

Meetings Give You More For Your Budget Money

By L. G. STOTT
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Some of the greatest stretching of golf course maintenance budgets is accomplished by attendance at meetings of golf course superintendents' associations. You've probably heard the old line: when I have an idea and you have an idea and we exchange ideas, both of us have two ideas. That's the way dollars for course maintenance are stretched at meetings.

I've been experimenting with sodium arsenate for eradication of clover on Woodway's fairways and have had good results. So naturally when we get in the good old bull sessions at meetings I bring up the subject and out come the experiences of other superintendents—how they apply it, the rate, soil moisture, etc.

At one meeting at Kingston, R. I., I met Tony Mascaro and he was telling about a supt. in Pennsylvania using a quart of 40 per cent sodium about every 10 days for poa annua—the same amount and strength I was using. So if we can come up with one sort of treatment that will control clover and poa annua too, think of the great benefit to our clubs. By comparing our results, the conditions under which the treatments were applied, we halve the expense and double the results.

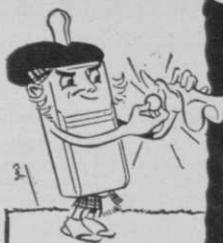
Club members and officials would be amazed, I believe, if they realized how much the superintendents spend of their own time and own money attending meetings for the purpose of improving turf and reducing expenses at the superintendents' clubs. It's seldom realized that these meetings generally are held on the day of the week or the time of the year that the superintendent would have off, if he were in another business.

The days at turf meetings are on the superintendent's own time (and for the greater part, at the superintendent's own expense) for the sole purpose of improving playing conditions at his club and reducing operating expenses. The meetings generally mean travel expense, hard but interesting brain work, and time away from a family that the superintendent doesn't get to enjoy during the summer when others get a day or two off a week for play.

Abandon Use of Bent in Greens at Miami, Fla.

Mark Mahannah, supt. at Riviera CC, Coral Gables, Fla., and highly regarded by his colleagues in turf maintenance and by golfers as an authority on southeastern golf course care, frankly tells of an experiment that didn't work out well.

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