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There is a lack of information on the fertilization of the fairway grasses as to the amount to use and the time to apply. There is evidence that much fundamental information is available in the College of Agriculture of the University of California about fertilizing grasses. With those fundamental facts a series of fertilizer plots on fairways on a number of golf courses would soon produce data that would be helpful to all golf course superintendents.

Grasses found on roughs are mostly the same that grow in the fairways. Sheep fescue, popular in the roughs in Eastern United States, is growing in a few spots at Lakeside Country Club. There is an effort being made to determine why sheep fescue grass is not more widely grown on golf course roughs. Alta fescue is showing promise as an ideal grass for the roughs. It seems to have the ability to produce a turf with limited watering. This being due to the deep root system of this grass. Alta fescue combines with the bermuda grass to make an ideal turf for golf tees and for athletic fields.

#### **Bent Grasses Introduced Late**

Bent grasses were introduced for putting greens in Southern California much later than in Eastern United States but when Seaside bent was found practical for turf for putting greens it was a definite advancement. The golf folks are now finding the proven creeping bents grown from stolons produce an even better putting surface than Seaside. The greens built in recent years at Mission Valley under the guidance of L. M. Hughes are of an excellent strain of Washington bent, in fact, the same as used on the new 36 hole course in Mexico City. The combination of Arlington, Congressional and Collins creeping bents shows great promise. These bents growing as individual strains for two years and in combination for one year at the Turf Gardens of the University of California, Los Angeles, catch the eye of all golf folks who see them. These are three of the strains of grasses sent to California by the Green Section of the United States Golf Association.

The success of William Glover of Fairfax, Virginia, with these three grasses, which was reported at the National Turf Conference in Boston and in the March issue of *GOLFDOM*, inspired and encouraged many Southern California turf enthusiasts to push the development of Arlington, Congressional and Collins. There are commercial nurseries now growing these grasses in anticipation of the demand that seems likely for these strains. A deeper root system and the ability to produce a dense turf, sufficient to withstand invasion of poa annua, are two reasons for this combination's superi-

ority to Seaside bent. This turf produces less grain on a putting surface when cut at one-quarter of an inch or less than other putting green grasses found in Southern California. Disease is seldom found on these grasses.

U-3 bermuda, introduced to Southern California two years ago, shows real promise due to its even texture and ability to retain its color throughout the year. This grass can recover rapidly when injured. It thrives on close cutting and heavy nitrogen feeding. U-3 bermuda has found its place in other than golf turf, being satisfactory for athletic fields and when properly maintained produces an ideal lawn.

#### **Have Weed Control Specialists**

Where turf grasses grow rapidly weeds do the same and that is evident in Southern California. Healthy, dense turf is helpful in reducing the number of weeds. Dichondra, grown as a lawn turf in the Los Angeles section, is a pest when growing in golf greens or fairway turf. Light applications of 2, 4-D show promise in removing this weed. Dallis grass has appeared in fairways on a few courses. It grows vigorously and is not removed by heavy applications of sulphate of ammonia as in other sections of the United States. Spraying with special oils seems to be the only method of eliminating Dallis grass. Then it is necessary to reseed the area where the weed was removed.

Kikiyu is one weed thriving on golf courses that to date has failed to yield to various herbicides. Dr. A. S. Crafts of the University of California has suggested maleic hydrazide as the chemical that might check this vigorous weed. First applications were made in June.

Turf folks having weed problems in California are indeed fortunate in having two of the country's leading specialists in weed control—Dr. Wilfred W. Robbins and Dr. A. S. Crafts, both Botanists at the College of Agriculture at Davis. They are in a position to give assistance with the elimination of any unusual weeds in turf.

The golf course soils are low in organic matter but produce a good turf rapidly when nitrogen fertilizer is applied. The importance of adding phosphorous prior to establishing new turf is indicated in a series of new plots started the first part of 1950 at the Turf Gardens. Surely two of the problems to which scientific investigators may make a contribution is to determine methods of establishing a turf with a deeper root system and a reduction of soil compaction.

Primarily the reduction of the soil compaction includes allowing more air to enter the soil and judicious use of water. It is noticeable that compaction is greater near

*(Continued on page 44)*

# L. B. Icely, Golf Leader, Dies

Lawrence Blaine Icely, 65, for 32 years pres., Wilson Sporting Goods Co., died Aug. 8 at Presbyterian hospital, Chicago, following an operation. Icely had been ailing for several years and had bounced back from several severe sessions. He seemed to be convalescing amazingly well from the operation when a blood clot suddenly developed.

He was born at Leaf River, Ill., Nov. 22, 1884 and was educated in Chicago public schools. In 1907 he married Kathryn Flynn who, with their daughter, and two sisters, survives him.

Icely first became active in the sports goods business with the Spalding organization. He came from work on the west coast to form the Wilson company as a phase of Thomas E. Wilson's operations and developed that company into major standing in the industry. Icely was a tremendous worker and kept in close touch with all internal elements of the Wilson business through a steady program of expansion as well as giving generously of his time, effort and ability to the promotion of sports and the growth and stabilization of the sports goods industry. He was a leading factor in the organization of the Athletic Institute and the National Golf Foundation and during World War II worked wisely and diligently in coordinating sports activities with the war effort.

In so many activities he sacrificed his personal convenience and comfort to contribute to the general advancement of the industry in which he was engaged. In a keenly competitive field he rejoiced in the well merited respect and admiration of men who were business rivals but companions in the common cause of promoting the national pursuit of happiness.

More than any other one man Icely was responsible for the development of young men and women in highly successful careers in professional athletics. Golf, in particular, saw Icely as a kindly and helpful counsellor to Gene Sarazen, Patty Berg, Sam Snead and dozens of other youngsters who grew into fame and fortune as his proteges. Personally, and in his official capacity, he was a true friend of professional and amateur golf. In numerous critical spots his judgment and cash helped pro golfers.

He had magnificent poise and humor that eased many a tense situation. He never missed a chance to help. He got out of a hospital last November to attend the PGA national convention at Southern Pines and never let it be known that he was a sick man until he had to be flown back to Chicago for treatment.



Lawrence Blaine Icely

L. B. Icely probably would have been around now if he hadn't worked so hard for all of us in his life-long campaign of preaching the gospel of sports as a counter-balance for the strains of high-pressure American life. But he liked that strenuous program and glorified in building up a big business from a tennis string start. So he lived every minute of a crowded life of achievement.

## Walter Ring Dies in New Rochelle

Walter Ring, widely known for his sales work in golf, died Aug. 19 of a hemorrhage, after a day's confinement in a New Rochelle, N.Y., hospital. Ring had attended the Tam O'Shanter tournaments at Chicago as a representative of Fred Corcoran, arranging details of the Women's PGA tournament program and becoming ill had flown to his home in New Rochelle. He had suffered from a stomach trouble for some years.

Ring, a native of Boston, became a star salesman of sports goods while selling roller skates. He then switched to golf and was with the L. A. Young Golf Co. when the Walter Hagen line was being established and later was with the Goldsmith organization, then with Dunlop. During the war he was in government work at Washington and after the war handled lines of sports goods prior to his engagement by Corcoran for tournament promotion work.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter and a son. Burial was at Boston.

Walter Ring was a beloved character of whom cheerful tales will be told in golf business for many years to come and whose passing is sharply lamented by the thousands fortunate enough to have known him.

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# Report on Turf Field Days

By TOM MASCARO

## New Jersey Turf Field Day

A total of 15 different turf studies were shown to a group of 115 men interested in turf management gathered at Rutgers University on August 8th, for Turf Field Day.

Experimental grasses for lawns and fairways included B-27 (Merion bluegrass), U-3 bermuda and the Zoysias. Fertilization of the combination of cool and warm season grasses was shown in the plot of U-3 bermuda and bluegrass. There are indications that fall applications of nitrogen fertilizer will keep the turf green as the cool weather changes the color of the bermuda-grass. The increased growth of the bluegrass, resulting from the fertilizer, seems the best means of obtaining the desired color turf throughout the growing season. This experiment is not completed but a summary of this year's results will be made after the growing season.

Fifteen different strains of bentgrass for putting greens were shown. The combination of Arlington, Congressional and Collins strains of bentgrass continued to produce a turf which is highly suitable for putting greens.

Several studies were shown with regard to the use of the Aerifier. A frequency of cultivation test had from none to six aerifications per season. Six cultivations gave no adverse effects. Crabgrass and other weeds were no greater on plot aerified throughout the season than on unaerified plots.

In the evening Charles K. Hollowell, Philadelphia County Agent, reported his observations made during the Southern California Turf Survey. Mr. Hollowell stated that the soil in greens in California was heavy and often classified as tight. Compaction is usual, frequently making it difficult for the golfer to hit his shot to the green and have it hold. Alkaline soils are common and much of the water applied is high in sodium content.

The combination of three creeping bentgrasses for putting green purposes, that received a high rating at New Jersey Experiment Station, produced outstanding putting surfaces in the Los Angeles district. There are indications that newly constructed putting greens will be stolonized with those three grasses—Arlington, Congressional and Collins bent.

## Philadelphia Turf Field Day

Over 150 attended the Philadelphia Turf Field Day on August 17th, at the Philadelphia CC Spring Mill Course in West Conshohocken. Charles K. Hollowell, Philadelphia County Agent, served as leader of the field meeting, assisted by Marshall Farnham, Supt. of the Spring Mill Course. O. J. Noer, Agronomist of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission and Marvin Ferguson, Charlie Wilson and Al Radko of the USGA Green Section all were introduced. Al Cooper from Penn State, Gene Nutter from Cornell and Ralph Engel from Rutgers also were present for the Philadelphia meeting.

The group viewed the turf disease control plots which are in their fourth year. The work is being done by Bob Means and Richard Valentine, under the direction of Dr. H. W. Thurston of Penn State. Again chemical 531 was a leader in controlling dollarspot. Two new chemicals showed promise; one is a combination of cadmium and mercury. Dr. Thurston expects to put these through further tests.

H. B. Musser explained in detail the effectiveness of different chemicals in controlling crabgrass. The first applications were made in late June and other applications three weeks later. Musser will summarize results at the end of the season; the present indications are that it is better to try the phenyl mercuries early—perhaps June and July—and potassium cyanate will help when crabgrass gets vigorous. Sodium arsenite may continue to have a place in the September renovation program.

Marshall Farnham showed his practical work—a combination of Merion bluegrass and U-3 bermuda, and establishing U-3 bermuda on tees. U-3 bermuda chased silver crabgrass out of the tees. Where U-3 bermuda was strong on a tee, Farnham reported: go easy on summer fertilizing, then in September step up the nitrogen and perhaps the cool season grasses will predominate.

The fairways were good to excellent at Philadelphia CC. A few areas on four different fairways showed crabgrass checked with sprays of potassium cyanate. Organic nitrogen fertilizer is applied lightly in mid-August and two to three additional applications are made by November 1st. The normal rate each fall is one ton of 6% organic nitrogen per acre.

There was much of interest for all who

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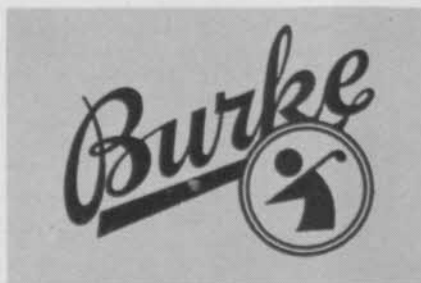
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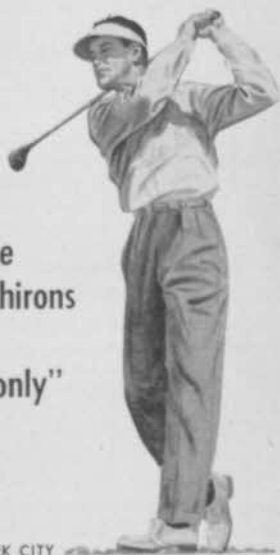
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Group attending Phila. Turf Field Day study disease control plots at Spring Mill Course, Phila. CC where Marshall Farnham is supt.



Fifteen different strains of bent grass are shown group interested in turf management at Rutgers Univ. during New Jersey Field Day.

greens. The consensus this season was to loosen the soil to get stronger roots and the West Point Lawn Products' Aerifiers do the job well.

Following the field meeting the group moved to Manufacturers CC for dinner and entertainment. T. L. Gustin of the Philadelphia Toro Company was host.

### Economy Session Feature of Green Section Conference

Oct. 16 evening session of the USGA Green section annual turf conference and field demonstrations to be held at the Beltsville turf experiment station outside Washington, D.C., Oct. 15, 16, 17, certainly will be correctly timed as it's to be devoted to economies in Turf Maintenance."

The program will be handled by a great array of practical specialists who ought to be able to give the right answers to golf club superintendents and green-chairmen

who want to have highest standards of course maintenance as well as sane economy. These experts also will work with the USGA Green Section staff and others in handling the various sections of the "Questions and Answers" procedure which is stacking up heavy as the Green Section is receiving responses to its invitations to member clubs to submit their turf problems for consideration.

The departments and assigned specialists in the "Economies in Turf Maintenance" session:

**Water Usage**, Chairman: H. B. Musser, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; J. R. Watson, Jr., Texas A & M College, College Station, Texas; R. Hagan, University of California, Davis, California; William Daniel, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; Don Likes, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

**Seed Usage**, Chairman: A. E. Rabbitt, Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department, Washington, D.C.; J. A. DeFrance, Rhode Island State College, Kingston, R.I.; John F. Cornman, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.; Warren Lafkin, Golf & Lawn Supply Corporation, White Plains, N.Y.

**Fertilizer Usage**, Chairman: O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; G. N. Hoffer, American Potash Institute, Lafayette, Indiana; H. G. Gauch, Maryland University, College Park, Maryland.

**Equipment Maintenance**, Chairman: W. H. Glover, Fairfax Country Club, Fairfax, Virginia; Bob Dunning, Bob Dunning-Jones, Inc., Tulsa 4, Oklahoma; E. R. Steiniger, Pine Valley Golf Club, Clementon, N.J.

**Labor Management**, Chairman: Taylor Boyd, Camargo Country Club, Cincinnati, Ohio; J. C. Dodd, Ridgefields Country Club, Kingsport, Tennessee; Walter Cosby, The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

**Grasses for Economical Maintenance**, Chairman: Kenyon T. Payne, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; Neal Wright, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; R. C. Potts, Texas A & M College, College Station, Texas; Glenn W. Burton, Georgia Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, Ga.; V. T. Stoutemyer, University of California, Los Angeles, California.

**Economy in Disease Control**, Chairman: H. W. Thurston, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.; Eric Sharvelle, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana; John B. Rowell, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Economy in Insect Control**, Chairman: E. N. Cory, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland; C. Schread, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station,





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New Haven, Connecticut; E. G. Kelsheimer, Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, Bradenton, Florida.

**Economy in Weed Control**, Chairman: Charles K. Hallowell, Room 303 Drexel Bldg., 5th and Chestnut Sts., Philadelphia 6, Pa.; Ralph E. Engel, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N.J.; Gene Nutter, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

### **Turf Field Days**

Sept. 6-7 — Turf Field Days, Rhode Island State College, Kingston.

Sept. 7-8 — Turf Conference and Field Days, Southeastern Turf Research Center, Tifton, Ga.

Sept. 11-12 — Turf Field Days, State College, Pa.

Oct. 15-17 — National Turf Field Days, USGA Green Section, Beltsville, Md.

Oct. 25-27 — Turf Conference, Manhattan, Kans.

Oct. 30-Nov. 3 — American Society of Agronomy Annual Meetings, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Jan. 11-12 — Maryland Turf Conference, University of Maryland, College Park, Md.

Feb. 12-14 — Texas Turf Conference, College Station, Texas.

Feb. 26-Mar. 1 — Turf Conference, State College, Pa.

### **NGSA Tournament, Sept. 18-19 at CC of Lansing, Mich.**

National Greenkeeping Superintendents Assn. 1950 annual tournament will be played at the Country Club of Lansing, Mich., Sept. 18 and 19. LeRoy Jones is CC of Lansing supt. Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Supts. Assn. will be host. Ward Cornwall, chmn. of the affair, and his committee associates have arranged an interesting and entertaining program for supts. and their wives.

Morning educational sessions will be held at Michigan State College, with Dr. James Tyson and Clarence Wolf from arranging that program.

Emil Mashie, supt. of Onwentsia Club (Chicago dist.), will defend his title. USGA presents medals to winners and runners-up in the championship and senior flights.

Hotel Olds will be headquarters for the supts. attending the tournament and educational sessions. Monday evening an informal get-together will be held at the Country Club. The annual tournament banquet will be held Tuesday night.

### **USGA Host to National Amateur Field**

USGA was host to players and golf writers in the 50th anniversary National Amateur at a dinner held at Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Saturday, Aug. 19. The dinner was preceded by a cocktail party at which the Minneapolis GC was host.

The evening meeting was the first time the USGA had brought together the entire field of the amateur in a get-acquainted affair. It was a complete success and was, in addition to being the sort of social affair that might be expected when about 200 players, officials and reporters are brought together from all over the country, was pleasant and effective public relations and education by the USGA.

USGA officials were scattered around at tables with contestants. Pres. Jim Standish presided with the easy finesse that's made him great locker-room company throughout the USGA since about 1776. USGA officials spoke briefly on activities and problems of the association, including the delicate matters of amateur status and the rules. Deftly the amateurs were acquainted with the reasons for applying to the administration of golf the understanding that has preserved life and order on a much lower plane of entertainment: "Don't shoot the professor, he is doing his best."

Chick Evans, Francis Ouimet and Willie Turnesa spoke for former amateur champions and Willie individually registered approval of the stymie. Herb Graffis talked as a representative of the golf writers.

### **Golf Lines Up in National "Kids' Day" Campaign**

National Kids' Day, a project to establish summer camps for underprivileged children, has as its golf aspect a National Kids' Day Sweepstakes scheduled for Sept. 23. Maury Luxford and Johnny Dawson are directors of the golf drive. The PGA nationally and sectional amateur golf organizations of men and women are participating in the drive which is hoped to raise \$1 per from thousands of golfers.

Jimmy Fidler, the movie columnist, is president of the National Kids' Day Foundation, Inc. Mrs. Bob Hope is a vice pres. Bing Crosby is a director. Prominent civic-minded men are on the board.

Hope and Crosby have frequently inconvenienced themselves and given their time, money and effort to affairs in behalf of charities sponsored by numerous golf clubs and pro and amateur associations. It will be interesting to see how golf shows its appreciation by taking part in