

It is believed that this figure set a world record for attendance at a golf tournament on a single day.

Performance Studied by Greenkeepers

PHILADELPHIA golf club supts. are optimistic about the prospects of keeping putting-green grass diseases at a minimum for the duration. They came to this conclusion after examining 5 different greens on the Merion West Course Aug. 18th, sections of which had been treated with either mercury or a new fungicidal material that has possibilities of being a substitute for mercury. Both large and small brown patch (dollar spot) had been active on these greens some time during the season.

Eight different materials were tried. The plots treated with $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 6 oz. of Thiosan or 10 lbs. of hydrated lime per 1,000 sq. ft., at 2-week intervals throughout the summer, showed turf with less amount of active disease. The Thiosan was broadcast with slightly moist sand and not watered for at least 24 hours, while the lime was broadcast without a carrier when the grass was dry, being poled off afterwards with a bamboo pole.

The treatments to determine what might be used for mercury, which is no longer available, were outlined by Dr. C. C. Wernham, Research Pathologist of the Pennsylvania State College. The actual work was done by Ben Struble, a graduate student of the Pennsylvania State College, who was stationed at the Merion golf course the first week in June. Joe Valentine, superintendent of the Merion golf course, turned over 5 greens in order that information might be secured on substitute materials for mercury in 1943.

Dr. Wernham informed those who examined the plots that in normal times research information in one year would not be released. However, in order to give all greenkeepers the greatest assistance the data would be available. Every effort will be made to continue similar experiments in the Philadelphia sections next year.

The meeting was called by Charles K. Hollowell, Philadelphia Extension Representative, who was assisted by Dr. R. S. Kirby, Extension Pathologist. Dr. Kirby will carry the results obtained at Merion to other golf course superintendents in Pennsylvania.

September, 1942

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South Tests New Grasses for Tees, Greens

By O. J. NOER

Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee

DURING a recent visit to Louisville, I was impressed with some of the tees at the Municipal Course, and at Audubon CC. Turf consisted of zoysia. It was dense and singularly free of crab grass and other weeds. The ball "teed" up well, and the surface was firm for play.

Audubon now has 15 such tees and will change the others at the earliest opportunity. The Park Department think zoysia will solve the turf problem on their heavily played tees. So far it has performed surprisingly well. The first tees were sodded several years ago.

The possibilities of zoysia as a grass for tees have been mentioned and advised for some time. The narrow leaf strain was suggested as the most promising type for this purpose. Tees on these two Louisville courses demonstrate the wisdom of the suggestion. Based on experience there, zoysia offers great possibilities in regions from Louisville south. Like Bermuda, zoysia needs, and grows best during, warm weather.

The original zoysia plantings were made by C. O. Bohne, while he was in the employ of the Park Department. Planting



Shaw examines a patch of especially promising Bermuda.

stock for the nursery was furnished from the Arlington Garden of the Green Section, USGA, by Dr. John Monteith, Jr.

Best results have been obtained by developing turf in the nursery first, and then using it to sod the tee. Alternate strips of sod are taken from the nursery. Afterwards the surface is leveled with top soil so zoysia in the undisturbed strips can spread and recover the nursery.

It is difficult to obtain coverage from broadcast plantings of stolons. In fact, it is hard to get stolons started. They are slow to take root. Possibly deeper covering is required than is needed for bent or Bermuda.

While zoysia offers great possibilities in the South it is not likely to prove satisfactory much north of Louisville. Even though it may withstand the rigors of winter it doesn't start to grow until late spring or early summer. By that time wear from play may weaken the grass so it does not perform up to expectations even during summer.

In the South clubs should start slowly. The best and safest plan is to grow enough in a nursery for one tee. The trial tee should be played at least two seasons before others are changed, and even then the wise procedure is to make haste slowly.

That there are differences in Bermuda is not a new discovery. The so-called Atlanta strain, African Bermuda, St. Lucie, Blue Stem, etc., attest to that fact. But the possibilities of selecting and developing has not been fully appreciated. White at Myrtle Beach, Hall at Savannah, and possibly others have made a start. They have done enough to justify a more



This "patch-quilt" effect is due to different distinctive strains of Bermuda grass.

serious effort to find and develop better strains for use on greens. This offers great possibilities, and may be the answer to better summer greens in the South, rather than trying to grow bent grasses.

With age, greens developed from Atlanta strain of Bermuda seed show the same patch-quilt appearance as mixed bent greens in the North. The differences exist, but are less marked. Some strains are leafy and develop denser turf, others are coarse and stemmy.

Differences were very striking on some of the greens in the Miami district of courses not being maintained this summer. Soon after mowing stopped, differences became more striking. Some strains seeded profusely. They were coarse and stubby. Others did not produce seed heads. They stayed vegetative. Grass was dense and fine textured. Leafiness was more pronounced and turf resembled northern bent.

Eventually somebody will awaken to the possibility of Bermuda. A serious effort will be made to select, test, and develop desirable strains for greens. In the beginning propagation will be by vegetative means. It will start by taking a small plug from the center of a promising patch. This will be torn apart and planted in a row on an area which is absolutely free of Bermuda. Then stolons from the row will be used to plant a small plot which will be kept cut to putting green length.

To resist invasion by native Bermuda the finer leaved type finally developed will make a very dense and tight turf. Inability to do that under close cutting was the reason why African Bermuda failed as a putting green grass.

Brisk Wartime Program at Fort Wayne (Ind.) CC

FORT WAYNE (Ind.) CC has one of the finest wartime programs of any club in the country, Sec.-Mgr. Carl J. Suedhoff claims and has evidence to substantiate his statement.

Among club events that recently got prominent publicity in Fort Wayne newspapers was a bridge party given by 75 of the club's women, proceeds of which were used for paying for a telephone conversation between a Ft. Wayne boy now in the naval hospital at Pearl Harbor, his mother at Fort Wayne, and his sister at Norfolk, Va.

Another activity at the club is that of the junior girl golfers at the club who hold bridge parties and other events to

September, 1942



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raise funds for buying gifts for members of the club now with the nation's Armed Forces. Older women golfers at the club add to the youngsters' fund by having penalty days and giving the penalty collections to the service men's gift drive.

Caddie supply for the wartime players is kept adequate by such affairs as a recent party at which a club member in the ice cream business provided the Fort Wayne CC kids with many gallons of his ice cream, and wafers. Louis Fritz, the club's caddie-master, has an attractive program for the boys. Several of the lads have bought \$50 War Bonds and almost all of them are devoting part of their earnings to stamp and bond purchases.

Southern California's Situation In Golf Better Than Expected

A Los Angeles district pro observes the golf situation in that territory in the following comment to GOLFDOM:

"Public fee courses still doing swell. Private club play light. That's the story out here . . . tire rationing, for some reason, hasn't made much difference in the play. Sunset Fields and Griffith Park are having the best summer in ten years. Best play ever. I think this can be laid directly to location . . . both are in the middle of heavily populated sections . . . the story there is just this—many golfers who did not like the crowded conditions or the lack of interest in the courses (Sunset Fields and Griffith) were driving on out into the country 9 to 10 miles to play on a more interesting courses. NOW, they are playing on the golf course closest to their homes. We have several golf courses that are taking a beating and in every

case it is the distance from town that I think is doing it.

"Tournaments going like hell. . . . The American Golf Assn. just finished its State Medal Play championship at Ellsworth Vine's Southern California G&CC, with a record entry list . . . crowded the course all day long in spite of daylight time. Inglewood City Championship, just a little event the past few years all of a sudden becomes an important event . . . golfers anxious to play in events. Maybe a little more money jingling in the boys' pockets. At any rate, it is encouraging to see the response to tournaments.

"Driving ranges. BAD! Night dimout will close most of them in California. Ball shortage is going to close them anyway, but heavy play Saturdays and Sundays on some ranges.

"Equipment is not selling as it should. Trade-in rather slow in spite of more money in the pocket. . . . Soldier participation picking up. . . . Newspapers not giving golf any too much space, but that's not exactly golf's fault. Space is tight everywhere. . . . From present indications gallery interest in Open tournaments this winter an unknown quantity . . . with the boys going in the service I just don't know what kind of a show we'll have for the golfing public. . . . Winter tournaments should draw good galleries with the lack of night amusements, etc. Money may be available for gallery tickets. . . . All in all, golf holding up far beyond my fondest dreams . . . to date, at least."

Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich., announces its annual golf course superintendents' conference for March 11-12, 1943. The conference fee will remain at \$1.

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Calculating Water In One Inch Of Rainfall

IT may be helpful in calculating the amount of water necessary to supplement natural rainfall on turf to have available the following figures showing the volume of water equivalent to one inch of rainfall. For an area of 1,000 square feet, approximately 80 cubic feet or 600 gallons of water are necessary to equal one inch of rainfall for one acre, 3,630 cubic feet, or its equivalent 27,154 gallons.

It has been reliably estimated that an acre of grass takes up water equivalent to at least 5 to 7 inches of rainfall in a growing season. Allowing that this is a third of the average total precipitation from May to October the amount of water which should be applied to supplement the natural rainfall during the course of any particular season can be estimated from the daily rainfall records together with a knowledge of the rate of delivery of the sprinkling system. A sprinkler delivering 20 gallons of water each minute to an average sized putting green of 5,000 square feet would have to run 2 hours and 30 minutes to deliver 3,000 gallons of water, or the equivalent of 1 inch of rainfall.—*Timely Turf Topics of USGA Green Section.*

Melflex Products Company, Akron, Ohio, reports lively late season buying of their step treads, aisle runners and shower stall mats by golf clubs. According to Melflex's president, L. E. Warford, traffic evidently has been considerably heavier than had been anticipated at many of the golf clubs with the result that immediate replacements have been found necessary. This situation, coupled with the fact that clubs realize available stocks of rubber products are fast being diminished, is keeping the Melflex headquarters on a double-quick gait. Melflex has been specializing in products for the correction of troublesome and unsafe walkway surfaces for the past twelve years and is regarded as one of the leading sources of supply. In a recent release to the trade, attention was called to the fact that the materials used in their

transient products cannot be reclaimed for fabrication into articles needed by our Armed Services; furthermore, they had been made before the first order restricting rubber products production was released.

WANT ADS

For Sale—4 Kaddie Karts, practically new. Address: James P. Gianfrante, Greeley Country Club, Greeley, Colorado.

Wanted—Used and new golf balls, used golf clubs. Symons Golf Shop, 2300 Avenue B, San Antonio, Texas.

Wanted to lease, 9 or 18-hole golf course in Middle West for 1943. With or without equipment. Address: Ad 900, % *Golfdom*, Chicago.

Club Officials—Are you seeking high grade Managers, Stewards or Bookkeepers. Write: Club Systems Service, 5540 Hyde Park Blvd., Chicago.

Couple, both 52, wish position as pro-manager and manageress in small club, preferably year round, or would accept winter position in the south. At present employed but wish to make change. Very capable and can give highest references. Address: Ad 901, % *Golfdom*, Chicago.

Wanted—We want to buy some steel lockers, approx. 12 x 18 x 72 in. Must be in good condition. Interested in all offerings. Address replies to: Peter Eckrich & Sons, 1025 Osage St., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

For Sale—Complete Driving Range Lighting Equipment. Extra Bulbs. Mats for 18 Tees. Clubs. Arnold Mears, 825 Dewees Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

Bargain—Jordan Hollow Golf Course and Farm (102 acres), with all course equipment, \$12,000.00. Good condition, antique residence as owner's home and club house. One of the sportiest 9-hole courses in the East; perfectly watered, supremely scenic, 95 miles from Washington, adjoining the Shenandoah National Park. Zerkel Realty Company, Luray, Virginia.

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