

Blue Grass seems to have considerable merit. We expect to have limited quantities of Zoysia, which has also shown up very well in many trials, particularly for tee work and while it is a semi-tropical grass, it has done well in the northern climates.

"There has been some difficulty in getting supplies of many golf course items, particularly in the way of equipment for turf maintenance, due to the shortage of steel; this is also true of some other products, but with the situation in Korea improving, we believe there will be sufficient supplies available next spring. However, for those clubs that can arrange their budgets and are in dire need of mowing equipment or other materials of this type, we suggest getting these items in now instead of waiting later. Prices certainly will not be any lower."

### Hold Fourth Annual Field Day and Conference at Tifton

The fourth annual Southeastern Turf Conference was opened with a welcome by Geo. H. King, Director Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station and Geo. P. Donaldson, President Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, at Tifton, Georgia, on September 7 and 8 in conjunction with Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and the Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga.

The foundation for this program was laid in 1936 when the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the Georgia Coastal Plains Experiment Station launched an extensive grass breeding program in an effort to solve some of the pasture problems in this area. In the fall of 1946 a cooperative turf research program was begun at Tifton under the stimulus of Dr. Fred V. Grau, Director of the U. S. Golf Association Greens Section. In the winter of 1948 a research fellowship was granted Mr. B. P. Robinson who has now been employed as a permanent member of the staff devoting his full time to the extensive turf research program now in progress.

The contributions from Golf Clubs and Associations in this area and particularly the Southern Golf Association, have made this appointment and the continuation of this program possible.

Although it is seldom realized, more people in the Southeastern United States are concerned with grass for turf than any other agricultural crop. For instance, a few of these interests might be enumerated as follows: home owners are faced with the problem of establishing and maintaining lawns under extreme variations of environmental conditions; good quality turf on golf courses, play grounds and athletic fields add both to the enjoyment and health

of our populace. The effectiveness of turf in economically stabilizing road shoulders is vastly under-emphasized. The tremendous demands for turf by the commercial airlines and military services are often overlooked.

All scientists in the field of agriculture agree that no field of agriculture research has been so completely neglected as the field of turf production. A multitude of problems arise daily for which there is no definite solution. Only research can provide the answers for such problems. In short, the purpose of the Southeastern Turf Foundation can be expressed in these few words, "Better Turf" for the Southeastern United States.

Since the beginning of the annual turf conferences the attendance and interest has grown to the proportions of a snow ball gaining size and momentum as it is rolled down hill. Even during the adverse weather conditions the attendance at the Fourth Annual Conference was well over 150 representing at least 15 states.

The morning session was devoted to a discussion of the fundamentals of how grasses grow. Dr. Glenn W. Burton, the able agronomist responsible for the turf investigations at Tifton, discussed the physiological aspects of how grasses grow. He stressed the leaf as a good factory and emphasized the importance of the simple sugars produced by them. Without an ample supply of this raw building product, all other growth functions stop. R. L. Carter then discussed soil testing as a means of taking an inventory of the soil as a source of the mineral nutrients needed by growing plants. He was followed by



Group of more than 150 attending Field Day at Tifton, Ga.

B. P. Robinson, who demonstrated plant tissue tests and discussed their practical value. Dr. Fred V. Grau talked about soil, water, and air relationships in his usual effective and entertaining manner. The morning concluded with a Kodachrome review of turf in the Bermuda section by O. J. Noer. A down to earth discussion was held whereby each member of the conference had a chance to ask questions and have them discussed by people of experience. Mr. T. M. Baumgardner, Sea Island, Georgia, acted as discussion leader during this question box. A tour of the turf experiments and demonstrations was conducted by Dr. Glenn W. Burton and B. P. Robinson.

The Southeastern Turf Foundation advisory committee composed of Crawford Rainwater, Pensacola, Florida; T. M. Baumgardner, Sea Island, Georgia; M. K. Jeffords, Jr., Orangeburg, South Carolina; Howard (Pop) Beckett, Capitol City Country Club, Atlanta, Georgia; Dr. Fred V. Grau, O. J. Noer and Dr. Glenn W. Burton submitted a budget and future plans for the research center which was very favorably received by all in attendance. Since the continuation of the program now underway at Tifton depends entirely upon the contributions of clubs in the Southeast under the direct supervision of the U. S. Golf Association and in the Southern Golf Association the proposed budget and future plans, thus, becomes the life-line of "Better Turf" for the Southeast.

The budget proposed for 1951-1952 will require raising \$8,300, which everybody present thought possible. Mr. B. R. Robinson will be on a full-time basis and will be available for consultation. Clubs requesting his services for consultation are to pay his expenses plus \$25.00 per day.

It was agreed that the Southern Golf Association continue as the promoting and collecting agency for the project, with Mr. Crawford Rainwater as the responsible agent. All contributions to be made payable to the Southern Turf Foundation, the name of the receiving organization for the Southern Golf Association. A bank balance of \$3,594.87 was reported as of September 5, 1950. This included \$1,000 from the Southern Golf Association, and gifts of like amounts from Augusta National and Capital City Country Club. On the following day Mr. Charles Danner presented the Foundation with a check for \$200.00 from the Southern Turf Association in Tennessee. In making a verbal report to the group at that time, Mr. M. K. Jeffords, Jr. urged the support of everybody, and announced the decision to issue an informative bulletin on turf based upon findings from the work at Tifton. It will be published quarterly at the start.

## ELEMENTS THAT MAKE

*(Continued from page 62)*

greenkeeping superintendent and his men so goes your golf course. I will take men first and try to give a general idea what I expect of them. As much as possible, men doing golf course work should be taught to do as many of the types of work necessary that they can pick up and do efficiently. It is wonderful to have men who can cover up and fill in on jobs when someone wasn't able to turn up for a day or two. A good idea is to train your men in the spring and try to develop initiative in them so that they will go to and through their work in a routine manner and with confidence. Many a man has unjustly been accused

Created to  
fit the needs  
of every  
green or  
fairway!



Now goes 1/3 further. Supplies all the food elements needed by any grass in any soil!

Soils may vary from one green or fairway to another. But even half-starved soils can be brought up to par with Vigoro. For Vigoro supplies in ample amounts, all the vital food elements any grass must get from any soil — to grow and thrive.

Order Vigoro today — feed it regularly for rich, thick, play-attracting turf.

\*VIGORO is the trade-mark for Swift & Company's complete, balanced plant food.

SWIFT & COMPANY  
Plant Food Division  
U. S. Yards  
Chicago 9, Illinois

