

**Q**—We were unable to topdress our greens this fall. Is this likely to cause any adverse effects next season? (N. H.)

**A**—There is no reason for you to be concerned about not having been able to get topdressing on your greens. If they are in good condition they can go through the winter perfectly well without the fall topdressing. In fact, you may be better off. The fall topdressing might have sent the greens into the winter in a softer condition which would make them more prone to snowmold and other types of winter damage. It may be well for you to consider vertical mowing equipment on these greens early next spring to remove any dead stuff that has accumulated which would probably tend to increase trouble from disease in the spring and next summer.

**Q**—What do you know about the new crabgrass killer, di-sodium methyl arsonate? (O.)

**A**—This chemical has been tested in a limited way for about a year, and we do not yet have documented reports on it—only evidence from local testing. There it shows unusual promise for the control of annual grasses, including crabgrass and goosegrass. It is reported that there is only slight effect on the perennial grasses, even the bentgrasses. The action of the material appears to be different from that of sodium arsenite. It seems to be important that the soil moisture be favorable when the material is used. This chemical has been distributed thus far only on an experimental basis, though there are plans to market it on a national scale in 1955.

**Q**—What is a good size for a nursery of improved grasses? (Ore.)

**A**—The minimum size for a nursery would be one large enough to resod two putting greens. On most courses this would be about 10,000 sq. ft.

**Q**—We wish to try out an improved Bermudagrass on several of our greens. How heavily should we seed? Is the seed very expensive? (La.)

**A**—All improved Bermudagrasses are bought in stolon or sprig form. There is no seed of these improved grasses. The improved Bermudas cost anywhere from \$10 to \$40 for enough grass to establish 1,000 sq. ft., depending upon the kind, the source and the rate of planting. The higher figure is almost exactly the cost of creeping bent stolons which are used throughout the north and parts of the southwest. I would suggest you establish



### PLAYING SURE BETS IN GRASS

Turf experts inspect Desert In CC green at Las Vegas, Nev., where Wilbur Clark spent \$1,250,000 getting a finely-conditioned course. L to R Charles Wilson, O. J. Noer, James Watson and Howard Capps, Desert Inn pro.

the improved Bermuda in a nursery, which should be maintained in putting green condition. Then the improved grass can be introduced into the greens by plugging. By using a turf plugger, the greens can be changed without taking them out of play or inconveniencing the players.

**Q**—We do not have a very large budget to work with. Can you tell me an inexpensive way to remove heavy mat from greens? (Wis.)

**A**—I do not know of any inexpensive way to remove heavy mat from greens because it will either take a machine or it will take expensive hand labor. Probably it would be less expensive to remove the mat mechanically with a vertical mower than with hand labor. The machine can be used in many ways, but once you have spent your money for labor it cannot be used again.

**Q**—We have considerable trouble with pocket gophers on our course. We have been trapping them but it is impossible to keep up with them. Can you recommend an easy way to eliminate them? (N. Dak.)

**A**—Apparently gophers relish crisp lettuce leaves. Superintendents have found that sprinkling zinc phosphide powder on lettuce leaves and inserting them into a fresh gopher run is very successful.

**Q**—Every year we are troubled by clover showing up in the greens in late September and early October. Does it remain alive during the winter months or reseed itself each year? Can we control it with sulfate of ammonia? What is the best method of doing this? (Pa.)