

or maybe even a lot more from one party or the other to make things work.

But the occasionally unfortunate part is that this imbalance, when it occurs, does seem to be on the part of the club. It could be due to one or a lot of things, but this does seem to be the case in the majority of instances.

It is a hard thing to admit in view of the terrific strides we as superintendents have made recently, but the college graduates coming out of school with a degree in Agronomy are passing us by. Now on top of everything else we have to contend with, we are going to be faced within a few years of having to make our job attractive in some new ways to recruit new people. Not only are we going to have to do this, but so are the clubs. Their attitudes and policies will have to be altered if they are to survive.

Think about these comments and try to find a way or two to make our "unusual" occupation appeal to a young person.

### SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

William J. Blackert, an Agronomy student at the University of Maryland, was awarded a \$500.00 scholarship by the Maryland State Golf Association at the Agronomy Awards Dinner held at the University.

The award received by Blackert is presented annually by the M.S.G.A. to the University of Maryland to promote and encourage the study of Agronomy as it relates to golf courses and to assist young men interested in studying in this field on a professional level, leading to a career as a golf course superintendent.

Blackert is a third year student in the Agronomy program in the University's College of Agriculture and lives in Mt. Airy, Md.

By making this award, the M.S.G.A. is added to the list of organizations which also contribute scholarship funds for similar studies. The other groups are; Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, the United States Golf Association Green Section, and the National Golf Foundation.



Shown above is Irving E. Cantor, Vice President of the Maryland State Golf Association presenting the scholarship sponsored by the Association to William Blackert, Agronomy student at the University of Maryland. Looking on is Dr. H. Palmer Hopkins, Director of Student Aid at the University.

### OLDE TYME CORNER

This month we will take a look at weed control the way it was done in 1906. Again we are quoting from Leonard Barron's book entitled "Lawn Making." In chapter VII entitled "Solving the Weed Problem," Mr. Barron writes thus; "Dandelions may be eradicated from lawns at relatively slight expense and without material injury to the grass by spraying with a solution of iron sulphate. Four or five applications are necessary; the first of May, one or two should follow at intervals of three or four weeks and one or two more in late summer. A conspicuous blackening of the lawn follows each application, but this soon disappears if the grass is in a vigerous and healthy condition. The spray solution is prepared by dissolving 1 lb. of iron sulphate in one gallon of water. This must be prepared in wooden or earthenware vessels as it is highly corrosive to metal."

And on crabgrass control - "rolling with a three thousand pound roller has killed crabgrass in Philadelphia."

Comment: Rolling with a three thousand pound roller will kill most anything. Further on, Mr. Barron's remarks on mole control are ; "moles are not seriously troublesome on well rolled lawns. They will always chose a line of least resistance and a lawn which is kept well rolled presents an entirely too compact mass for Mr. Mole's comfort in travel."

### MYSTIQUE OF MOWING

While the grass may have it easy, those of us who care for it are likely to complain that we have too much

### Team up with ARMOUR for a championship course

For Professional Turf, look to Armour for a complete line of golf course fertilizers and turf protection products: Vertagreen Tee-Green, Tournament, Vertanite, and Vertagard Turf Protection Products team up to put your course in championship form. Every product recommended as part of the Professional Turf Program is made especially for golf turf. Every product is backed by Armour research and the services of your experienced Armour representative. He's a "pro" when it comes to turf.



ARMOUR AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL COMPANY  
P.O. BOX 1685 • ATLANTA, GA. 30301

to do. Well, it used to be worse. We should consider with thanks the improvements on the art of mowing that have taken place in a little over a century.

Lawns have been used in garden design for several centuries, with the greensward first consisting of meadow and pasture land. With the popularity of lawn bowling in England in the 1600's, fine lawns came into existence. And along with them came tedious maintenance methods. Sharp scythes were used to cut the large lawns and brooms made from twigs were used to sweep up the clippings left on the lawn. Large heavy rollers of wood, stone, and iron helped to smooth the lawn surface.

And even the "scented lawns" - fragrant lavender and aromatic mint - which became fashionable in the late 17th century, needed to be cut short.

We might still be maintaining our lawns with the frequent use of scythes if it weren't for Edwin Budding of Gloucestershire, who used his imagination in 1830. Mr. Budding was an engineer in a textile factory in England. After carefully observing a machine used to shear nap off cloth, he used this principle as a basis for his invention of the first machine to cut grass.

J.R. & A. Ransome, the British manufacturing company that made Budding's lawn mower, is still in business, but the name has changed to Ransomes Sims and Jefferies, Ltd. In Ipswich, England, the company's historian has documents describing their first mower. The original machine had a cylinder in which spiral knives were fixed and a horizontal bottom blade against which they worked. The cylinder was made to rotate by gearing driven from a large roller at the back of the machine; there was a front roller that could be raised or lowered to adjust the height of cut. Chain drive was anticipated by Budding and was included in his patent.

One advertisement for the new Grass-Cutting Machine emphasized that "persons unpracticed in the Art of Mowing may cut Grass on Lawns, Pleasure

Grounds and Bowling Greens, with ease...while the expence of Mowing is considerably lessened, as more than double the work may be done with the same labour that is requisite with the scythe."

Even the imaginative Mr. Budding would be amazed and delighted to see the rotary and reel, gas and electric, self propelled and riding models that are sold in every city today.

Phyllis Keeney in Home Garden - March 1969

Published monthly by the Mid-Atlantic Association of Golf Course Superintendents to aid in the advancement of the golf course superintendent through education and merit.

Telephone 703-451-6619

Denny McCammon  
Springfield Golf and Country Club  
Editor-Director -----703-451-6619

Sam Kessel  
Country Club of Fairfax  
Virginia Editor -----703-273-7094  
or 703-385-9340

Dick Silvar  
Baltimore Country Club  
Baltimore Metro Editor - 301-252-0110  
or 301-252-4498

Dave Fairbank  
Lakewood Country Club  
D.C. and Suburban Md. Editor - 301-762-0570  
or 301-946-3159

Above are the names, addresses, and phone numbers of the area editors. For contributions or information, contact the person covering your area.

## MID-ATLANTIC News Letter

8301 KEENE MILL ROAD  
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22150

