANIA LAWN MOWERS, manufactured at the Camden, N. J., plant of American Chain & Cable Co., Inc., have appointed George W. Lockwood as plant manager. Mr. Lockwood, who has been with the company for many years, was formerly in the General Purchase Department at Bridgeport, Conn.