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What was a promise back in 1940, when we started with the determination of making the finest golf gloves possible, has been fulfilled by a 13 year record of player popularity and pro shop profits. It was *quality* that built PRO-GRIP'S *quantity* sales. Ask the professionals who insist on gloves that bear the PRO-GRIP label.

PRO-GRIP . . . full finger, light weight genuine Cape Skin palm with nylon back and concealed elastic wrist snugger.

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***Catering to golf professionals  
since we started . . . in 1940!***



This service will be continued for sections not having regional offices until it can be supplanted by the nation-wide system of regional offices.

### **Depends on Club Support**

The speed with which the program can be put into effect nation-wide depends largely upon the interest and the support of the USGA member clubs and courses, Tufts says.

The first regional office was opened last June at Davis, Cal., with Charles G. Wilson as Western Director. The full program of service is now being established in his Region, which for the time being comprises Washington, Idaho, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah and Arizona.

Other regional offices will be established as fast as practicable. Green committee chairman of USGA member clubs are earnestly requested to write Mr. Tufts at Pinehurst, N. C. to express their degree of interest and their comments on the program.

Tufts strongly suggests that green committee chairmen and golf course superintendents now put items in their budgets for golf course maintenance to cover the relatively small cost of the USGA Green Section Regional Turf Service. The USGA cannot provide such a service unless there is reasonable assurance that it will be supported by the member clubs on a permanent basis. The cost ought to be regarded in just that right and be made a permanent part of the club's annual budget. Tufts says, "We feel confident that the returns will far outweigh the expense.

"The cost is about the same as for 35 lbs. of good spray material to combat brownpatch, or for 75 lbs. of good bent-grass seed."

### **Fred Grau Resigns as USGA Green Section Director**

Fred V. Grau, director of the USGA Green Section, resigned, effective Feb. 15. He was with the Green Section since 1945 and organized the research program which coordinated the Green Section's work with that of numerous regional turf research and experimental stations.

Separation of Grau and the Green Section was completely amicable and resulted from a difference in policy judgment. The Green Section is of the opinion that more extension work is required to apply research to golf course operations and that financing of additional services such as that established on the West Coast last

year is a problem for golf courses rather than for all interests concerned with turf. The Green Section's association with the US Dept. of Agriculture as a tenant at Beltsville, Md., and teammate of the USDA on some turf problems involves matters beyond the scope of a golf association, so the USGA has decided. More concentration upon golf turf is USGA policy for the Green Section's future.

Grau's conviction is that problems are so generally in common in every field of fine turf use the research, extension and financing matters should be brought together on an extensive base.

Announcement of Grau's new connection probably will be made soon as several overtures for the services of the widely-known turf authority have been made.

### **Streamline the Course and Correct "Delicate" Greens**

By **CLIFF DEMING**

Supt., Sleepy Hollow GC, Brecksville, O.

The superintendent and chairman must work together in discovering what places on the course can be corrected to reduce maintenance costs.

At Sleepy Hollow we got rid of bad and inaccessible areas in the rough so we could go over the whole area with a rough gang mower. We tiled wet spots so machinery could get in before the grass was too high to cut.

On a sporty course like Sleepy Hollow we must reduce hand labor jobs to the smallest extent but still have more than the average of creeks and banks to scythe.

Two valley bottoms were made accessible by new opening without steep slopes. Now we can get tractors and mowers in and out of these areas. We filled in places where considerable fill was necessary and finished that work in time for fall seeding.

Streamlining a course for fullest use of machinery is one of the most urgent jobs for superintendents and club officials to investigate and plan. Another job that can't be neglected is caring for the "delicate" greens on which there is the most trouble. In the Cleveland district again last year we noted that greens sheltered from normal air flow, consequently evaporation, are greens too often over-watered in hot, sultry weather. The research men have done much to prevent loss of these "delicate" greens but despite their most welcome and helpful answers the cure of new construction is required.

## Mid-Atlantic Supts. Hold Silver Anniversary Meet

Silver Anniversary meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Greenkeepers Assn. and the annual conference of the Mid-Atlantic Assn. of GC Supts. was held at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, Baltimore, Maryland, January 6 and 7, 1953, under the auspices of the Univ. of Maryland, Dept. of Entomology, Dr. Ernest N. Cory, Dir.

The conference was a highly successful event, with 89 members and guests present at the two day affair. Among visitors in attendance was a strong delegation of members from the Philadelphia Assn. of GC Supts. headed by Leonard Strong of Saucon Valley CC. Speakers and educational topics presented by each are as follows: Soil Conditioners: Dr. R. B. Alderfer, Penn. State College; Poa Annua and Clover Control: Dr. Ralph E. Engel, Rutgers University; Turf Diseases: Dr. J. R. Vaughn, Michigan State College; Evaluation of Chemicals for the control of weeds in turf: Dr. Warren C. Shaw, Bureau of Plant Industry, USDA.

Why did so many greens go out this year? Dr. O. J. Noer, Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; Proper times and methods of aerification: Tom Mascaro, West Point Products Corp.; Flowers and Shrubs; Mark M. Shoemaker, Univ. of Maryland; Cost of turf renovation and establishment with Zoysia grasses: Dr. Fred V. Grau, Green Section, USGA; Moving Picture, "Nature's Half Acre."

Another educational feature of the conference was a display of 65 permanently mounted soil profiles, taken from greens in the Mid-Atlantic area. Each course represented had two profiles on display, a good one and a 'bad one, in most instances each profile showed why the green was so classified. Those labeled by the superintendent as the poorest green on his particular course were either layered or mostly clay, or silt, or heavily matted. They were typical examples of built in construction headaches. Credit for arrangement of the display goes to Al Radko and Bob Elder of the USGA Green Section.

This Silver Anniversary meeting was dedicated to the charter members and founders of the Mid-Atlantic Greenkeepers Assn., now the Mid-Atlantic Association of GC Supts. Seven of the original fourteen members who founded the group are still active greenkeeping superintendents. They are: O. B. Fitts, the first president; Reg Giddings, Reuben Hines, Bob Scott, Sr., Dick Scott, Tom Ryan and Dick Watson.

The 1953 officers of the organization are: Pres., James E. Thomas, Army-Navy CC, Arlington, Va.; Vice Pres., Robert Scott, Jr., Bonnie View GC, Baltimore, Md.; Sec.-Treas., Charles Schalestock, Farmington CC, Charlottesville, Va.

## Architects Elect Gordon; Adopt Policy Resolutions

Wm. F. Gordon, Doylestown, Pa., was elected pres., American Society of Golf Course Architects at the ASGCA 1953 annual meeting at Ojai, Calif. Gordon succeeds Wm. P. Bell, Pasadena, Calif.



Officers of American Society of Golf Course Architects for 1953 elected at annual meeting at Ojai Inn, Ojai, Calif. (L to R): William H. Diddel, Ormond Beach, Fla., VP; William F. Gordon, Doylestown, Pa., pres., and James H. Harrison, Turtle Creek, Pa., sec.-treas.

Wm. Diddel of Ormond Beach, Fla., and Indianapolis, Ind., was elected vp, and James G. Harrison, Turtle Creek, Pa., was elected sec.-treas.

Gordon, who took up golf architecture after World War I and founded his own company in 1945 has been responsible for design and construction of numerous courses in the U.S., South America and Canada, now has his son, Dave, associated in business with him. Wm. P. Bell, another of the busy notables in the golf architectural profession, also has his son as an associate.

Considerable discussion of the problems of new course design and alteration from the viewpoints of play, maintenance and finance kept the architects in sessions for three days. Highlights of the discussions were summarized in policy resolutions which the association authorized Wm. B. Langford to issue.

The ASGCA resolved:  
"We favor the development and maintenance of the rough to make it an effec-

# 3 NORTHERN that BUILD RANGE

## Reinforced Rubber GOLF RANGE DRIVING MAT

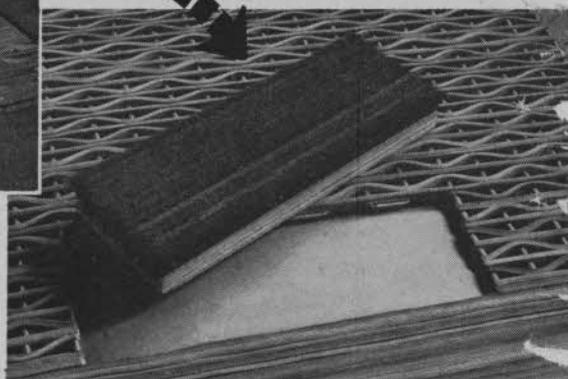
5 ft. wide x 4 ft. deep

Furnished with cut-out, as shown, for inserting TURF KING Tee Brush . . . **\$24.50**

Without cut-out . . . **\$21.50**



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TURF KING Tee Brush gives the "Grassie Lie Shots" every golfer wants to practice. "Forever wear" construction with durable plywood base. Easily replaced brush tips. A real magnet in attracting and holding regular range customers.

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8" x 30" or 11" x 24" — \$18.80

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No finer quality at any price. Extra select Arrow type wood tees in yellow or red —  $1\frac{7}{8}$ " length, per thous. — \$2.35; bags of 25,000 — \$2.25 per thous.  $1\frac{5}{8}$ " length — \$2.30 per thous. or in bags of 25,000 at \$2.20 per thous. Also, mill run wood tees (mixed colors and lengths) — \$1.80 per thous. or in bags of 25,000 at \$1.70 per thous.

tive factor in the strategy of play.

"We favor the contouring of greens to promote interest in a department of the game where half the strokes are played and to exert a proper influence in the play of the hole.

"We favor the placement of hazards guarding greens which reward accurate play and do not sacrifice the demands of good golf to the mechanics of green-keeping.

"We favor the construction of a limited number of strategic hazards as opposed to the building of many penal traps.

"We favor a system of bunkering which is based on the play of experts and with the object of developing the skill of those

less adept and a minimum of interference with the play of high handicap groups.

"We are opposed to the use of grasses which have not been thoroughly proven."

The architects' resolutions frankly committed the designers on points about which there's been muttering backstage. The resolution on trapping took the position that for championship tests the trapping should be rigidly testing for shots champions should be able to make but bunkering shouldn't be done so it adds more strokes to scores of those who already are penalized by lack of distance and unduly increase maintenance costs.

The architects, after considering the course superintendents' problems, came to

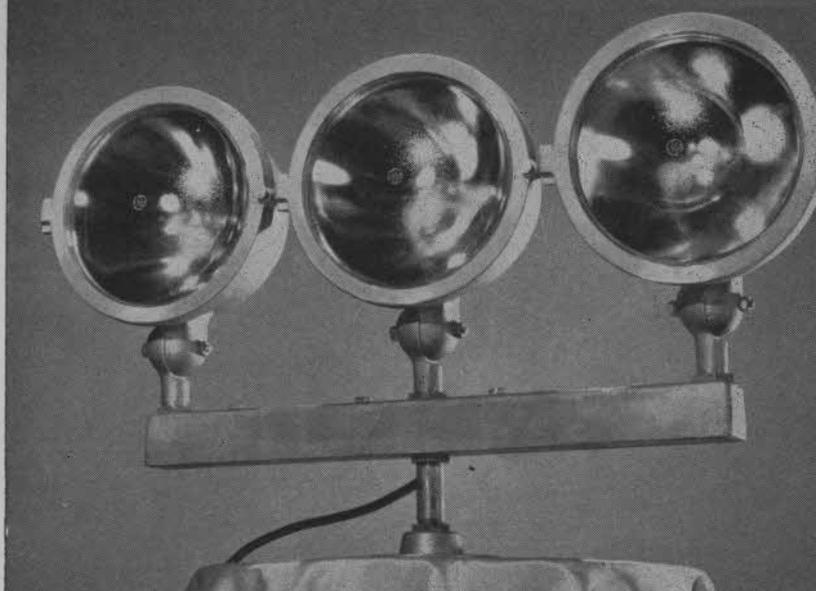
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BASEBALL—ARCHERY  
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Hundreds in use last season proved their superior lighting efficiency. Lower in first cost and savings of 40% to 60% in electricity. A series of these three 300 watt sealed beam Northern Lights can match the candle power of any ordinary type 1500 watt light. Bulb life averages three season's use. 300 ft. beam spread at 250 to 300 yds. Candle power — 100,000 per unit. Total watts used — 900. Rotating cast aluminum lampholder permits exact coverage desired. Choice of Flood type bulb, or the Distance bulb described above.

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the decision that when fringe areas were demanded between greens bunkers and greens and strategic value of these areas outweighed the mowing costs of the debatable territory.

Green contouring also was subject of lively discussion from the maintenance angles. Surface draining, cup placement areas and power mowing factors all must be considered in designing greens of interesting and testing contours the architects agreed.

The architects exchanged experience stories of mutually valuable work with superintendents and research experts acquainted with local conditions but at present prices of seed didn't feel war-

ranted in taking any chances on seeding programs that hadn't been endorsed by varying conditions of several years.

Plastic pipe was cited as one of the newer economies in construction and great improvements in fast and economical earth handling in new and remodeling jobs were cited.

Considerable interest was expressed in six hole courses as attractive and economical nurseries of golf and as courses where present golfers could get good golf in short time and on limited areas.

There also was expert discussion about accenting strategy and safety so the long-hitting minority wouldn't be running away with the game.



### PRO SENIORS MERRY AT ROYAL FEAST

Above are a few of the festive 300 who gathered at Clearwater, Fla., for the annual Old Golf Settlers' Reunion at which U. S. Rubber Co. was host and George McCarthy, asst. mgr., of the company's golf ball sales delivered the main address which was: "Welcome, fellows. Enjoy yourselves. This one is on us."

# What Use Can Be Made of Lessons of Experience

By JAMES E. THOMAS

Sup't., Army and Navy Country Club, Arlington, Va.

Experience is regarded as the best and often the costliest teacher. And after the experience many golf course superintendents had last year they will concede that it is the most painful teacher.

The only way we can win is by not having experience teach us the same lesson twice. So what did a brutal season teach us about troubles we might avoid in the future? This subject has been frankly discussed at superintendents' meetings. Unfortunately some highly important answers that we learned can be applied only by order of club officials and demand expenditures that will be economies over a fairly short term of years.

The summer of 1952 in the Baltimore and Washington district was a most trying one for golf courses and tested the skill and alertness of superintendents to the utmost. An excessively wet spring followed by a hot and humid summer caused the loss of grass on many a putting green; some situations were minor while others were quite serious.

Hot weather troubles can be greatly minimized by good management practices and proper construction. At the August meeting of the Mid Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents the troubles of the season came up for much discussion.

One point clearly made was that good construction and design simplifies maintenance. It was shown that in order to create a beautiful and sporty layout very often no thought was given as to what bearing it would have on future maintenance and upkeep. Club officials and superintendents can fall heir to troubles that are not of their own making, yet they are expected to iron them out with great ease and no difficulty.

## Built-in Headaches

Golf organizations usually receive as a finished product a golf course that contains many built-in headaches that could have been avoided during the construction period. Some of these are the placing of greens in pocketed areas that shut

off air currents and sunshine (thus making conditions ideal for fungus attacks); failure to remove trees adjacent to putting surfaces, such as elms, willows, maples, and cottonwoods. Trees having lateral shallow root systems rob greens of moisture and plant food and cause bare and localized hard spots.

The key to 90 per-cent of all summer troubles on a golf course is drainage. A companion to this is the misuse of applied water. If one were to check the areas that came through 1952 successfully he would find that those locations were kept on the dry side, with only enough water being applied to keep the grass in a healthy growing condition.

Many a surface that appears perfect from the ground level contains hidden troubles underneath. Especially is this true when the top soil is impervious to water percolation and contains large amounts of organic matter such as peat or humus. The last two mentioned components are part of a good soil mixture but nine times out of ten their use is overdone. The removal of gravitational water is far more important than its retention.

The fundamentals of good green construction are: 1, a good sub-soil grade; 2, tiling; 3, a proper soil mix; 4, perfect surface drainage; 5, the proper selection of grasses. Sub-surfaces are the foundation for the building, and if weak the structure does not weather the elements very well.

The main requirement of a good sub-grade is that it must be true and level, free of pockets or hollows that could become storage basins for excess water, which serves no good purpose and deprives grass roots of needed oxygen. Plants need air to live and breathe. Without it, they die of suffocation. They can and will not tolerate water-logged soils when temperatures are high.

The next step is to lay an adequate tile system throughout the foundation. If it is to function properly, gravitational

# "AGRICO is ideal for producing good turf"



Green at Lexington Golf Club, Lexington, Mass., and Norman Mucciarone, Supt.



"I have learned in my 3 years' experience with AGRICO COUNTRY CLUB and AGRINITE that they are ideal for producing good turf," says Norman Mucciarone, Superintendent at Lexington Golf Club, Lexington, Mass.

He continues: "Last Fall the club built new greens and I have regularly fed these with Agrico, supplemented with Agrinite. The last Fall application of Agrinite resulted in excellent color and production of turf. I am very well pleased also with A. A. C. Soil Service."

• Order Agrico now — it's America's premier Golf Course Fertilizer. Contains both organic\* and inorganic plant foods. Ask your regular supplier or write to The AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL Co., 50 Church Street, New York 7, N. Y.



\*Organic derived from AGRINITE, the better (over 8% nitrogen) all-organic plant food.

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water must be able to reach the drainage lines. The soil profile needs to contain porous materials, such as sand, sufficient to permit free seepage. The faults of over-drainage are easily corrected; those of insufficient drainage mean reconstruction, or toleration of poor conditions.

A good topsoil for putting greens will more often be a made mixture, rather than a natural one. It needs to be friable and mellow, one that will not compact under hard usage, and which is receptive to the easy entrance and disposal of air and water. Both are necessities.

The actual surface of putting areas should drain in several different directions and hollows and depressions are to be avoided. Gentle undulations are preferable to high sharp mounds that dry out easily. The contouring should provide the maximum amount of cupping space, which is needed where play is heavy. The question of what are the proper grasses to plant mainly depends on the locality involved and on a selection of varieties that do well in the region.

If the above conditions are taken care of properly during the building of a golf course, summer troubles will no longer be the major problem that they are now. Thousands of dollars are added annually to the cost of maintenance because the original job was not done right.

## Members' Cooperation Needed

Club members do not always co-operate with their Green committees and superintendents in the establishment of a satisfactory playing sod and turf. Sometimes the members' views and desires are not consistent with good course operation. They expect to find perfect conditions 24 hours a day for 365 days a year; bad weather is never considered as a part of the picture.

Golfers can often make it difficult for a superintendent to carry out sound maintenance practices. They demand that greens be kept saturated with water so that all of their shots will stick and hold regardless of how played. This excludes air from the soil, causes a shallow root system and also aids the development of compaction. A demand for higher cutting so as to produce a slower playing green speeds up the building of a thatched surface. When this is allowed to occur players, maintenance men and grass plants suffer with each other.

Members will derive a lot more enjoyment from their games throughout the playing season by occasionally tolerating

for a brief period a few inconveniences. This is better than having to stand by and watch the renovation of putting greens for several weeks.

An alert superintendent plans his maintenance schedule in the early months of Spring to avoid anticipated trouble during the hot and humid months of July and August. His first desire is to establish a strong and deep root structure. He does this through aeration, proper fertilization and correct watering practices.

The development of thatch is another danger to be watched. Grass must not be allowed to become nappy or matted. A density of excess grass, stems and roots can become so thick that water, food and air cannot penetrate through the felt-like mass to the earth below. The situation if allowed to exist provides an ideal breeding place for scald, disease, insects, chlorosis and localized hard spots. Should greens enter hot and wet weather in this state trouble is ahead. This matted covering must be removed, then must follow close mowing. The operation needs to be repeated until all signs of fluffiness have disappeared.

## North Cal PGA Sets New Highs in Junior Golf

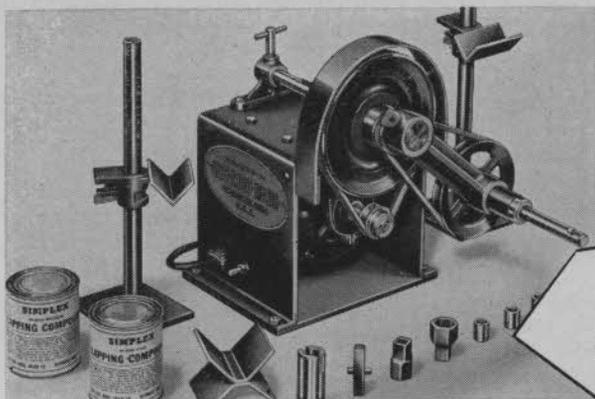
Report of Northern California PGA Junior Golf Promotion committee, headed by Dewey Longworth, Claremont CC, shows that 41 pros in 1952 taught 3,156 pupils. There was an increase over 1951 in PGA members giving free lessons to juniors, number of juniors taught and number of junior tournaments. There were 76 junior events in which pros were moving factors. At 10 colleges and 12 high schools in Northern California juniors received free instruction from PGA members.

The scoring standard and swings showed marked improvement.

New tournaments were added to the junior schedules, among them a pro-junior event. Pros said there's more interest in junior girls' golf than ever before.

The NC PGA report also noted that the Olympic Club's junior program included the election of six juniors to the club. The pros hoped that more clubs would cooperate in the junior campaign by extending limited playing privileges to youngsters.

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Complete with 1/3 H.P. Motor  
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This compact, portable Simplex Lapping Machine will recondition with lapping compound any reel-type hand, power, or gang mower.

Keeps them in top cutting condition between grinding jobs. Just carry the Simplex out to the mower and use it right on the grass! Can

be used on a bench or on the floor too. Couples to either side of a mower. Gang mowers need not be unhitched. Drive shaft is adjustable from 3" to 17" and runs either direction at the flick of a switch. No noisy gears—operation is quiet, simple, dependable. Write today for illustrated, descriptive folder.

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## 1953 TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

### MARCH

- 5-8 —BATON ROUGE (LA.) OPEN,  
12-15—WOMEN'S TITLEHOLDERS GA OPEN, Augusta (Ga.) CC  
12-15—ST. PETERSBURG (FLA.) OPEN  
15 —AMER. SENIORS GA CH., Ponce de Leon GC St. Augustine, Fla.  
16 —LA GORCE PRO-AM., Miami Beach, Fla.  
17-18—SEMINOLE PRO-AM., Palm Beach, Fla.  
18-23—51st WOMEN'S NORTH & SOUTH INV., Pinehurst (N.C.) CC  
20-23—JACKSONVILLE (FLA.) OPEN,  
25 —AIKEN (S. C.) PRO-AM., Aiken, S. C.  
27-29—GREENSBORO (N. C.) OPEN,

### APRIL

- 2-5 —WILMINGTON (N. C.) OPEN,  
3-5 —BABE ZAHARIAS OPEN, Beaumont (Tex.) CC  
9-12 —THE MASTERS, Augusta (Ga.) National CC  
11-12—WOMEN'S TRANS-MISSISSIPPI OPEN, Arizona CC, Phoenix  
14-19—WOMEN'S TRANS-MISSISSIPPI AMATEUR, Arizona CC, Phoenix  
16-19—VIRGINIA BEACH OPEN, Cavalier Yacht & CC, Virginia Beach, Va.  
16-19—CHARLOTTE (N. C.) OPEN,  
20-25—53rd NORTH & SOUTH INV., Pinehurst (N. C.) CC  
23-26—TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS, Desert Inn CC, Las Vegas, Nev.  
29-May 3—2nd PAN AMERICAN OPEN, Club de Golf Mexico, Mexico City

## Greens Condition Sets Course Standard

By LEO VINCENT  
Supt., Omaha (Neb.) Field Club

Usually on a golf course there's more to do than the staff possibly can accomplish with the money available so the superintendent instead of scattering his work too much finds that when he gets the greens in fine condition he and his players are better off than to have the entire course at a medium standard.

We have a severe problem with greens but I think we've got it pretty well licked. We had hard spots that wouldn't take water. Aerifying corrected those and helped get a root system established. I also fertilize when I aerify.

We aerify and top-dress in spring and fall. The top-dressing consists of black earth, horse manure and some peat. The dirt and manure have been conditioned for a couple of years. Our compost machine grinds and loads in one operation. We have a spreader for applying the top-dressing to the greens.

The mechanized operations keep the costs down.

I used ammonia sulphate on the greens to eliminate clover. The bent crowded out the little clover that the chemical treatment left.

Flexi-combs on our fairway mowers stand the crabgrass up for cutting and that has enabled our bluegrass to improve its showing on our fairways.

## COOL SEASON GRASSES

(Continued from page 78)

we know about them, and is such information as we have sufficient to enable us to estimate their value?

### New Strains of Bluegrass and Fescue

Seed of three strains of Kentucky bluegrass is being produced commercially, to at least some extent. These are the Arboretum, the Delta, and the Merion. What do we know about them that would help us to determine whether they are enough better than the common type to warrant recognition? I believe that sufficient records, taken under comparable conditions, are available, to show that both the Arboretum and Delta strains are just as highly susceptible to the leaf spots and other common diseases of Kentucky bluegrass as the parent type. We recognize that disease susceptibility is a major weakness in large sections of the bluegrass growing area. It is extremely doubtful therefore whether any strain which does not show resistance to at least the bad diseases, particularly the leaf spots, should be considered an improved form. Certainly, not unless it has some other characteristics that is so desirable that we can afford to ignore the disease factor. Neither Delta nor Arboretum has shown anything of this nature to date.

Records on the Merion strain are much more extensive than on Delta and Arboretum. So we have an even better basis for judging it. They show that it has a high tolerance to the leaf spots, but susceptibility to dollar spot, rust, and some minor troubles. Common bluegrass is similarly susceptible to most of these latter ailments. So, from the standpoint of disease, the principal difference between Merion and Common is in tolerance to the leaf spots. This is important because of the wide distribution of these diseases and the extent of the damage they cause.

Merion has another outstanding characteristic. It survives hot weather better than common Kentucky blue. This may be due to the fact that it is healthier and more vigorous because it has not been weakened during the early growing season by repeated disease attacks, which also may partially explain its ability to withstand closer clipping. Its low grow-