

fold purpose; it will allow visitors to compare grasses on their putting merits and will also assist in the identification of established greens. The identification of creeping bent strains is a vexing problem, as they seem to respond differently to varying climatic influences; a particular strain that in the East will take on certain characteristics of color and texture might be very different in the Midwest or on the Pacific coast, due entirely to the reaction of climate, soil texture, and other conditions. Those who have worked with bents know how hard it is to separate and identify them, and no competent man will really try to do so—on sight, anyway.

The experimental section will be devoted entirely to investigational work, such as the study of fertilizers, chemicals for weeds, disease, and pest control, soil textures, drainage, cultural methods, and so on.

We feel that we have a good layout and that we can conduct this work to advantage and serve that large section of the country that lies around and west of the Great Lakes, where many special problems are in need of such work as this. We feel also that we have a rare good fortune in the earnest and hearty cooperation of the Midwest Greenkeepers' Association, the Midwest Green Section, and the United States Golf Association Green Section, and that this combination will really make the project a complete success.

The New Green Section Demonstration Plots as an Aid to the Greenkeeper

By F. H. Wilson

I think we all appreciate the wonderful work done by the Green Section at Arlington and the valuable information that we have received, and shall continue to receive, in the Bulletin from time to time. I remember well two years ago the visit I made to Washington and the valuable amount of information I gathered there. I think many of us in New England, from where I come, were wondering if the experiments at Washington would work out with us in New England in the same manner under the different soil and climatic conditions. This last summer Mr. Hood, chairman of our New England Service Bureau, asked the Greenkeepers' Club of New England to appoint a committee to confer with him on the establishment of a demonstration plot, of which Dr. Monteith has spoken, under the direction of the Green Section. The Charles River Country Club was chosen, and with the help of Mr. Welton, and under his direction, we planted the plots on September 16, 1928.

I was much surprised to find what an interest was taken in these plots by my club members, many of whom have gone over the plots with me. The different plots do not show any great results as yet, but all visitors, including greenkeepers of the locality, have been enthusiastic about them.

Greenkeepers have no time for consistent work along experimental lines. I shall give you a demonstration of that by a questionnaire on brown-patch sent out several years ago to the chairmen of our green committees in New England. That questionnaire, when it came back, after a season of severe brown-patch attack, had everything under the sun on it. The greenkeepers tried everything on the calendar—spraying with calomel, early morning watering, brushing the green, applying compounds of sulphate of ammonia, and so on.

Something stopped the attack, but they did not know which treatment was the effective one. They all agreed the attack occurred on warm, muggy nights, when the humidity was high. But sometimes on nights when the conditions were identically similar the attacks did not appear. Why? That is one of the things we should like to find out.

Every small item of added information that we can obtain is needed. Experiments scattered through the country should be of immense value to the greenkeeper. Few of us can get to Washington, but we can keep in close touch and can carefully check up on the local plots by watching the various putting greens and fairway mixtures at seeding and at any time thereafter. Our local fertilizer problems can be worked out; also brown-patch control, the most costly item this last season. These plots should be used by the greenkeepers several times a year for get-together meetings to discuss their problems. Valuable information can be obtained in this way. The items of weed control, worm control, and thousands of other questions that come up on the average golf course can be settled here. The experiments on mowing grasses at different lengths would prove valuable in determining whether certain varieties of grasses will stand close mowing.

The expense of the project is borne by the Green Section and the clubs in the vicinity of its location. This gives each greenkeeper a personal feeling regarding the plots. He should use them. The opportunity to try out grasses which he thinks have special merit is important. Already we have four plots that have been planted with grass from different golf courses, the planting material having been sent in by greenkeepers who thought the turf on their courses had special merit.

I think the greenkeepers of the country should give the Green Section a vote of thanks for this opportunity they have given us in bringing part of the work at Arlington nearer to us.

Improvement of Golf Turf in Canada

By G. P. McRostie

In the northward progression of agriculture there appears to be a compensation of climatic factors that allows for the development of many crops far north of what was considered their natural habitat. One of these factors is a longer summer day, resulting in more growing hours and a more equable soil temperature during the growing season. If some of you gentlemen who play golf as late as you can see the ball were to follow the same practice in the Peace River section of the Province of Alberta I am afraid that your wives would see even less of you than they do now. In the section under discussion about a couple of hours of twilight constitutes the non-playable part of the day in the midsummer period (I believe that a little over 20 hours of golf a day would satisfy the most ardent golfer). It is quite probable that our total playing hours for the season in the more northerly sections of Canada do not fall far short of what you experience in the central and northern tiers of states.

Golf in Canada has not escaped the universal wave of increasing popularity that has been associated with it in the United States in recent years. There are not many sizable villages that can not boast