

contacted, along with the name of the club. This information will be sent at once to all class AA, A & B Superintendents in the section. Interested members will correspond with the club officer. The club, in turn, may inquire into the association for verification of classification and attendance at educational meetings.

It is the duty of all members of the Mid-Atlantic GCSA to pass this information to Bob Miller; the membership chairman, or Ed Dembnicki; the secretary, to make this system work. If the system is short-cut the club is short-changed by not having a field of candidates from which to choose, or the benefit of the association's classification. They may not get a professional turfgrass man at all. Superintendents chosen not through the system may be hesitant to join or be active in the local association. It is, therefore, important that the system function and provide a healthy and competitive service to both our members and the clubs.

One other aid is forthcoming, in that we plan to assist our members with standard contract forms. Anyone with suggestions on contracts please pass them to a director, or plan to attend the next directors meeting when this will be considered.

This article is intended to be a guideline to employers and to provide information to our members as to the processing of inquiries. The board of directors will not make personal recommendations.

Robert Milligan

## REWARD

WANTED: A seal or emblem for the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association. Draft, sketch, trace or photograph your ideas and submit them to Lee Dieter. The winner will be chosen by the directors by a majority vote at the next directors meeting.

## OLDE TYME CORNER

Here are some more thrilling excerpts from Leonard Barron's book "Lawnmaking." Once again, please keep in mind that this book was copyrighted in 1906 and these ideas are 63 years old.

This month we will look at an item of concern to all of us, brought out at the meeting at Indian Spring on the 4th of March. The topic is closing greens in inclement weather.

From Chapter XIII, "The Peculiar Requirements of Putting Greens", Mr; Walter J. Travis, well known world's golf champion, writes thus: Another thing: do not under any circumstances, keep players off the regular greens at any time. The more they are played on, the

better, irrespective of time or weather conditions. Play on them day in and day out, the year round. They will be improved by it, although it is hard to believe this when the frost is coming out of the ground and deep heel marks are left by the players. Rolling will correct this.

Comment: No wonder there is static on some supers at some of the older clubs with information like this having been printed.

## THE LOGICAL CHOICE

Golf course superintendents everywhere are turning to Borden Greens & Fairways Turf Care Products.



- Greens & Fairways 45 (30-5-10)
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- Greens & Fairways Turfgrass Food (16-5-11)

For prices and name of nearest distributor, write BORDEN INC / Chemical Division, Turf Products, Box G, Columbus, Ohio 43203. Contact: G.W. "Junior" Ruckman, Jr. - 2407 Lewisdale Drive Hyattsville, Md. 20783 - Phone (301) 422-9075

## Arnold Palmer on Vertagreen

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CONVENIENCE OF APPLICATION

And from Chapter IV, "Which is Better - Turf or Seed?" "Sods are generally cut for convenience's sake three feet long and one foot wide, and in quantity can usually be bought at fifty cents, or less, a turf. I know of one man who has developed the regular business of growing sod for sale. His trade is in a city that is famous for its well kept gardens. He uses only the highest grade lawn mixture for raising his crop which is given careful attention from first to last and he gets thirty cents per square foot, thus realizing a profit of between five and six hundred dollars per acre every three years. No turfs are cut and sold under that age. This is necessary, in fact, because the Kentucky bluegrass will not have made proper growth before this time.

Comment: All sod growers please note these prices. Could you show a better profit with them?

Next month - an exciting look at weed control and rolling. Can't wait? Well, you'll have to control yourselves until then.

#### FROM THE EDITOR

A problem was brought out at the last board meeting concerning employment referrals in our profession. It seems that here just recently the National has not had any job openings going through their referral service. Not only that, however, but several local associations have reported the same situation. This is a bad predicament to let ourselves get into and some immediate action should be initiated to correct this. The place to start, naturally, is with the club itself. As soon as a vacancy comes open for a superintendent, for whatever reason, the local should be there to get the information about the job. For if the club obtains a qualified replacement, (qualified stressed), then the association and the club make out better all the way around.

The problem that both locals and clubs are getting into, if they don't follow this method is that the club may get a man from an outside source independent of the local to do the job. His wage will probably be below the area average but probably equal to his ability and the wage average in the local is dropped because of this fellow. Then in a few years, if he lasts that long, the

man is released and we find the same procedure repeated again.

If the local is contacted and no applicants are available, then the National should be notified as to the position being open. They will then send the interviewing club a form to fill out concerning the necessary information about the operation and superintendents looking for openings will receive a copy of this information.

So club officials and superintendents, take note! You'll be doing yourselves, your club, and everyone concerned a great favor if you handle this situation, should it present itself, in this way.

#### AN OPINION

The following is in reply to an appeal to an editorial in the January Newsletter asking for opinions and ideas from the members. These are the writers' opinions and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the group as a whole. The letter was written by Jim Smith, golf course superintendent at Argyle Country Club.

"I would like to say now that I think it is time that the Association started to make a change in its theme from "what a superintendent can do for the country club" to "what a country club can do for the superintendent." Also, I would like to see the organization take a stand against some of its' own members who undermine the superintendent, calling themselves an advisor or a consultant.

As an example I shall use my own experience at the I.M.F.'s Bretton Woods Club. After my yearly physical, my doctor informed me that I had suffered a mild heart attack during the past year. This has prompted me to relate my experiences to you. In November of 1967, a meeting was held consisting of the golf course architect, a committee of I.M.F. people and myself. At this time a firm decision was made that the course would be open for play on May 30, 1968. Water and sewer lines had to be put in yet and I volunteered to do both these jobs with my golf course crew so they could work through the winter. Although this was only November, no permits were on the job. Finally, in February sewer permits were issued and it was't until April that water permits were obtained. Needless to say, with all the problems that went with all this, the problem of being ready to open in just seven more weeks was also at the door. The severe winter also took its' toll at the club, with dessication on both greens and tees. A decision was made at that time to sod both these areas so we could go ahead on schedule and open on time. The course did open on May 30 and golf was played. But soon after opening, a sudden decision was made that a golf course consultant was needed. This consultant decided that I could not fill a sand trap