# From The Viewpoint Of Local Associations

What District Associations of Greenkeepers are Doing

## Mid-West Greenkeepers Association

September 6th, Ridgewood Country Club

THE minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

The question of Demonstration Day was put before the committee and it was decided to hold it next spring.



(Photograph received from George A. Davis, Inc., Chicago) C. A. Mills and his gang at Tam O'Shanter Country Club, Chicago, where the Mid-West Association held their greenkeeper's tournament on Sept. 26.

After a trip around the course, the members attended luncheon served by the club.

The course was very dry throughout the fairway due to the long dry spells this season. Otherwise, the course was in excellent shape.

The question of the greenkeepers' tournament was put before the committee and it was decided to hold same September 26 at Tam O'Shanter Country Club. There will be some valuable prizes donated by the manufacturers and various seed houses of the district.

The meeting then was adjourned and a trip to Twin Orchards Country Club was made. A number of the greenkeepers decided that the greens on this course were as fine as any in the district.

> Respectfully submitted Edward B. Dearie, Jr., Sec.

#### Cleveland Dist. Assoc. of Greenkeepers,

#### (Annual Meeting), October 10

THE annual gathering at Westwood Country Club on October 10 was a lively one, filled with discussions of fertilization, brown-patch, Poa annua and other subjects of interest.

At eleven o'clock the group started on an inspection of the Westwood course, which is one of great natural beauty. The turf has been consistently good all summer, and the growth on some of the bent greens so thick that rubbing in compost is an impossibility. Mr. Fred Burkhardt, in charge of the course, advised the members that he has used compost only twice this season, early in the spring and again about October first.

Luncheon was served to twenty-eight at one o'clock, and the regular meeting was held immediately thereafter. President John Morley opened the meeting with a short talk covering the history of the local association, and the possibilities of the future. He recalled the first organization meeting which was held at Westwood Club four years ago, during the time that Mr. Robert E. Power served as chairman of the Westwood Green Committee, and expressed his appreciation of the loyal support Mr. Power has given the Cleveland district greenkeepers and the National Association. In concluding, Mr. Morley urged that a committee of five be appointed by the new officers to serve in an advisory capacity free of charge upon any call for assistance received from a district club.

Mr. Morley then introduced Mr. Lyman Carrier, the speaker of the afternoon, who responded with a comprehensive talk on the fertilization of golf turf. From his many years of experience as an agronomist in the Department of Agriculture, and his work in connection with the U. S. G. A. Green Section, Mr. Carrier brought to this meeting a fund of knowledge which drew many questions at the close of his talk. He expressed the opinion that too frequent top dressings containing partially decayed organic matter are largely responsible for the onslaught of brown-patch.

After a somewhat lengthy discussion, it was found to be the concensus of opinion among those present that sulphate of ammonia and bi-chloride of mercury should not be applied at the same time to golf greens. This subject was taken up at one of the early spring meetings this year, and members have been paying particular attention to the reaction of these two chemicals on putting greens, when applied in mixture. It was agreed that

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Some of the members of the Cleveland District Association of Greenkeepers snapped at Westwood Club, Oct. 10.



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such combined applications have a tendency to check the growth of the grass for several days thereafter, which was noted by the much smaller amount of clippings in evidence after mowing. In his investigations, Mr. Stanley Aldrich, greenkeeper at Madison Golf Lakelands, made five applications of corrosive sublimate combined with sulphate of ammonia this season, and the results after each application showed a decided slackening of growth.

Late in the afternoon the elective meeting was held. Fred Burkhardt, Westwood Country Club, was elected president, succeeding Mr. Morley. B. G. Sheldin of the Country Club accepted the vice-presidency, and Frank Ermer of Ridgewood Golf Club, was elected secretarytreasurer.

Mr. Burkhardt announced that the new Advisory committee will be appointed at the first indoor meeting, to be held at the Hotel Winton the afternoon of November 14.

## A B C of Turf Culture

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sulphate of ammonia. This can be determined only by trial.

### Nitrate Containing Nitrogen Fertilizers

NITRATE OF SODA-This material is also called Chile saltpeter. It is obtained from large deposits in Chile and contains about 15.5 percent nitrogen, equivalent to nineteen percent ammonia.

Nitrate of soda is water soluble and very quick acting. When too large applications are made it burns the turf. Unlike sulphate of ammonia it is never held by the soil, but leaches away in the drainage waters unless taken up by the turf.

The continued use of nitrate of soda encourages the growth of undesirable grasses and weeds. It has a tendency to make the soil less acid, and when used repeatedly may eventually produce a bad physical condition on heavy soils.

Because nitrate nitrogen is the form preferred by most plants, early spring applications of nitrate of soda frequently show quicker results than any other nitrogenous material if the weather remains cool. All experimental results on turf seem to indicate that nitrate of soda should not be used regularly as the main source of nitrogen.

## Phosphoric Acid Containing Fertilizers

BONE MEALS-As previously stated bone meal contains from 22 to 27 percent phosphoric acid. They are all slowly available because none of the phosphoric acid is water soluble. Due to the high lime content they make the soil less acid and encourage clover. Because of the slow action, high cost and tendency to encourage clover it is probable that very little bone meal will be used on golf courses in the future.

ACID PHOSPHATES-The acid phosphates are made by treating rock phosphates (mined in Florida, Tennessee and the Carolinas) with sulphuric acid. They can be obtained in at least three grades containing 16.20 and 44 percent phosphoric acid. Generally the higher the content of phosphoric acid the lower the cost per pound of phosphoric acid.

The treatment with acid converts the insoluble rock phosphate into soluble acid phosphate, and hence this is the most readily available phosphate fertilizer obtainable. When added to the soil the soluble phosphoric acid is precipitated as very finely divided calcium or iron phosphate. In this condition it dissolves rapidly in the soil solution when the turf roots make heavy demands. Phosphoric acid does not leach from the soil.

The name acid phosphate is a misnomer, because it refers to the process of manufacture and not its effect upon soil reaction. Acid phosphates have a slight tendency to make soil less acid due to liberation of calcium (lime) when the phosphoric acid unites with the iron always present in acid soils.

Acid phosphate should not be used in larger quantities