

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