Prince Edward Island Bent

By LEWIS M. EVANS, Greenkeeper Cedarbrook Country Club, Philadelphia, Pa.



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THE year 1928 surely brought its cares and worries and as it draws to a close one hesitates to even think of grass, let alone write about it. But the particular strain I am going to discuss stuck with me during those trying days of the brown patch period and I feel

that this is the proper time to give credit to a hearty strain of the bent family.

About three years ago on the advice of four of the members of the club we started to use Prince Edward Island bent seed and we were immediately impressed with the general character of the grass, its beautiful dark green color, and I can now add its resisting qualities against brown patch. I planted a garden of twenty-five hundred square feet and it was here that I had my real opportunity to study its great qualities that prompts the writing of this article.

Prince Edward Island bent is not a creeper but each blade stands upright and that prevents that matted, tangled condition so common to many of the strains. In spite of the fact that we have cut thousands of plugs from this garden and put in our greens to replace clover, and that these plug holes covered over in the garden I still insist that it is not a creeper, but that it makes new growth from the roots and not from runners above ground. This past season I saw but three spots of large brown patch in this garden and that speaks volumes for any turf in the Philadelphia district this year.

Mr. Donald Ross the well-known golf course architect and friend of the greenkeeper has been making some changes on the course here and as I have walked around with him on the course we always stopped at this garden and he admired and complimented this beautiful Canadian bent.

I recently vegetated a new green and grass garden from stolons purchased from a fellow member of the National association, Mr. Hiram Godwin of Redford, Mich., and to date they are doing fine, so 1929 will furnish the opportunity to compare the true qualities of these two beautiful, but different strains of bent. I have not taken the liberty to call the Godwin strain by any particular name as I feel I would do it an injustice, but having heard of the care used in its selection I think it justly deserves the name "Godwin Selected." My sincere hope is that I may have the opportunity to write an article in 1929 telling of good qualities.

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