

whole one can get just as good a game of golf now on the Pacific coast as he could before the Hoover administration. Only the most observant players notice that the rough is untrimmed and that the trees and shrubs may not have been pruned.

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However, the groundsmen themselves, have not been so fortunate as their immediate superiors in regard to employment, but their conditions have not been too difficult on many courses. Greenkeepers, on receiving orders to cut down the grounds crew by one or two men, have deliberately disobeyed orders and have pro-rated the discharge among the whole crew over a period of one year.

Thus a greenkeeper instead of firing two men outright as ordered will give two of his men a week's vacation without pay. The following week these two return and two more take their place. Thus unbearable hardship is inflicted on no one.

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Professor R. L. Webster, head of the Washington State college department of zoology, has been conducting a research study pertaining to the cutworm and his habits. Although this work was carried on primarily for the benefit of the farmers of Washington, his remarks are of interest to greenkeepers because cutworms have a harmful habit of nesting in bent grass nurseries.

"Cutworms do not 'swell up and bust' as stated in some quarters," declares the Washington zoologist, "nor does the hot weather kill them. They merely complete their usual development in a normal manner when they cease operations on crops in the early summer. Hot weather may accelerate the growth of the pest but it does not kill it.

"The eggs from which the cutworms hatch are laid by the parent moth sometime in late summer and usually in grasses. The young hatch in the fall and begin feeding at once, going into the winter only partly grown, consequently they greet the spring with enormous appetites.

"Cutworms feed mostly at night, hiding all day in the soil within an inch or so of the plants they attack. They mature in June, transform to the intermediate pupa stage in the ground, and the adult moth later emerges from this pupa. Most cutworms have but one generation during a season."

Professor Webster recommends the following poison bran mixture for the checking of cutworms:

Bran—1 quart.

Paris green—1 teaspoonful.

Molasses—1 tablespoonful.

Water sufficient to moisten the bran.

Mix the Paris green and bran thoroughly, then add the molasses dissolved in water, stirring until the bran becomes barely moist throughout. The scientist intends

What They Say About—



10-6-4 TURF BUILDER

"We used Turf Builder on our greens last year and are using it again this year. Our experience has proved that Turf Builder is the ideal fertilizer for

holding up color and developing healthy turf," writes Frank Balding, Greenkeeper at Sunnyside Golf Club, Decatur, Illinois.

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this mixture for use in gardens, but there seems to be no reason why it could not be used between the rows and around the borders of bent nurseries.

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Again the ever-popular topic of California weather comes up for consideration. In March, southern greenkeeper were loudly lamenting the fact that they had not had their quota of rain for the season and could not even hope for more because it was too late in the year.

But they did not know California weather; nobody does; that's why it is always "unusual." More rain came, bringing the total to near normal. What is more, there has been no scorching heat so far this season and the skies on a large percentage of the days have been beautifully overcast, thus eking out the ground moisture.

Nobody knows what it is going to do in the Golden State until it happens. Every year the oceanographers, the Indians, the old-timers, the astronomers, and the men with sensitive corns have a merry time deciding what the weather will do, and usually all of them are made to look ridiculous.

## Mid-West Notes

By A. L. BRANDON, *Secretary*

REGULAR June meeting will be held Monday, June 29th at the Biltmore Country Club, Barrington, Illinois. Mr. Henry Wiest is the greenkeeper at Biltmore.

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Quite a group of the boys made the trek to the Chikaming Country Club at Lakeside, Michigan, for the May meeting. Some of the boys covered a distance of nearly two hundred miles to attend this meet. All agreed that the trip was very worth-while and Mr. Buller proved a most excellent host.

The Chicago district has been enjoying periodic rains plus warm weather which is keeping the cutting units plenty busy. The deficiency in rainfall at the present writing is only .47 of an inch.