

bership high, and to attract visiting players, so that the combined club dues and green fees will furnish sufficient funds to properly maintain the course—a sort of a dog chasing his tail affair.

GREEN GRASS IS MOST ESSENTIAL

THE most essential part of a golf course is the grass—*green* grass. The chairman and greenkeeper must never lose sight of the fact that grass is a *living* thing. Unlike machinery it *grows* instead of *revolves*; it is animated and needs food and rest. This grass is usually being forced to live under very abnormal conditions. It is frequently clipped, over-stimulated, and abused in many other ways.

The fact that grass lives and dies, very greatly affects the cost and result of turf maintenance, and should arouse the human instincts of the Green chairman and greenkeeper when they are considering the purchase of any new cutting equipment or a change in the turf's diet.

Turf culture is being materially aided by scientific research and as such research progresses more assistance will be obtained from the scientists. The knowledge thus gained from scientific research is bound to effect the costs and results of turf maintenance and theoretically, science should have the greatest effect of all factors.

Practically there are two other factors which have effects equal to that of science upon the costs and results of turf maintenance. These factors are: first, the Green chairman, and second, the greenkeeper. These men have full control over the application of the scientific findings. Failure by either man to properly interpret and use scientific prin-

ciples is sure to lessen the effectiveness of science and can often cause serious damage to the turf.

A greenkeeping friend of mine applied ammonium sulphate at the rate of 15 pounds per 1000 square feet because he thought that if five pounds (the amount recommended) was good, fifteen would be excellent. Was science responsible for the resultant burn, or friend greenkeeper?

CLUBS MUST STUDY FACTS

THUS it appears to the writer that in this year of budget-cutting and cost-saving ideas in the business of golf turf maintenance, we had better understand the practical facts as they exist. Without knowledge of the existing facts that are fundamental in governing the costs and results of turf maintenance it will be unwise for any golf club to try to keep the pace being set by machinery and fertilizers.

The facts are: 1. Business competition has caused chairmen and greenkeepers to focus their attention on commercial products beyond the point of practical application.

2. A reasonably good golf course is necessary to a golf club and its terrain, soil, and physical features are endowments either good or bad.

3. Grass is the most essential part of a golf course and grass is animated.

4. Science is effective only to the use made of it.

5. The Green chairman and greenkeeper having control over the application of science are equally important with science.

To be continued in April



Meet Jno. Anderson - - New N. A. G. A. Director

I came to the United States ten years ago, after being connected with golf clubs, both in Scotland and England for twenty years. I took over Ludlow Country Club, Springfield, Massachusetts, which was under construction, staying there four years as greenkeeper.

From the Massachusetts club I went to Hazelton Country Club, Hazelton, Pennsylvania, then to Crestmont Golf Club, West Orange, New Jersey. I have been in charge here now for five years.

This course was new and unknown then, but in five years, it has advanced so far that it is to be the scene of three Major Tournaments this year—the Metropolitan Open Championship in July, the New Jersey State Open and the Women's Open in August.

I often compare the greenkeeper's job in the United States with his fellowman in Scotland, for instance, and find that the American greenkeeper has the more strenuous job. With weather conditions so variable, and changes so rapid, his nerves and skill are taxed to a greater extent than his European confederate.

JOHN ANDERSON.