

How We Nursed Our Golf Courses

Letters from members of the National Association of Golf Clubs on
preserving turf under extremely hot and arid conditions

Winnipeg Has Watering System

THE construction boss and gang have just left our new 9-hole course. I was going to say finished it but as the fraternity know this is impossible. I can assure you there is plenty to do when the spring comes.

We have had wonderful results in the seeding of the fairways obtaining a good catch of grass throughout and very little seeding will be required in the spring. We put onto the acre one hundred and fifty pounds, twenty-five per cent, red top, twenty-five, fescue and fifty Kentucky blue grass.

With the greens too, we have good results. A uniform catch throughout of Detroit-Washington Bent which was imported by our club when I came here three seasons ago and which has given wonderful results on the old course. The seeding on our new course was watered by thirty Buckner Rotary sprinkler (five to a man), and forty-five hundred feet of one-inch hose.

On our old course no trouble has been experienced in keeping up our greens and fairways and tees, all having been in splendid shape also uniform in character. They are systematically watered every morning for one hour by hand with a one-inch hose. A sprinkler is placed on the tee while the green is being watered.

FAIRWAYS ARE WATERED

OUR fairways are systematically watered once a week (unless it rains), with the Serpentine sprinklers of which we have five. To these I have

attached a reducer from one and one-half to three-quarter inch. To this reducer is attached fifty feet of three-quarter-inch hose and a sprinkler; our fairways being wide this is moved from place to place on the edge of the fairway where it would otherwise be burnt out.

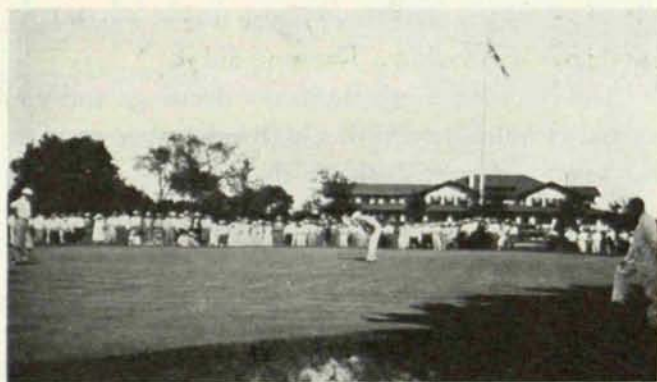
Regular feeding, watering, topdressing, fertilizing and fungus treatment I attribute to the betterment of our course which has been pronounced by visitors from all over the United States, England, etc., as being in excellent shape and a delight to play on. Compliments were received continuously during the Manitoba Amateur Championship which was played here this year.

For our water system we have pumps which gives us one thousand gallons per minute at one hundred pound pressure. The whole of the Assiniboine River to draw from one hundred and fifty yards wide which partially surrounds one course in the horseshoe shape.

I was pleased to read that Herb Shave at Oakland Hills, at last got a fairway watering system. He is the man who taught me how to grow grass and I can just fancy I see him at the fairway watering system.

We surely had a very dry season here as well as elsewhere and one has to be on the go all the time but never mind we will soon be having thirty to forty degrees below zero down here and then grass won't or should not worry us.

I believe it is just as important to do things regularly and work to a system in greenkeeping as it is



NUMBER NINE GREEN AT THE ST. CHARLES C. C.

This is one of Winnipeg's outstanding courses where many championships have been played



VIEW OF THE BENT NURSERY AT ST. CHARLES

This nursery consists of about two acres of Washington Bent and is the pride of the greenkeeper, A. W. Creed

Through The Past Summer's Drought

greenkeepers of America describing ways and means of
d conditions. Fairway watering is coming.

in business. Grass is like humanity—it demands service. But it doesn't always get it, and then it falls down on us and we fail too.

Greetings to the fraternity down east. Hope to see all of you at Columbus.

A. W. CREED, *Greenkeeper*,
St. Charles Country Club, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
Canada.

Oakwood Has Been Fortunate

OAKWOOD Club, Cleveland Heights, is situated in the humid-arid region. This year I fear we shall be classified as semi-arid so far as our rainfall measures to date. However, as most years average pretty much the same we may expect much liquid refreshment ere the year is out.

Our greens and tees we have kept in good condition through night watering. Having no equipment for fairway watering prayer was our only recourse and while not altogether successful in our appeal yet we have much to be thankful for.

Having a heavy clay soil which holds the film water to a greater degree than lighter soils, plus the fact that when thoroughly established in clay soil grass is deep-rooted and vigorous, we have practically no dead grass on our fairways.

Knowing that clay soil cracks with continuous dry weather causing a further loss of water by admittance of air, I was considerably surprised to find practically no cracking of the ground, which I credit to good drainage installed some five years ago. Prior to that date after a few weeks of drought cracks sufficiently large to insert one's fingers were common.

From this year's drought we learn a lesson as to the resisting power of the various grasses. Personally I find the velvet bent, of which we have many patches throughout the fairways, the first to show signs of distress. I also find it does not respond to slight showers as quickly as, say, fescue.

Another point we have to bear in mind is that while in past years the rainfall, while much heavier, has frequently not been evenly distributed—that is we have a surplus in the form of thunder showers, and while credited with a certain number of inches

of rainfall in a given time we have not benefited to the extent of less rainfall when more evenly and frequently distributed.

However, should our golf clubs desire to avoid a repetition of baked fairways, with the resultant sole blisters, we greenkeepers will be only too glad to install a sprinkling system when they so desire.

CHRISTOPHER BAIN, *Greenkeeper*,
Oakwood Country Club, Cleveland Heights, O.

Bunker Wants To Know

I HAVE a question I wish someone would answer. Do greens become immune to brown patch? I have nine greens six years old and a new nine two years old. I have had brown patch on the new nine just ten times and in the old nine twice and not bad then. Do greens become immune (they are all Washington) from the same sod.

I cannot understand how our greens stood up

Fall Seeding Recommended

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