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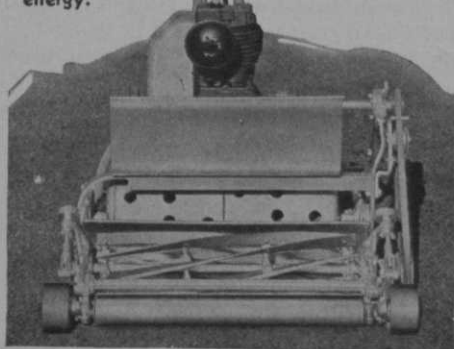
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Multi-Ball Roto, each \$15

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Paddle-Type

1 to 10, ea. \$6.00
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Springtime is also house cleaning time — check up on your present Lewis Equipment — recondition it if necessary with Lewis repair parts. Then add to it, to bring your course up to the "Lewis Equipped" standard.

G. B. LEWIS COMPANY

Dept. G 3

Watertown, Wis.

TIMELY

TURF

TIPS

SOIL SAMPLING for QUICK TESTS

Unless samples truly represent the area to be tested, findings may be meaningless. Such tests are a waste of time and chemicals, and may lead to use of fertilizer ingredients already abundant in the soil.

Because soil under turf is never cultivated, DEPTH of sampling is EXCEEDINGLY IMPORTANT. Plugs should be taken to an EXACT DEPTH of 2 INCHES. If needed, collect samples from deeper soil separately.

Collect at least one sample from each distinct soil type. Besides samples representing each soil color and different texture, collect separate samples from each distinct topographic level. When collecting sample from area where grass fails, take another separate sample from an adjacent spot where grass is good.

Each sample should be a composite made up of 3 to 5, or more, individual plugs, taken from equi-distant spots scattered over the area. Place each composite sample in a separate, clean bag, allow to dry without artificial heat, and print sample number on outside with medium soft pencil.

Always send statement of past maintenance practice, including brief resume' of fertilizer, lime and other materials used.

• • •

Tell us about your Turf Problem. The facilities and services of our Soil Testing Laboratory and Field Agronomists are at your disposal, within reasonable limitations.

Turf Service Bureau

THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION
Milwaukee • Wisconsin

GOLF CLUBS use more

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SPIKE DISC

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Model
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FIGURE Mowing Equipment Costs in Terms of 10 YEARS

● Not first cost, but upkeep cost and length of life determine the economy of mowing equipment. On this basis, Jacobsen power mowers have always proven the best investment. They are better built by better builders.

● Write for catalog of putting green, bunker, general purpose, and fairway gang mowers. Arrange for a free demonstration.

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RACINE

WISCONSIN

SCORE CARDS THREE COLORS \$2 PER 1,000

MANY of the country's leading clubs have already ordered PICTORIAL SCORE CARDS and here are several comments typical of the praise they have voiced—

A finer card than for which we formerly paid a much higher price—the three color printing seems to be of exceptionally high quality—the golf lesson feature on the back of the card is a great idea—

WHAT THEY ARE: Pictorial Score Cards are cards of the very finest quality PLUS—plus a brand new idea. On the back of each card there is a "Picture Lesson." We have arranged with 12 TOP RANKING "PROS" of the world to illustrate their methods for executing shots for which they are famous.

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PICTORIAL SCORE CARD COMPANY, INC.

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Please mail me samples of your new Pictorial Score Card, together with full details and instructions for ordering.

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Any color, numbered 1-9 or 10-18

Price per set (9) \$3.75

Any color, not numbered, per set, \$2.50

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The HENRY BALL WASHER

Washes Golf Balls With Rubber



\$8.75

F. O. B. Milwaukee

Eliminates brushes and preserves the finish on the golf ball. The new 1939 Rotary Squeegee, patented by HENRY, is made of pure gum rubber, called Latex, the toughest of tough materials, and still because it is tough and soft, it cleans a golf ball thoroughly without damaging its finished cover.

It is compact, attractive in appearance, and its housing of heavy gauge pressed steel will last a life-time. In performance it is superior to all washers on the market. You cannot afford to be without it. CHEAPER, BETTER, MORE EFFICIENT.

The HENRY can be attached to 1¼ inch pipe or post, and is made theft proof by the use of the Allen Set Screw. Every washer is equipped with a special Allen wrench and a snap for tee towel.

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At the Stork Club

PABST Gets the Call... Here New York society mingles with the world's celebrities of stage, radio, screen and press. Gay, sophisticated, elegant. And their choice for keener refreshment is Pabst Blue Ribbon.



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● In the swank clubs, hotels, and restaurants PABST GETS THE CALL! Bottled Blue Ribbon is what the smart crowd goes for.

It's lighter, drier, for keener refreshment. Nothing heavy or syrupy to slow up its invigorating action. That's why guests come back for it again and again. That's why, more and more, smart places everywhere *Give Pabst the Play!* They know there's profit in that kind of business.

So step out in smart company. Put Class on your tables with this "Top Hat" of beers! Make Pabst your password to greater prestige and profits!

PASS THE WORD YOU SERVE

Pabst BLUE RIBBON



Clubs All Set for Spring

This analysis is of club conditions in the New York metropolitan area, but applies equally to the other golfing centers of the U. S. Golf's future is bright

By H. B. Martin

GOLF club officials on the Eastern seaboard have been pretty much worried in the last year or so about golf club membership, but like most everything that the human mind finds to worry about, the fancied trouble doesn't always exist.

At the annual meetings of the Metropolitan Golf Assn. and the USGA the questions everybody asked each other were: "How has your membership held up?" and "What kind of a season are we going to have this year?" For the most part there was a general feeling of optimism. Everyone seemed to think that we had seen the worst and that the future held brighter prospects.

Picture Healthy Now

The enthusiasm is largely because there has been a wholesale cleaning out all up and down the line. Many members left golf clubs in recent years because they no longer were interested in the game, or country club life. It was a good thing for the game to get rid of these old fogies and make room for new material. The same thing applies to golf clubs. Some old clubs that have been hanging on the ragged edge for years have been compelled

to give up the ghost. It is just as well that this type of club does go out of existence.

Net Loss Is 12 Clubs

In 1931 was published a golf map of the Metropolitan District which contained the names of 312 established courses. Golf was at its peak then all over the country. These Metropolitan courses were all within the prescribed radius of 55 miles. The map was accurate. That was eight years ago—and much water has flown over the dam since then. We had fully expected our normal increase of eight courses a year, but we didn't get them. Golf went the other way and looking at the map the other day, I was surprised to note the many changes. There are only 300 courses now. Several new layouts have been built further out, but many have gone bankrupt. Other courses have changed their names and management; the mortality of clubs might have been even greater if real estate business had been better. However, the cleaning out process has now been completed, or nearly so. We are now on our way up again.

For years we kidded ourselves about the actual number of golf club members there

Roy S. Rutherford, Secretary of the Long Island Public Golf Course Owners Assn., announces that on several Long Island public courses cabins are being constructed to rent to New York World's Fair visitors at from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per person. As each club is erecting only enough cabins to handle advance reservations, golfers are urged to make reservations early. Rutherford will be glad to make the necessary arrangements through his offices at the Salisbury GC, Westbury, Long Island.

New York Fair publicity urges golfers to bring clubs while on vacation to the Fair, reminding that there will be innumerable opportunities for golfers to try their skill on some of the nation's famed courses.

were in the United States. When the big slump came, clubs began to lose their long waiting lists very quickly; then they soon began to lose members. The principle reason for this was because some golfers had the habit of joining several courses. It was not uncommon for a golfer to belong to three clubs and many belonged to half a dozen. One millionaire I know who had always been an enthusiastic player once belonged to 42 golf clubs—he just couldn't refuse to turn any of his friends down when they shoved a membership blank in front of him. This same chap belongs to three courses now and he only plays two or three times a year.

On Sounder Basis

Golf is changing rapidly in New York and vicinity. We learned a lot about golf from Chicago and most of the new courses put into operation have been municipal affairs or pay-as-you-play layouts. Our golf is cheaper than it used to be. That is why I say we are more solidly entrenched and nothing from now on is going to hurt us much. People here in the East are getting their money's worth out of the game, which is as it should be. The driving ranges are making new golfers every day and the public courses are taking on many recruits.

Yes, the boys are coming back to the game. More would come if properly encouraged. In the old days, when the head of the household went out for a quiet little game in early April, the good wife never saw him again until November. That is hardly the case today, but the men are returning to the links nevertheless, and they are taking their wives with them.

Golf clubs have been much at fault for the wholesale desertion in recent years. Golf clubs—at least some of them—were insecurely organized and were operated by

amateur control. All of which caused a lot of dissatisfaction, because a member didn't get his money's worth on the course or in the clubhouse. When money was plentiful, few cared and were glad to charge it up to profit and loss and let it go at that. It's different today.

One thoughtless little thing that has caused more resignations than anything else has been the way members have been dunned for their dues. It is very poor policy to annoy a member about golf club dues at Christmas time or when there are holiday bills to pay. With a foot of snow on the countryside no golf club member relishes getting a bill for his year's dues with a polite note to send in the money at once. Golf is furthest from his mind at this time and often he is in doubt about ever playing again. Resignations pour into the club around the first two months of the year and the secretaries wonder why.

The time to solicit a golfer is when the robin red breasts have put in an appearance and there is a touch of spring in the air. When days come with soft warm breezes and all humanity feels like getting out of doors, the morning mail that bears a letter from the golf club asking about one's plans for the summer is most likely to receive immediate attention.

Club dues that can be paid in two or more installments, or some plan for easy payments, will not frighten the old member—or a new prospect. At least, not in these days and times. Every member should be treated as a preferred creditor—or better still, a part owner, for that is what he really is. The boys will be flocking back into the old locker-rooms pretty soon, and they should be made to feel that they are more than welcome.

Midwest Amateur March 31-April 2.—Annual Midwest Amateur golf tournament at French Lick (Ind.) Springs hotel golf course, will be held March 31-April 1 and 2. Registration figures indicate the maximum entry list will be filled even before the special French Lick train leaves Chicago March 30. More than three-fourths of the tournament's entry list each year is from the Chicago district.

Largest single group registered for the golf party is the Elmhurst CC's team of 75 players. Many smaller parties from clubs of the Chicago district have already signed up. Jack Hoerner of North Shore CC, Glenview, took top individual honors in the 1938 event.

Twenty Years of BENT

By

John Monteith, Jr.



To determine the comparative worth of bent varieties under identical conditions, this 18th green at the Capital G&CC, Washington, D. C., has been divided into 12 sectors, with a different variety of bent in each. The boards will remain until the plantings have become established, thus preventing washing from one planting to another.

THIS spring marks the twentieth anniversary of the opening of the first putting green planted entirely with creeping bent. Since anniversaries always seem to be regarded as occasions for summaries and reviews this should be a good season to look over the records of creeping bent.

The shortage of bent seed caused by war provided the need for some substitute method of planting putting greens. Dr. W. S. Harban of the Columbia CC, working with Dr. C. V. Piper, Dr. R. A. Oakley and others in the United States Department of Agriculture, produced this emergency substitute in the form of stolon planting of creeping bent. By the fall of 1918 sufficient planting material had been raised at Arlington Farm to plant a new green on the public course in East Potomac Park in Washington, D. C. By the spring of 1919 it was apparent that this new method of planting putting greens had possibilities beyond the range of a makeshift substitute.

Numerous individuals interested in turf were stimulated to be on the lookout for promising strains of creeping, and also velvet bent, which might be propagated by the stolon method. Dozens of these strains, some good and many bad, were selected and planted by the army of creeping bent enthusiasts from one end of the country to the other.

Came the Battle

Then came the "fight of the century" in golf clubs. On one side were the rabid enthusiasts who recognized no faults in the new turf and on the other the old

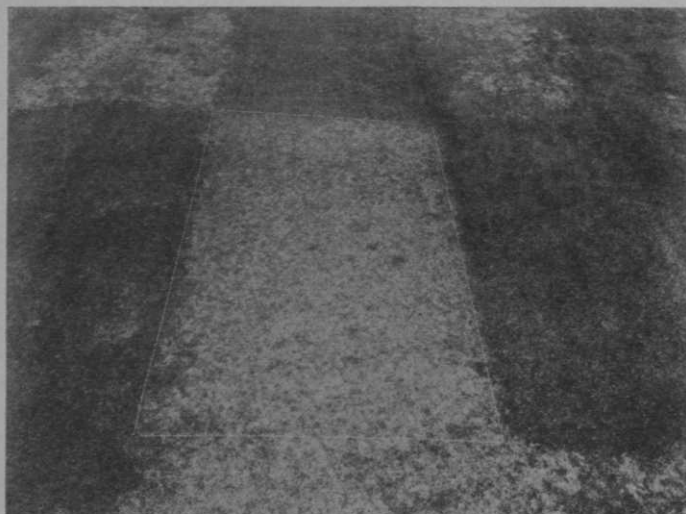
guard ready to "die but never surrender a single putt in favor of that . . . creeping bent."

When the smoke of that big battle had partly cleared away it was easy to see that creeping bent had pretty well "dug in" along all fronts. Deserters by the thousands flocked to the standards of creeping bent as they gradually recognized that its terrible dictators had no intention of destroying the golfers' hard-earned liberty to sink putts, nor even his pursuit of happiness through alibis.

Tourney Turf Trends to Bent

Curiously enough, taps has sounded for all of the leaders in that first creeping bent attack of twenty years ago. If they were alive today one can readily imagine what pleasure and satisfaction they would get in looking over the records of the major tournaments of the last ten years in this country to find that more than half of them have been played over greens that were wholly or largely creeping bent. Such a record in only twenty years, in spite of strong criticism against it and the cost of converting greens to a new type of grass, indicates the importance of creeping bent in this country.

Out of the large assortment of creeping bents that have been tested during the past two decades the three that have gained national reputation are Seaside, Washington and Metropolitan. The Seaside bent as ordinarily planted is a mixture of individual plants of creeping bent, whereas the Washington and Metropolitan strains are each individual plants propa-



In center, a good strain of creeping bent which, like Washington, is highly susceptible to dollar-spot. On either side and at rear are other strains resistant to the disease. No preventive chemicals applied on any of the plots shown.

gated by the stolon method. Although creeping bent greatly simplified the task of greenkeeping in many districts, it has not been without its handicaps. The widespread planting of this species focused more attention on the dollarspot disease to which creeping bent is generally more susceptible than are the other bents. The uniform color and texture made possible by the vegetative planting of single strains served to make golfers more critical of irregularities and imperfections in the putting surface. Greenkeepers and members of green-committees have recognized much of this criticism as unreasonable. Nevertheless the reasonable criticism that has been mixed with the unreasonable has served to stimulate the efforts for improvements that have given the American golfer the best putting greens in the world.

Better Strains Ahead? Maybe

Whether or not another twenty years will produce grasses that are superior to those we now generally use for putting greens, it will have to be admitted that whatever progress is made it will have been largely stimulated by the improvement made in creeping bent greens in this country during the past two decades.

The cost of golf of trying this and that variety of grass in this period has run into huge figures. It is likely that such wastefulness will not be repeated in the next two decades. There are, however, many thousands of grasses and special strains that should be tested. The method of testing them, it may be hoped, will be

systematic and thorough before involving the great expense of converting entire greens or entire courses to them.

The Green Section and others have selected and developed a number of strains of creeping bent that appear to be superior to the two best strains that are now commonly planted, Washington and Metropolitan. After all it is not much to brag about to develop a strain of bent which under certain limited conditions will prove superior to the Washington or Metropolitan strains. It will, however, be something to brag about when a strain is finally developed that under severe tests will stand up better than those strains.

Few Strains Stand Out

Not infrequently one hears an outburst against Washington bent, for instance, as some enthusiastic individual extols the virtues of some special strain he has recently been planting. Critics of champions are always more numerous than champions. In sports, true champions gain pre-eminence not on the basis of occasional brilliance but on steady performance. So it is with the champions of grass. A few bad rounds are unfortunate it must be admitted but after all they don't rule Washington bent out of championship rating. Neither do a few good rounds by a "dark horse" strain establish it as a champion. They should simply make it eligible to compete where the going is toughest.

The present champion of the creeping bents planted by the stolon method is Washington bent. It has lost many a

match and has had the handicap of others masquerading under its name. But its scores are in the books—and it is still scoring.

The strangest thing about this champion is that it is one of the oldest in the field. It will be twenty years old next September. A few months after golfers first played on a green of vegetatively-planted creeping bent the Washington bent was started on its way by Dr. Piper. It is truly remarkable that with all the practical men as well as the technical men like Dr. Piper who have looked for strains on thousands of putting greens in this country during the past twenty years none has so far selected a strain to replace this early selection.

Has Defects Also

After paying our respects to the champion, we can admit its weaknesses. For one thing it is entirely too susceptible to dollarspot. It also is too sensitive to cold weather and may be decidedly off color even well into the spring and in early fall. In extremely hot weather it may be easily injured and is rather slow to recover. Any newcomer which can play all the shots Washington plays as well, and in addition can beat it regularly on any of the above three weaknesses, will be hailed as a new champion.

Greenkeepers, members of the Green Section staff, and others have been selecting promising material for a number of years. A large number of these strains have been assembled at the Arlington Turf Garden for the qualifying rounds in the last two years. Several of them have beaten Washington and Metropolitan.

The leaders are now all set for the next test which will be conducted on golf courses in many districts under distinctly different soil and climatic conditions. Planting material has been raised at Arlington and arrangements are now being made for spring plantings on greens where they will be subjected to play. The plan is to plant several grasses on the same green so that the performance of each may be observed and rated in relation to the others growing under identical conditions.

Greenkeepers and club members will be asked to rate these grasses using the same numerical scoring system. In addition to the strains planted with the stolon method there will be seeded areas for comparison. When the scores come in at the end of the season we will know whether we

are likely soon to have a new national champion of bents. After all, the national champion in this greenkeeping field will no doubt be of far more direct interest than other champions of golf to the great body of average golfers who make most of the putts and pay most of the bills.

IT'S ON THE HOUSE

By TOM REAM
Mgr., Westmoreland C C

What is of more value to a club than that intangible asset—goodwill?

The only men who really know the club business are those who never stop trying to learn it.

The vacuum cleaner is the most effective weapon for prevention of vermin.

Preach and practice the gospel of good-fellowship.

Put some hot stuff through your peeler drain occasionally. The accumulation is starch principally, and hot and cold water only congeal it.

The brand must live up to its reputation.

A certain amount of interference can be absorbed—beyond that, the whole place suffers and your statement shows poorly. On the other hand, if you have free sway, make sure you justify your responsibility.

Go to any part of your club and visualize a fire there. Would you be able to reach the alarm and extinguisher apparatus easily? The suggestion is to do this before the fire—you'll find out soon enough after it.

The club employee who knows his business never has to explain that fact.

To succeed in the business of club hospitality, one must be service-minded.



The great turn-out for this year's convention of the GSA

Greenkeepers Meet — Refute

HOLDING the Greenkeeping Superintendents' Assn. annual convention west of the Mississippi for the first time proved to be a performance that really scored.

More than 500 attended the equipment and supply demonstration and educational conference that was held in the Municipal Auditorium, Kansas City, Mo., Feb. 7-10. There was a light representation from the Eastern seaboard states, as was expected, but many new faces from the Pacific Coast, the southwest and central west appeared, to give the organization and greenkeeping in general an extension of its educational and public relations program.

Streamlined Equipment Shown

Again the equipment display, although not as large as in some previous years, registered a spurt in buying. New streamlined maintenance equipment showed strikingly by sheer looks—to say nothing of construction improvements—that equipment obsolescence is a handicap in the constant struggle for course maintenance efficiency on tight budgets.

There was talk around the convention of testing, during the next two years, a plan whereby the association would take over the operation of a series of outdoor sectional demonstrations to replace the indoor show, but to retain association

financial aid from the manufacturers' participation.

Frank Ermer, course superintendent of Lakeshore, Dover Bay, Ridgewood and Hawthorne Valley courses in the Cleveland (O.) district, was elected president, succeeding Joe Ryan of Philadelphia, who turned in an administration of substantial progress.

This year the greenkeepers publicized their convention as the feature of a national campaign to step out of their roles as "golf's forgotten men." The initial campaign was conducted by Charles A. Burns, veteran newspaperman who now is manager of the J. Edward Good Park municipal course at Akron, O. The campaign hit strong and wide, securing national recognition of the greenkeepers' activities in self-education for the advancement of golf course maintenance standards.

Professors from seven state agricultural colleges were on the educational program, together with Dr. John Monteith, Jr., technical chief of the USGA Green Section, Dr. O. J. Noer, Herb Graffis, Editor of *GOLFDOM*, and five practical greenkeeping authorities who led a round-table discussion.

New York was selected as venue of the 1940 convention.