



NEWS LETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

SWAN SONG

CONSIDER THE EXPERIENCED MAN

CUTTING EXPENSES

DECEMBER MEETING

WHEN IN TROUBLE LOOK ALOFT

DECEMBER

1931

This NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Greens' Chairmen. Subscription price ten cents a copy, or a dollar a year.

GUY C. WEST Editor
312 Mt. Pleasant St., Fall River, Mass.

MARSTON BURNETT Business Mgr.
330 Waltham St., West Newton, Mass.

December, 1931 Vol. 3, No. 12

As he goes out of office the President sends us the following lines calling it his

"SWAN SONG"

For several years I have tried to serve
The Greenkeepers' Club, but *know* you
deserve

A better fate, and I know you'll be
Better served than you were by me.

To my successor, I beg, give him
the same

Loyal support, every members' aim,
That was given to me. So, I thank each
one

For help I've had to make the Club run.
To the next president, I pledge hearty
support,

Hoping you all jo'n in "holding the
fort",

And make this year one of greater
strides,

Each doing his share, and *more besides!*
It *sure will be great* to serve "in the
ranks"

But for all you've done, accept my
thanks.

C. E. Treat.

CONSIDER THE EXPERIENCED MAN

In the discussions that are going on in many golf clubs along economy lines, it would be well to remember one fact, that experienced labor is necessary on a golf course.

Years ago, any man could do the work on a golf course—the idea at that time being that if he was able to push

a lawn mower, he was all right for golf work. Years ago, golfers were content to play on less finely cut greens, but now the greens are cut so short that the grass plants have little leaf surface to help them out. Years ago, players did not seem to mind, at least expected, to have the greens dry, brown and hard through the heat of the summer, but now golfers insist on soft, good colored greens throughout the playing season. As a result, the Greenkeeper and his men have to keep turf in an unnatural condition, softer greens, more succulent grass, easily affected by disease and the extremes of weather. Grass seems something like a race horse—the finer it is bred and kept under unnatural conditions, the more subject it is to ailments. Years ago, turf was not subject to such diseases as "Pythium", "Scald", "Snow-mold", "Brown-Patch", etc. Because then of these changed conditions, the experienced man is needed on golf course work. A greenkeeper cannot be over the whole course at once and, since the critical time to treat some of these diseases is within two or three hours of the first signs of their appearance, fortunate is the greenkeeper and club that employ experienced men, that know and are on the lookout for such trouble. Again, in the use of such high powered chemicals needed as fertilizers and for combating these diseases, much harm could be done by an inexperienced man, such harm or damage, that even the pay of an experienced man would be hard to cover. An experienced golf course worker is a decided asset to a club, and fortunate is the club that can continue to hold its men year by year.

Why need chairman and officers of the club worry so over rates of wages? Why should they so desire to compare rates of pay or go wild over comparing costs, when, in most cases, conditions are so different on the courses compared, that the results would be ludicrous, if it did not cause so much injustice?

Why not run the greens more as you would a department of business? Why not say to your greenkeeper, "Here's the course, here's the amount you can spend, here are the results we want", and then have confidence enough in your greenkeeper to let him use *the judgement that you are paying for* in arranging wages, mapping out work, etc. If he cannot show the desired results, it may be time, then, to change greenkeepers.

Carlton E. Treat

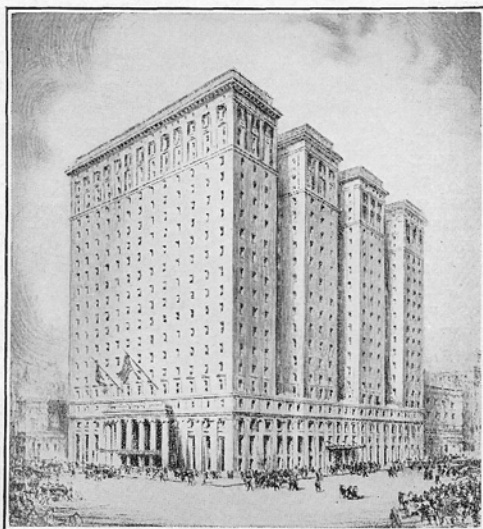
WELCOME

NEW ENGLAND

GREENKEEPERS and CHAIRMEN

We want you with us at the

Sixth Annual Greenkeepers' Golf Show,
Convention, and Educational Conference



HOTEL PENNSYLVANIA

to be held at

Hotel Pennsylvania,
New York City,
January 19-22, 1932.

The National Association
of Greenkeepers of
America.

Fred A. Burkhardt,
Chairman

Show Committee.

HOW CAN EXPENSES BE CUT WITHOUT INJURY TO COURSE CONDITIONS?

In my discussion of this question I shall try to tell what has happened when severe cuts have been made, and to suggest a possible solution.

To keep in the running with the trend of times, let me say that my average total maintenance budget for four years was below that of most clubs in the immediate section. By this total, I mean all money spent on the golf course; for equipment, construction, and wages. No side account for club grounds, tree work, etc. What of it! There is no more sense in comparing golf courses than in setting my Ford alongside the next man's Lincoln or Packard, except that both are ridden in. But I *can* compare this year's performance of said Ford with last year's, and I do know how the cost of upkeep compares with last year—and so with the golf course. Therefore, let us drop the total figure, and get back to the cuts.

The year 1930 brought us a cut of \$2500 from the average of the preceding four years. This allowed the same amount for labor, but cut considerably on materials, and prohibited any replacement of equipment. For those interested in figures, it might be well to jot down an amount that would have been spent for replacements under ordinary circumstances.

1931 presented a different aspect. Continued depression with resultant resignations brought a further cut of \$4000 or a 29% drop over a period of two years. This meant no replacement of equipment (another figure for the scratch pad), as well as a cut in labor of three men for the season. With what result! Tees, for want of sufficient attention, began to lose ground. Slowly, of course, and not at first noticeable to the average player, but apparent to the most mediocre greenkeeper. Spare tees at short holes which should have been renovated, were let go. Sprinklers had to be run during the day, with the usual complaint from the members. Greens lacked the little attentions which they must have at just the proper time to be really good. In other words, a course which was not up to standard.

Let us look into the future. Take the scratch pad and add up your figures. The amount is getting larger, is it not?

Yet some day that replacement must be made, and the longer we wait, the larger the amount. So much for equipment. How about the members? I can count with little effort ten courses within a radius of five miles, that have come into being within two years. These are semi-public or municipal courses, which have golf as their main object. High overhead of the club house is cut out, and money spent on the *course* by a management that realizes that to draw the public, good conditions are necessary. Reports of the earnings of these clubs is the answer.

To me a possible solution lies in the fuller use of the course. Though filled to capacity over the week-end, there is much room for play during the week. Summer and Weekday Memberships are in vogue at many places now. We read of bi-weekly memberships in one part of California. If conditions necessitate, I would even advocate opening the course to semi-public play during the week. This coupled with a continued striving for better management on the part of the greenkeeper might do much to help out a difficult situation.

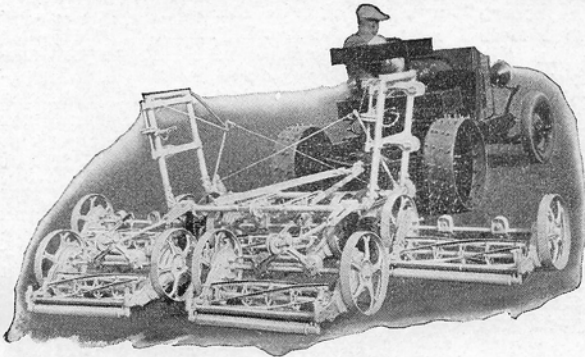
Marston Burnett.

The brown-patch discussion still continues to interest many of our readers. There are many ideas here and there, and we are still asking for some central agency, with part of its personnel at least to consist of greenkeepers, to examine and try all these ideas.

We noticed with much interest an article by D. T. Coull of the Potrero Country Club, Inglewood, Calif., in the October issue of the PACIFIC GREENKEEPER. Mr. Coull offers the suggestion that brown-patch may possibly be controlled by keeping the turf temperature below that point at which the disease bacteria are wont to develop. This control would be by a thermostatically controlled irrigation system, which would turn on when the surface soil temperature reaches the danger point. This suggestion is of great interest in that it shows to how great extremes our thoughts sometimes run when we think of control of this disease.

We have another suggestion of interest, from a letter from K. E. Goit, Sales Manager of the Toro Manufacturing Company. Mr. Goit's letter follows:

ECONOMY CALLS FOR THIS UNBREAKABLE GANG MOWER



When you visit the Greenkeepers' Convention in New York next January you will see this unbreakable Fairway Unit in the exhibit of 1932 models of Pennsylvania Mowers. It has stood all tests in operation this year.

Write now for your copy of our **COMPLETE GOLF CATALOG.**

JOHN J. NYHAN

120 Cypress Street, Brookline, Mass.

RACKLIFFE BROTHERS, INC.

New Britain, Conn.

POWER EQUIPMENT & SERVICE, INC.

New Haven, Conn.

Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Works, Primos, Delaware County, Pa.

What a relief to escape the expense and annoyance of broken castings! This one feature alone makes the **Pennsylvania Quint** or **Trio** the most economical gang mower you can buy, in the long run.

Here is a large mower Unit, built to automotive standards, with malleable iron of high tensile strength in every part that needs it. Frame, wheels, side plates, lower knife bars, roller brackets and shields—**All Unbreakable.**

Kill Weeds In The Fall

Late season applications are recommended by the Experiment Stations.

Winter freezing assists chemical weed killing.

Take advantage of both. Treat in Fall.

Use **Atlacid** non-poisonous and effective.

For Sale By

BRECK'S

85 STATE STREET

Boston, Mass.

A COMPLETE LINE OF GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

Distributors for:—

Naco Golf Course Fertilizer

Royer Compost Machines

Koppers Sulphate of Ammonia

Albion Distributor

Hardie Power Sprayers

Thompson Sprinklers

Seeds, Fertilizers, Etc.

Arthur B. Porter, Inc.

55 DEARBORN STREET

SALEM, MASS.

Tel. Salem 2317

Write for our 1931
illustrated catalogue.

When buying from our advertisers, mention **NEWSLETTER!**

"I note in the last issue of the "Newsletter" your suggestion as to a brown patch conference. Not long ago I read quite a comprehensive article in the "Medical Journal" regarding the growth of an ailment called "Athlete's Foot". Athlete's Foot is caused by the same type of fungus that causes brown patch, also this same type of fungus attacks other plants and vegetables.

"It was found at the University of Buffalo after a severe epidemic of Athlete's Foot that sodium hypochloride placed in pans so that people using the showers in the locker rooms could immerse their feet in it, stopped the epidemic entirely.

Sodium hypochloride is an inexpensive chemical. It comes in somewhat concentrated form, and can be diluted. I tried it on our own green here at the factory and found that at full strength it would bleach the grass to almost a peroxide blond color in ten minutes' time. A diluted solution caused limited bleaching, and the grass soon returned to its original color. It might be that this chemical has some possibilities as a low-priced preventative of brown patch."

Following receipt of this letter, we wrote Dr. W. H. Davis of the Department of Botany at the Massachusetts State College, to see if he could throw any light upon this subject. Dr. Davis' reply follows:

"Yes, a 0.5% aqueous solution of hypochloride of soda has been successfully used for the control of 'Athlete's Foot'. I believe that it was first used by Dr. Gould in Albany and later used by the doctors in Buffalo, N. Y. This is what has been called 'ringworm of the feet'.

"These fungi which cause the ringworm of the hair, feet, head, etc. are near the bacteria in their vegetative habits, or at least in some of them. The latest authorities place them in the Ascomycetes, very close to the blue mold, *Penicillium* sp. The mycelium is generally very fine and breaks in threads, sometimes these portions acting like conidia. However, many of them form conidia, 3 to 8 μ in diameter, which are the scattering stage of the fungus. These conidia are very easily killed since they have very thin walls like the mycelium. However, there is a sclerotial stage, and this is not so resistant to the chemicals as *Rhizoctonia* sclerotia. *Rhizoctonia* is not in this

group of fungi at all; it is a Basidiomycetes, while the *Trichopyton* sp. belongs to the Ascomycetes.

It is to be noted that the experimenters state that they believe that Hypochloride is not more effective than the standard methods heretofore practiced in controlling the disease. On account of these facts, I am not animated over the possibility of the control of brown-patch by this chemical. Later, I will publish some new researches showing some of the reasons why it can not be successfully employed for the organism which I employed."

CUTTING COSTS

While I am not in favor of cutting wages for next year, I think it is the only way to help keep the budget down with the same standard of maintenance as in former years. It is impossible for any greenkeeper to keep a course if he has not sufficient labor, so my view on the matter would be to cut each man a little, and keep the same number of men if possible; in this way you would not only be helping yourself out but would also be helping the unemployment condition.

We all know that there are many fertilizers on the market. I doubt very much if many of them are worth to the club what they cost. Careful buying of fertilizer will save the club many dollars.

Michael J. O'Grady.

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting was held at Horticultural Hall, Boston, on Monday, December 14th. The speaker was Professor Lawrence S. Dickinson of the Massachusetts State College. Professor Dickinson described the work done at the College with funds appropriated by the Greenkeepers Club of New England. The experiment was on "Pre-seeding fertilization", and was known as New England Greenkeepers project 1931.

Work was started in April. In past, top of grass has been examined; that which received the greater amount of grass often looked the best. There should be something besides tops; roots are very important. In this experiment,

HOVEY'S SEED

Wishing you
all a
Merry Christmas
and
Prosperous
New Year

Hovey & Company

Everything in Course Equipment

Est. 1834

150 MILK ST., BOSTON, MASS.

Tel. Hancock 1454 - 1455

ALWAYS DEPENDABLE

Our advertisers aim to please YOU

both roots and tops were considered. High concentrations of fertilizer salts will inhibit germination—same reaction with seedlings.

Experiment had 32 boxes, sand at bottom, soil slightly clay, nearly infertile. Fertilizers were mixed into top 2" for six days, then seeded, half with Colonial Bent, and half Kentucky Blue. At intervals specimens were very carefully removed and examined, tops and roots measured in millimeters, and mounted. Optimum balance between root and top found to be that top more than 1.3 times root was top-heavy. Object should be to establish root.

Fertilizers used were sulphate of ammonia for furnishing nitrogen, superphosphate for phosphorus, and muriate of potash for potassium. These fertilizers were used at different rates. Standard used was the amount of nitrogen in 5 pounds of sulphate of ammonia to a thousand square feet.

Kentucky Blue prefers more potash than bent. After grasses are established, somewhere between 42 and 56 days from seeding, it is usually desirable to fertilize. Clipping will shorten root system, will upset nitrogen. Hence clipping should be held back if possible for 42 days. Best preceding fertilizer is superphosphate, used as heavily as wished.

Charts and diagrams of work done, and results accomplished were shown and explained by Professor Dickenson, and 200 mounts of seedlings from the various boxes, taken at different periods, were passed around the gathering.

In brief, results of this experiment indicated that it is unnecessary to fertilize before seeding, but if fertilizer is used, it should be superphosphate. The summary chart which gives the results at intervals follows:

Best Appearing

	Bent	Ken. Blue
21 days	check	check
30 days	0-10-5	0-16-0
42 days	0-32-0	check
56 days	0-8-0	0-10-2
70 days	0-8-0	10-5-0

Best Root-Top Ratio

	Bent	Ken. Blue
21 days	0-16-0	check
30 days	0-32-0	0-32-0
42 days	0-10-2	0-32-0
56 days	0-10-2	0-10-2

(On this standard, 13-3.2-14.4 is average loam.)

At the business meeting following the talk and discussion, the Nominating Committee submitted the following slate for 1932:

Pres. James McCormack
1st V. Pres. Thomas Fahey
2nd V. Pres. Howard Farrant
3rd V. Pres. James Sullivan
Secretary Charles Parker
Treasurer, Frank Wilson
Trustee, Carleton E. Treat

Entertainment Committee

R. A. Mitchell Edwin Hansen
Ernest Lord Charles Parker
Marston Burnett

Golf Committee

Clifton E. Sowerby Paul Hayden
Wallace Peckham John Shanahan
Philip Cassidy

Membership Committee

John Latvis Paul Wanberg
Wm. McBride Thomas Galvin
Joseph Oldfield

Elected to membership were Ordert Wendell, Locust Valley C. C.; Winfield Badger, Trapelo G. C.; Simone Braio, Wachusett C. C.; and Emil Masciocchi, Oak Hill C. C.

NOTICE

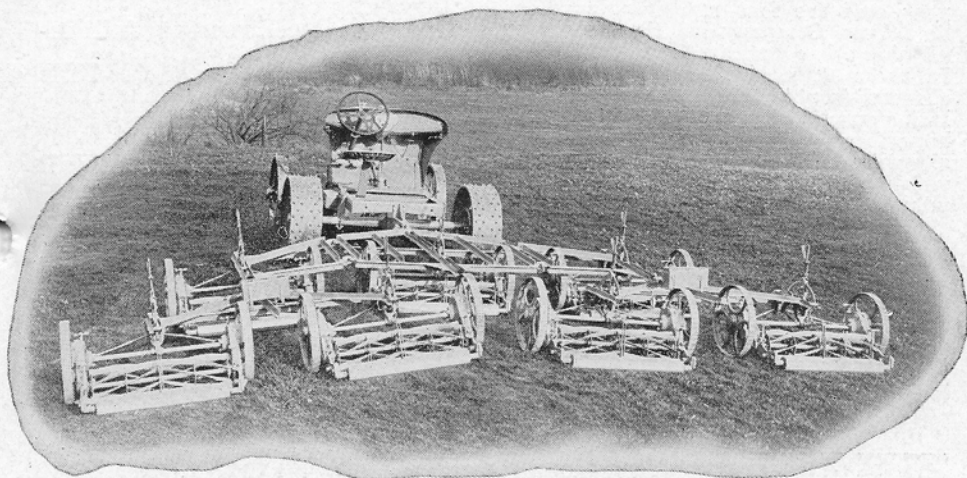
Beginning with the January issue, the NEWSLETTER will be issued on the 10th of the month. We ask the cooperation of our advertisers in getting copy in by the first of the month, in order that we may get the NEWSLETTER out on time. All notices and copy should be in the Editor's hands by the 5th for insertion.

Anyone desiring space in the 1932 NEWSLETTER should communicate with the Business Manager at once.

Members are requested to send in any changes of address, changes in green committee chairmen, and all news of interest.

At the demonstration gardens at the Charles River Country Club, the whole fairway fertilizer series is to be reconstructed this coming Spring. New series will be seeded with mixture of 40% Kentucky Blue, 40% Chewings Fescue, and 20% Colonial Bent. 15 additional plots are to be added, five potash plots, five phosphorus plots and five complete fertilizer, two with organic base, and two with inorganic. Check plots are provided for all series.

The Worthington Lawn Tractor and Convertible "Multigang" Gang Mower



This wonderfully efficient machine is of the well-known patented Worthington Convertible type, capable in this new design of being transformed at the will of the operator from its seven-unit formation and swath of 16 feet, into a Worthington five-unit quintuplex or a Worthington three-unit Triple of respectively twelve and seven feet width of swath. Any of these changes may be accomplished by the unassisted operator in a minute's time. The saving in expense of the cutting operations, by the adoption of the "Multigang" which will **cut an acre in four minutes**, is one of the features connected with the development of this incomparable machine.

The catalog which will be sent to you immediately upon request, will describe these remarkable machines, which have by recent patented discoveries, brought about a revolution in golf maintenance. Their use is fast becoming universal.

Write For Full Particulars To The
NEW ENGLAND REPRESENTATIVE

For The Worthington Mower Company

E. R. SAWTELLE

ONE STATE STREET

BOSTON

Telephone Hubbard 2424

The New England Toro Company gave a party for its employees and associates at the Parker House, Boston, on December 19th. This party marked the conclusion of the company's best year, and the fact that the New England Toro Company led the sales over all the other branch Toro companies. In these days of DEPRESSION it is cheerful to note that another New England company is ahead in its field. We hope to see Ed Lohr one of these days strutting along in the new Stetson, which he won as winner in field sales volume!

Every member should set aside the first Monday in January for a trip to Boston and the Annual Meeting of HIS club. Hear what has happened through the reports of your officers, and take part in the plans for the future.

"WHEN IN TROUBLE LOOK ALOFT"

"Printer's Ink editorially recommends that, in our current business overhauling, efficiency methods be applied as unsparingly to Boards of Directors as to any of the departments over which said Boards have jurisdiction.

As a matter of fact, it seems to us, a sound reconstruction program must always begin at the top. Whether it be a ship, a nation, or a business institution whose voyage brings up in shoal water, its navigating authority is primarily to blame. If the crew is incompetent its selection or its training is the cause. If competent, it may do its part unerringly and still land the cargo on the rocks if the course has been faultily laid. Success or failure in every field of effort traces back essentially to Management.

Directors who direct with large-minded intelligence do not encounter breakers. Adverse winds may blow their vessel shorewards but their foresight has taken the needful precautions to keep its keel well clear of all dangerous reefs.

Far too often in recent business history the crew has been flagellated when the lashes should have fallen on the quarterdeck."

Credit Where Credit Is Due.

I invite all GREENKEEPERS who are not on my mailing list to send in your names so that you will receive full information regarding LAN-FER Special Fertilizer.

It will pay you to know all the facts about LAN-FER before you buy fertilizer for 1932.

Wishing you all a most Happy and Prosperous New Year.

M. F. LANSILL

Special Fertilizers

86 CHARLES RIVER PKY

Newton, Mass.

"QUALITY"
LAWNS, GOLF and
SPORT TURF



MATERIALS

American and Imported Grass Seeds, Fertilizers, Manures, Chemicals, Fungicides, Soil Sponge, Imported Peat and Mowers.

60 CONGRESS STREET

BOSTON, MASS.

Telephone Liberty 6021

Get The Facts

Learn Why
Hubbard's Golf Course
Fertilizer
Will Give You Better Results.

Be Posted Before Making
Your 1932 Purchases.

Write For Information.

The
Rogers & Hubbard Co.

Middletown, Conn.
Established 1878

Fine Grass Seeds

can now be bought at the lowest prices in years. Why not take advantage of this opportunity?

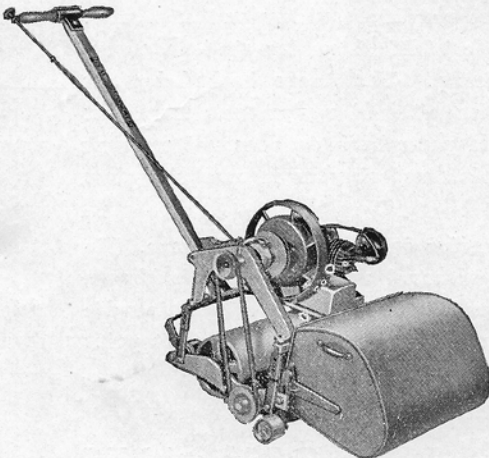
Our stock includes a complete line of the finest quality imported and domestic grass seeds, and our analysis figures are verified by two, and sometimes three, authoritative sources.

All inquiries receive prompt and courteous attention.

Thos. W. Emerson Co.

215 STATE STREET
BOSTON, MASS.

For quick service
Telephone, HUBbard 0985



IDEAL POWER GREENSMOWER

LIGHTEST IN WEIGHT.
EASIEST TO OPERATE.
AND LOWEST IN PRICE.

We carry a complete line of golf equipment and maintain a fully equipped service station.

IDEAL POWER LAWN MOWER CO.

Boston Factory Branch
273 BOYLSTON ST., BROOKLINE, MASS.

When writing our advertisers, mention NEWSLETTER

SALES & SERVICE

In this day and age when Golf machinery is being called on to render uninterrupted service from the time of the first spring rain until the snow covers the earth, the need for reliable equipment is more than ever existent.

It has always been the TORO policy to manufacture their products along the lines of the best engineering and manufacturing standards. Quality of design, workmanship as well as materials have always been incorporated into those items carrying the name of TORO.

Every purchase of a TORO product is based on the confidence of the buyer in the seller. High pressure tactics are never resorted to. This mutual confidence has built a good-will between us which cannot be measured in terms of dollars. It will not be lightly treated nor sacrificed to increase sales. No better proof of this customers' confidence can be offered than the fact that it has contributed toward making 1931 the largest volume year in our history. It also demonstrates that our policy of uniform quality, price and service has earned your approval.

No machine is better than the service organization behind it. There comes a day when every piece of equipment requires service or repairs. This service must be rendered quickly and efficiently, and with this in mind we have established service stations, under our supervision, at strategic points. These are backed by our Newton headquarters with the largest golf equipment parts stock in New England. The volume of parts business does not warrant this large inventory yet it is maintained as your insurance against delays.

We maintain a sales and service organization of 10 men. We operate 6 motor trucks. This personnel and equipment is always at your service, they are prepared and willing to co-operate with you to maintain your TORO equipment always at its highest point of efficiency.

NEW ENGLAND TORO COMPANY

WEST NEWTON, MASS.
SALES & SERVICE ASSOCIATES:

G. F. Patterson & Co.
Pittsfield, Mass.

Griswold & Kylander
Wethersfield, Conn.

Edward Lohr, Providence, R. I.