

Phila. Group Exchanges Ideas on Soil Management Practices

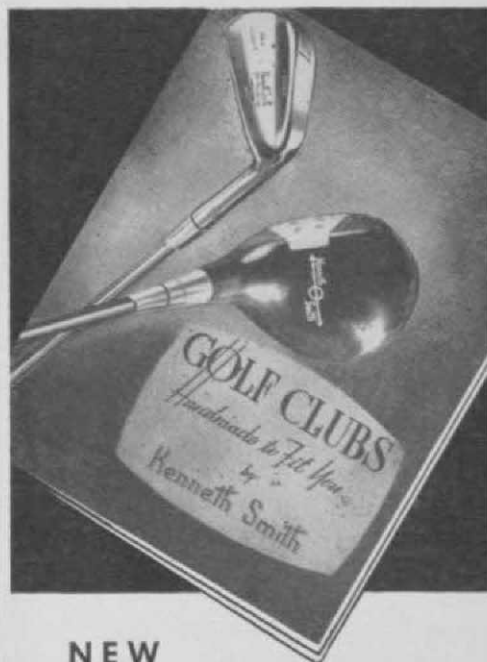
Members of the Phila. Assn. of Golf Course Superintendents met December 20 to discuss the general subject of "Soil Management for Good Turf" and to review maintenance practices followed during the past year. The discussion was led by Charles K. Hallowell, Phila. Extension Agent, who was given assist by such experienced hands as William Baskin, Manufacturers CC; Joseph Valentine, Marion CC; Alec Strachan, Old York Road CC; Marshall Farnham, Philadelphia CC; and Charles Wilfong, Green Valley CC.

Principal concern of the group was to determine the proper use, and effectiveness of the Aerifier in the cultivation of turf. Answers were sought to such questions as; What season is the best time to cultivate turf? How many times during the season? What effect does aerifying have on getting plant food and lime better placed? What effect on producing a seed bed in existing turf? Reducing fungus disease? On increasing moisture-holding capacity of the soil and introducing new grasses into fairways and greens?

General consensus was that fall was the best time of year for successful renovation program; planting fairways with bent grass stolons after aerifying is too slow but same method is satisfactory for greens; for undernourished turf, spring is good time to aerify to bring added improvement; and aerification of greens to overcome compaction from watering and traffic is very necessary. Use of tractor on greens is not objectionable if reasonable caution is taken and soil is not too wet. Some air should be let out of tractor tires for best results.

For Younger Members

Knollwood CC (Chicago dist.) to bring costs within reach of desirable younger men, has 30 associate memberships for men 21 to 39 inclusive. In the 21-37 group the associates pay \$150 the first year, \$200 the second year and \$250 the third year. After that schedule of payments is completed these members will have acquired the status of full equity members and will have to pay full annual membership charges irrespective of age. Associate members, age 38, pay \$200 the first year and \$250 the second year. Associate members 39 years old pay \$300 during the year they are eligible for this class.



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