

# Executive Committee Meets

By JOHN MORLEY, *President*  
National Association of Greenkeepers of America

WE ARE now approaching the time for our Third Annual Conference, Golf Show and Convention, which will convene at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, New York, February 13-16. It is gratifying to report that from all appearances it will surpass anything that has previously taken place. We will in the next issue of the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER outline more fully final details as to the names of the various speakers and the subjects they will present at the time of the Convention.

On Sunday and Monday, October 28-29, the executive committee in conjunction with the committee on the Golf Show, as well as the officials of the Greenkeepers Association of Western New York, met at Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y., and from reports received it shows that all indications point to one of the largest gatherings of greenkeepers, chairmen of Green committees and others interested in golf course maintenance, that has ever been held in the United States.

The two-day conference to be addressed by able speakers who will discuss problems both from a practical as well as theoretical standpoint, should be the means of bringing a large representation to these meetings. The Golf Show which will be staged on the floor of the beautiful ball room and foyer

of the Hotel Statler will present an attractive appearance, practically showing and demonstrating every piece of machinery and all kinds of supplies used on a golf course.

The annual N. A. G. A. convention which will be held on Saturday, will draw together the largest representation of the leading greenkeepers of the United States and Canada. The fact of the city of Buffalo being situated close to the border of the Dominion of Canada, will draw a large gathering, especially from the provinces of Ontario and Quebec. Everything possible is being done to make this occasion one long to be remembered in the four days devoted to the interests of golf. Arrangements are under way to secure special rates on all railroads entering Buffalo. Bring your Green committee chairman along with you so he can see and observe the latest improvements pertaining to the general welfare of a golf course.

On Sunday afternoon the officers of the executive committee were guests of the Western New York Greenkeepers Association, at a well attended gathering. After the regular routine of business was disposed of brief addresses were made by the officers of the National Association, as well as officers of the local association. During the meeting we were honored by the presence

## U. S. G. A. Head Made Honorary Member



MELVIN A. TRAYLOR OF CHICAGO

Honored by the National Association of Greenkeepers of America at the Executive committee meeting at Buffalo, Oct. 29. Mr. Traylor is president of the United States Golf Assn., president of the First National Bank of Chicago, member of the Glenview club and a staunch friend of the greenkeeper

of Mr. Ganson Depew, president of the Buffalo District Golf Association, who stated that the association would assist us in helping to make the Conference, Golf Show and Convention a success.

SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED

**R**OBERT HENDERSON, Al Schardt and Frank Nichols, officials of the local greenkeepers association, will have full charge of entertaining the greenkeepers and their guests while in the city of Buffalo. At this time it was planned to hold the banquet on Thursday evening of Convention week. On Friday there will be a midnight show and smoker at the Golf Show. Talent from the leading theatres of Buffalo will be secured, as well as from the rank and file of our members. This will be a gala night for all and no greenkeeper or his guest should miss it. This will be exclusively a stag affair.

Last, but not least the entertainment committee is not going to forget the ladies and members of the organization known as the Wives of National Greenkeepers of America. One of the features of entertainment outlined



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for them will be a trip to Niagara Falls to see this wonderful work of Nature in the middle of February, which is magnificent, especially the ice bridge which is usually formed around that time.

Among other items of interest which transpired during the executive committee meeting was the report of Emil Loeffler, chairman of the committee on Finance, which showed the association to be in a good flourishing condition. A great many membership applications were acted upon and, with a few exceptions which were referred to a special committee for further consideration, were admitted to membership.

The following greenkeepers were appointed to act as a committee on membership,—John Pressler, Sewickley, Pa., G. F. Jacobs and John Quail of Pittsburgh, Pa. It was also recommended that wherever there is a local association that applicants for membership be referred to these associations whenever possible.

Report of the committee consisting of Emil Loeffler, John McNamara and John Quail,

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pertaining to report of committee on incorporation was approved.

A preliminary report by Fred Burkhardt, chairman of committee on the Golf Show, was presented and all recommendations as presented were approved.

We are pleased to state that the leading manufacturers and dealers in golf maintenance are supporting the Golf Show, which is very evident from the fact that among them the following have secured space:

Toro Manufacturing Company, Minneapolis, Minn.; Ideal Power Lawn Mower Company, Lansing, Mich.; Worthington Mower Company, Stroudsburg, Pa.; Toro Associates, Cleveland, New York and Philadelphia; Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Works, Philadelphia, Pa.; Jacobsen Manufacturing Company, Racine, Wisconsin; Stumpp & Walter Company, New York City, N. Y.; Sherwin-Williams Company, Cleveland, Ohio; Buckner Manufacturing Company, Fresno, California; J. Oliver Johnson, Inc., Chicago, Illinois; Hyper-Humus Company, Newton, New Jersey; Ly-

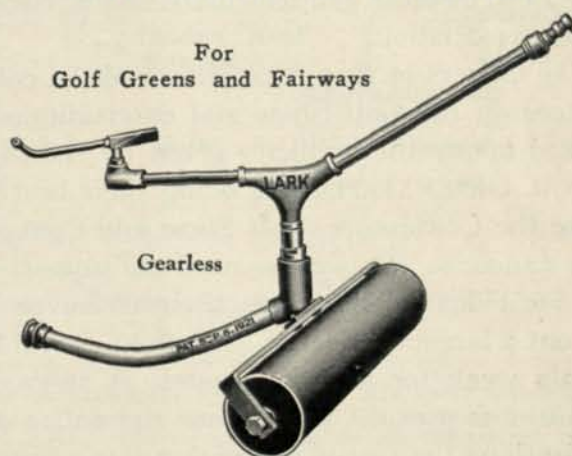
man Carrier, Inc., Granger, Indiana; John Bean Manufacturing Company, Lansing, Michigan; L. R. Nelson Manufacturing Company, Peoria, Illinois; E. G. Staude Mak-A-Tractor Company, St. Paul, Minn.; Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Philadelphia Lawn Mower Company, Philadelphia, Pa.; Hardie Manufacturing Company, Hudson, Michigan; Roseman Tractor Mower Company, Evanston, Illinois; L. J. Reade Manufacturing Company, Jersey City, New Jersey; Fate-Root-Heath Company, Plymouth, Ohio; Grasselli Chemical Company, Cleveland, Ohio; Whitney-Eckstein Seed Company, Buffalo, New York; Friend Manufacturing Company, Gasport, New York.

#### TRAYLOR IS HONORED

ONE of the most pleasing acts of the executive committee was upon recommendation of second vice-president, John MacGregor that we confer upon Mr. Melvin A. Traylor, President of the United States Golf Association, the degree of honorary member of the National Association of Greenkeepers of America. This makes the second time our as-

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sociation has conferred this honor—the first being to Mr. W. C. Fownes, Jr., of Oakmont, Pa. Both of these gentlemen are warm friends of our association.

The officers of this association and the committees on the Golf Show and entertainment, backed up by the publicity given by the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, are doing their best to make the Conference, Golf Show and Convention a success. But we also need the support of the individual members in their endeavor to get out a large attendance at Buffalo. It will be a gala week for all who attend. A spirit of helpfulness prevails throughout the entire organization. Let us not forget that it is a brotherhood founded upon unselfishness, a fraternity cemented by bonds of common interest which will strengthen with the years. It has previously been stated that the profession of greenkeeping is coming into its own in establishing this organization along the lines of Education, Fraternity and Protection.

The National Association of Greenkeepers of America is doing a great work, not only for member greenkeepers, but for every individual

golfer of America. Many of the older greenkeepers of the United States and Canada have established noted reputations which have been made without the support of any great amount of publicity. Now that we have a magazine, the NATIONAL GREENKEEPER, we are able to report methods of notably successful greenkeepers, which are described for the benefit of other members. We must not forget what any one man has done and done well is worthy of the recognition and appreciation of others who are aiming at the same target.

### HELP THE YOUNG GREENKEEPER

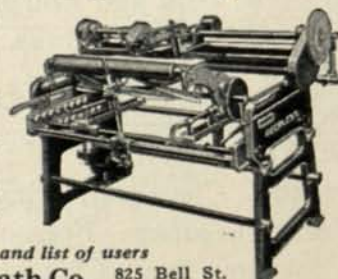
**A**LL over the country there are young greenkeepers, some well established in greenkeeping work and others who are learning how to properly maintain golf courses. These men are in the process of perfecting their knowledge of greenkeeping. We are looking forward to the time when these young greenkeepers will be heard from and what they are accomplishing is of the greatest interest to all members of the association. The National organization established by experienced greenkeepers for the benefit of all men in the profession, forms a solid foundation upon which young members may build their future.

If you approve of the methods which we are doing in behalf of the welfare of your profession, if you want us to advance the art and science of greenkeeping to a position where it rightfully belongs, there will be no better way for you to show your approval and best wishes than by your presence at the Conference, Golf Show and Convention next February at the Hotel Statler, Buffalo, N. Y.

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# Brown Patch From Compost

By FRED A. BURKHARDT, *Greenkeeper, Westwood Country Club, Cleveland*

**T**HIS year seems to have been an unusual one for growing grass. In the spring I had a good color to my greens, a heavy growth and an even putting surface. In July brown patch set in. It started right after a heavy rain with a bright sun followed by very humid weather. I used most every chemical compound on the market to stop the spreading with little results. The grass failed to respond to fertilizer and it apparently was dormant.

Not until the late part of August did the grass seem to respond to treatment; then it came on fast so that when the time arrived to give the greens their fall top-dressing they were in fairly good shape. A good color came to the grass, responding to feed and rapidly filling in the vacant spaces left by brown patch.

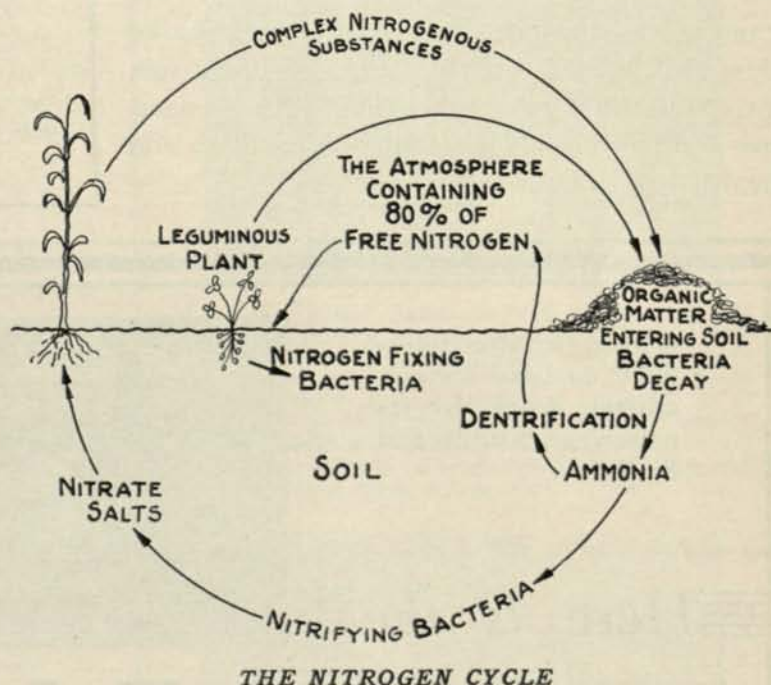
## I TOP-DRESSED IN SEPTEMBER

**I** top-dressed the greens the first week in September and in a week more you would never have known that the greens had had brown patch. But then came those hot, yes, unusually hot October days when the thermometer climbed overnight from 65 to 88 degrees and my greens stopped their growing and started to turn yellow.

Again the dreaded brown spots started to show. The greens failed to respond to treatment. I was dumbfounded and sick, for twice in one summer good looking greens changed over night to ragged and rough looking spots. I thought the cold nights would help stop the ravages of the patch but even nature seemed to go back on me and I was lost, not knowing which way to turn. It was not until we started our monthly testing of the greens for their PH concentration that I got an inkling to what was causing the trouble.

Under the brown spots I found that the ground was very sour and found also small parts of manure, very small parts, that were not fully decayed. After all the greens were tested and showed the same results, I had the roots put under a microscope and found that the hair roots were all burnt and decaying.

Then I also located bacteria of decay on the roots and on the small pieces of manure. I had to do something to sweeten the soil and so I tried Nitrate of Soda but that was too slow, so I used something that was generally listed to



This diagram illustrates the idea of plant life itself furnishing a certain amount of nitrogen to other plant life through the help of the air and bacteria. The air absorbing the nitrogen given off by the leaves and the bacteria working on the decayed plant itself and returning to the soil nitrogen through a series of bacteria working on substances from original plant

greenkeepers as taboo on a golf course and that was lime water solution sprayed on the greens. I noticed it brought results so I sprayed the greens twice with the solution to fully check the bacteria from souring the soil with their acid secretions.

You probably know that the bacteria of decay are just starting organic matter on the way

to plant food in the nitrogen cycle and they are very necessary in plant life. But you must keep them at work where the soil is some place other than in the greens. The compost pile is the place for bacteria of decay and if the pile is too large it does not give them a chance to work because they want light and air the same as any other life.

#### HAVE SMALL COMPOST PILE

**I**F YOU are going to have a compost pile have it small enough so that you can turn it over every week. Another way is take a piece of land and cover it with manure then plow it under and keep working it all summer, giving it light and air. You might also plant some leguminous plants on it for their nitrogen-fixing qualities.

For my part I would rather have a soil poor in humus rather than one rich in organic matter. Be careful of tobacco stems; they will cause fermentation. Be sure you use tobacco dust as it is a safe way to put humus in the soil. From now on my motto is going to be less manure and more chemical fertilizers for clean and healthy greens.

## To Golf Club Officials

It is often folly when a golf architect turns over a new course to a club to employ an inexperienced greenkeeper.

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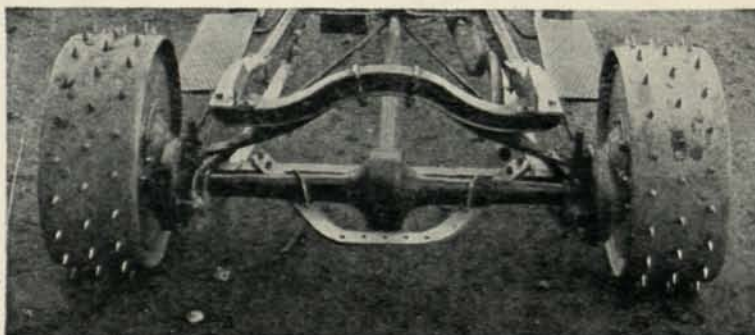
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## JOHN QUAIL SAYS:

At the Fall meeting of the Executive Committee of the N. A. G. A. held in the Statler Hotel, on Monday, Oct. 29, 1928, the reports of the various officers and chairmen were indeed very gratifying.

Fred Burkhardt, chairman of the Show Committee reported that the Show is coming along fine. Over half of the space is sold and the rest is about to be allotted. Arrangements have been made to handle a capacity crowd and all can be taken care of very nicely.

Robert Henderson, chairman of the Entertainment Committee promises to have something doing every spare hour of the day and is making arrangements for the Annual Banquet on Thursday, February 14, 1929. A smoker and men's party is also being arranged for Friday Night.

The National Association will be hosts to the wives of Greenkeepers at a sight seeing tour to Niagara Falls. This will probably be Friday morning. Bob assures us we will have a good time during our stay in Buffalo.

Notice of Suspension will be mailed to those who have not paid their dues. To avoid suspension get your dues in right away.

Applications for membership were taken up and several new members were admitted. The Association is growing and from the reports we have it will continue to grow.

Let's all meet and have a good time as well as an interesting and instructive time at Buffalo in February.

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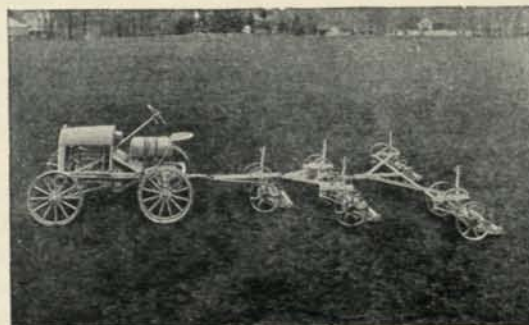
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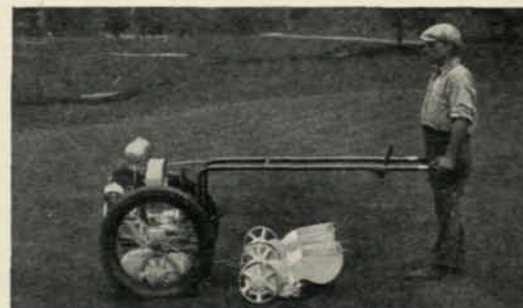
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# GREENKEEPER'S ALMANAC

DECEMBER  
By JOHN MACGREGOR  
Chicago Golf Club

This is the month to take inventory, machinery, tools, flag poles, flags, and numerous other necessities, checking as you proceed any replacements, repairs, and depreciation on your stock.

Keep your eyes open for anything new in golf course equipment advertised in golf magazines. If you see anything which you feel would be a good investment for your club, talk it over with your chairman. The merits of the particular equipment can be discussed, then when the golf course equipment shows open attend them with your chairman if possible where a personal inspection can be made and your order placed for spring delivery.

Proceed with the overhauling of equipment. Take every machine apart and clean thoroughly. Replace any worn parts. It is wise to overhaul everything before commencing painting, in other words, complete one job before starting another.

Trees which you intend to move can be prepared for moving, digging around them, cutting all of the roots excepting the tap root. Fill the hole around the ball with hay or straw and wait for a cold snap, then remove the straw and let the ball freeze solid. In this way a tree can be moved on the frozen ground and planted with little effort. The hole where the tree is to be planted should be dug before the frost has penetrated more than an inch so the digging is easy, then the hole should be filled with straw until you are ready to put the tree in its place.

Keep a hundred pounds of scratch feed in the barn for our friends the birds who have a hard time finding anything to eat when the snow is on the ground. Feed them on such occasions.

Attend the meetings of your local organization. There are usually some interesting papers read, ask questions, some one will be able to answer them. Prepare an article yourself and either read it at a meeting or send it to the National Greenkeeper. It is your paper, use it.

There is still time in which to secure members for the N. A. G. A.

## *Pittsburgh Greenkeepers' Meet*

By JOHN QUAILL, Secretary

THE Greenkeeper's Club of Western Pennsylvania held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, November 12, at the Fort Pitt Hotel. Owing to the bad weather, the attendance was very small. However, the evening was spent very enjoyably by the ones present.

Open discussion was held on several topics of great interest and all present took an active part. The topic of mowers, both Putting Green and Fairway, always brings forth much comment and discussion.

Fertilizing is also a subject which will bring out some very good articles. The use and abuse of Sulphate is

## *Pittsburgh Extends Welcome*

The Greenkeeper's Club of Western Pennsylvania extends to all greenkeepers of the United States and Canada a hearty welcome to any of their meetings. The regular monthly meetings are held the second Monday of the month at the Fort Pitt Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pa., at 7:00 p. m. Any greenkeeper who is visiting Pittsburgh and would like to see our courses is asked to call on any of our members who will gladly show him around.

always a very much argued question, and like mowers, every one has his little speech ready when the subject is mentioned.

It is just these little friendly gatherings that create such an interest in the meetings and the boys like to get together and argue out their various hobbies and practices. Needless to say, the discussions are very helpful. Some greenkeeper hits upon an idea and tries it out and then comes and tells all about it, and right away some one will say that it is just what he wanted to know.

Eradication of ground moles and earth worms were other subjects discussed. Winter care of greens was also talked about along with many other little items which came up during the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p. m.

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# Indiana Greenkeepers Organize

By JOHN MACGREGOR, President  
Mid-west Greenkeepers Association

**D**URING the greenkeepers' convention at Detroit last February, Mr. Carl Bretzlaff informed the writer he would like to get some information about organizations, as the Indiana greenkeepers had come to the conclusion that they wanted to get together, become acquainted with each other, exchange ideas and have regular meetings.

The writer talked the matter over and gave Mr. Bretzlaff a copy of the by-laws of the Mid-West Greenkeepers Association, but did not hear from Indiana until three weeks ago when Mr. C. E. Griener of Indianapolis a staunch friend of the greenkeepers came to Chicago. He told me of the intention of the Indiana greenkeepers to organize and that they wanted to know if the writer would come to Indiana and help them out. Needless to say I was very glad to accept the invitation, so the meeting was called for



**VICTOR GEORGE**  
New president of  
the Indiana Green-  
keepers' Association

November 10th at 6 p. m. at the Lincoln Hotel, Indianapolis, Ind. After getting acquainted with all the boys we sat down and did justice to a wonderful dinner which Mr. Griener generously supplied and who deserves great credit for his interest in helping the boys out.

Mr. Victor George opened the meeting and spoke at length on the object of the meeting. He thereupon introduced the writer who reviewed the progress of the Mid-West greenkeepers from the time the organization started until the present time. After a vote of confidence that the men present wanted an organization the writer proceeded to the election of officers and roll call of the men present. Following this the president, Mr. George appointed his committees on by-laws, membership and executive committee as follows:

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Victor George, president, LaFayette Country Club, LaFayette, Ind.

Carl A. Bretzlaff, vice president, Meridian Hills Country Club, Indianapolis, Ind.

Edward Updegraff, secretary, Indianapolis Country Club, Clemont, Ind.

George Hawkins, treasurer, Avalon Country Club, Indianapolis, Ind.

## COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS

John Barkdull, American Legion Golf Course, Kokomo, Ind.

Louis Barkdull, Kokomo Country Club, Kokomo, Ind.  
O. L. Roberts, Noblesville Club, Noblesville, Ind.

## COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP

Ross Hollingsworth, Connersville Country Club, Connersville, Ind.

Fred Shopp, Woodstock Club, Indianapolis, Ind.

Robert Hall, Lake James Country Club, Angola, Ind.

Howard Owens, Huntington Country Club, Huntington, Ind.

Basil Miller, Blue River Country Club, Shelbyville, Ind.

C. D. Stafford, North Vernon Country Club, North Vernon, Ind.

Albert Esterline, Delaware Country Club, Muncie, Ind.

L. A. Wright, R. R. E.-Box 20, Terra Haute, Ind.

The affairs of the association being wound up, Mr. Herb Graffis, editor of *Golfdom* who happened to be in the city with his family at a football game was called on to say a few words to the boys which he did in his usual interesting manner and gave a very impressive talk.

Mr. Griener was then called upon. He gave a review of the work done in connection with forming the green-

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Price on roller stand 3/4" conn. \$10.00. 1" conn. \$15.00. Larger sizes 1 1/4" or 1 1/2" conn. \$20.00.

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keepers of Indiana into a local organization, which had culminated successfully at that particular time. He also spoke of the fact that he had done all of this for the boys as an individual and only wished he was a greenkeeper.

After Mr. Griener's talk the president adjourned the meeting, which is to meet one month later at which time the committees will report. Thus we add another link to the National Association of Greenkeepers of America. Many friends attended the meeting.

### *The Low-Down On Bent Grass* (Concluded from page 6)

a day for labor and buys all his implements in a protected market. At present he has to ask a higher price than that for which German bent sells and rely on the superiority of his product.

The German seed is all right for ordinary lawn purposes but every greenkeeper knows what a patchy putting-green it produces. Some golfers say they like it on that account since the vari-colored patches serve as landmarks on the way to the hole, but I do not believe the best opinion would support that view. I certainly regard absolutely uniformity of texture and color as the hall-mark of excellence in putting greens.

The raising of bent grass seed is now a considerable industry in this country and it seems time that the farmers on the East and West coasts should cooperate to the extent of asking for a protective tariff against inferior foreign seed.

### The Robert F. Leesley Grass Co. of Riverside, Illinois

requests the pleasure of submitting bids for your creeping bent stolons for season of 1929.

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### *Greenkeepers Hold Clam Bake*

The Cleveland District Association of Greenkeepers of which Fred A. Burkhardt of the Westwood Country Club is president, held a clam bake, October 15 at the Brae Burn Golf Club near Akron, Ohio. The host, L. M. Latta, owner and manager of the Brae Burn Links had everything in preparation and according to all reports the boys all had a great time.

The large attendance is evidence of the good fellowship which pervades this organization. They came from far and wide to partake of the appetizing viands which Frank Ermer the secretary had provided. Needless to say there was no business transacted as the event was entirely one of pleasure without restraint. The following greenkeepers were present:

Frank Ermer, Ridgewood Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Chris Bain, Oakwood Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Bert Sheldin, The Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio; C. Zink, Highland Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio; M. M. Parsons, Wooster Country Club, Wooster, Ohio; Walter Knowles, Cleveland, Ohio; A. J. Fovargue, Westbrook Country Club, Mansfield, Ohio; H. Simmonds, Highland Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio; George Bauer, Ridgewood Golf Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Chas. Spencer, Fairlawn Heights Golf Club, Akron, Ohio; L. M. Latta, Brae Burn Links, Copley, Ohio; Stanley Aldrich, Madison Golf Lakelands, Madison, Ohio; Fred Burkhardt, Westwood Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Arthur Boggs, Kirtland Country Club, Willoughby, Ohio; Wm. Smith, Silver Lake Country Club, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio; J. Nickoloff, Oberlin Golf Club, Oberlin, Ohio; Ralph Rodgers, Elyria Country Club, Elyria, Ohio; M. D. LaMoreaux, Kirtland Country Club, Willoughby, Ohio; F. P. Dunlap, Hawthorne Valley Golf Club, Solon, Ohio; R. Zink, Shaker Heights Country Club, Cleveland, Ohio; Percy J. Bolitho, Portage Country Club, Akron, Ohio; G. Duncan, Rosemont Country Club, Akron, Ohio; W. I. Kennedy, Bunker Hill Country Club, Medina, Ohio; J. A. Singler, Bunker Hill Country Club, Medina, Ohio; G. Kennedy, Fairlawn Heights Golf Club, Akron, Ohio; C. F. Miller, Orchard Hills Country Club, Canton, Ohio; John Sheridan, Chagrin Valley Country Club, Chagrin Falls, Ohio; Frank Shubie, Elyria Country Club, Elyria, Ohio; M. Lawrence, Hill Top Country Club, Wooster, Ohio.



## SEMESAN

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