



NEWS LETTER

There's a whole day tomorrow that hasn't yet been tried, a day where new courage may fling old fears aside; a new dawn that's coming to bring a nobler noon; today may be troubled—tomorrow's coming soon.

There's a whole day tomorrow that hasn't yet been tried, with hours still unwasted, and hopes still undenied; free from fret and folly, it lies untouched, yet near. Today's page is blotted—tomorrow's still is clear!

—Priscilla Leonard.

SEPTEMBER

1938

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

GUY C. WEST Editor
Rhode Island Country Club
West Barrington, R. I.

GEORGE J. ROMMELL, JR.
Business Mgr.
28 Granville St., Dorchester, Mass.

September, 1938 Vol. 10, No. 9

The ideas and opinions expressed in the subject matter of this NEWSLETTER are not necessarily those of the Editor or the members of the club as a whole.

FORE!

Well, boys, the worst is over, but the scars remain. Do they teach us a lesson? What have we learned? Will we be better prepared another year if such weather hits us?

The need of knowing just what the grass on your greens will stand, the positive proof that good drainage, both surface and sub-surface, were certainly demonstrated this season. Are you improving those places on your course that need more tile, different contours?

Certain strains were found wanting. Are you still using these?

Turf nurseries are important. What are you planting this Fall for next year?

How's your acidity? When did you test last? The Fall, the best time to apply lime, is close at hand.

Some of our friends haven't been around to many meetings of late. What's the matter? Don't be so distant. We need you, and perhaps you need us!

Let's have some answers to the article which friend Charlie has sent in for discussion. He has helped us with a pertinent discussion. Maybe your ideas are good too.

By the way, fellow directors, thanks for all those articles you promised us for this issue. We are using every one!

Why not drop us a line with some news. Sit down some one of these rainy nights, write it out, then get out the hip boots, hitch up the old mare, drive down to the post office and mail it along. If the roads are still under water, use the boat. It all helps!

AN OPINION

It ill behoves me or any other member of the Greenkeepers Club of New England who did not attend the August meeting to criticise the ethics of less than 50% of the membership voting money from the heretofore untouchable Trustees Fund to promote a very nebulous project the benefits from which are as yet entirely impossible of positive demonstration.

Through the medium of the monthly meeting notice we were informed that the Directors were recommending such an appropriation and that money from other sources is to be solicited to build the fund for turf research at the Field Station in Waltham to \$1000. If we did not like the sound of this we could have attended the meeting or imparted our opinions to the officers of the Club beforehand with the assurance, I hope, that such adverse sentiment would have been conveyed to the meeting.

Without any knowledge of how the presentation was made or what the discussion was before voting I am assuming that it was brought out that the whole idea of this cooperative fund of \$1000 is but another attempt to bring to life the turf research bill which the Club has sponsored for two successive years and that has died an inglorious death each time in the Ways and Means Committee of the Legislature.

It has been a source of considerable doubt to me whether a full understanding of this bill has ever been clearly held by the entire membership of the Greenkeepers Club. It is with this thought in mind that I am offering my opinion—the opinion of an individual and as such quite definitely open to question. Too; I am presenting this in the Newsletter where it may be read by all rather than holding it for the relative secrecy of some subsequent meeting where representation is rarely over

40%. Perhaps appearing in print replies and counter replies will be generated all of which will promote interest as well as help the Editor by supplying him with live copy for future numbers of the Newsletter.

The first turf research bill sponsored by the Club had my hearty support and approval for the reason that it specified that all money appropriated was to be spent at the Field Station in Waltham. In tracing down why this bill failed, the committee that has so ably handled the promotion, ascertained that the specification that all money must be spent at the Field Station was not agreeable to the parent of the Field Station—Massachusetts State College—and so, upon assurance from the parent that if this specification as to where the money must be spent was omitted active co-operation would be given in every way possible, the bill was rewritten asking for a sum of money for Massachusetts State College to be used for turf research. This may seem a rather harmless change of wording but actually it is one of serious import for Greenkeepers.

Had the bill gone through as first written with the specification that all money must be spent at the Field Station I am convinced beyond a doubt that the Greenkeepers not only would have been consulted and asked to cooperate but would have been expected to be active and in close touch with this work indefinitely. There could have been no diversion of funds and in a very short time there would have been a turf research set-up of incalculable value established at the Field Station. Obviously that is not my belief now.

It may seem somewhat obscure why, inasmuch as the Field Station is a branch of the State College, such a difference can come to pass if money is appropriated for Massachusetts State College for turf research rather than for turf research to be carried on entirely at the Field Station. Irrespective of any designation of where such an appropriation is to be spent the creation of any turf research project must come under the Agronomy Department of the State College. If an assistant professorship is created to carry on the work at Waltham it will be in this department and though the work may be carried on entirely at the Field Station the policy will be being dictated by the Agronomy Department of Massachusetts

State College who cannot and will not be in sufficiently close touch with the turf minded public to mould the policy to the need. Opposed to this is the fact that if the appropriation be designated for Waltham, while there can be no change in administrative set-up, the interest from the department at State College will be perfunctory and a compromise between those two trouble producing factors, theory and practice, will be more happily worked out.

Having nothing but the utmost respect for the aspirations and ability of the staff of the Agronomy Department, when a respectable sum of money is added to the budget of that department with no other string attached than that it is to be used for turf research—a broader designation than perhaps meets the eye—I can anticipate that some of this money will be diverted from the Field Station even though the bill committee was assured by the President of the College that deleting the specification, “to be spent at the Field Station in Waltham” from the bill will make no difference in the actual spending of any appropriation. Perhaps!

Last Spring a different committee met with the President of the State College in an endeavor to straighten out the unsatisfactory situation that has developed over the policies relating to the Winter School for Greenkeepers. The committee was assured that the opinions of the greenkeepers are of inestimable value and that they will be given serious consideration but that no immediate or direct answer is possible inasmuch as this school is such a minor project in the college curriculum he has no real knowledge of how it came into being or what its policies are. Five, ten or fifteen thousand dollars is a real sum of money as a unit but in a college budget of several hundred thousand dollars it becomes relatively small and it is not at all inconceivable that it too may be such a minute part of the whole that the President cannot be expected to know exactly how it is being apportioned within its respective department.

True it will be that, if this bill is passed in its present form, the Greenkeepers will have sold their birthright for a mess of pottage. Perhaps this is your desired heritage to the greenkeepers of the future.

—Charles W. Parker.

CAN WE ERADICATE THE DUTCH ELM DISEASE?

By Dr. J. H. Faull
Pathologist, Arnold Arboretum,
Harvard University

New England is faced with the threat of loss of her elms, trees beloved above all others as graceful features of her landscapes, distinctive settings of her towns and the joy of multitudes of her homes. The same menace confronts all other parts of America in which elms grow or are grown. The Dutch elm disease, a devastating, contagious malady to which all our American elm species are highly susceptible, has been brought to the United States in elm logs imported from Europe and has already begun its attack. That we stand to lose our elms unless we maintain without wavering a vigorous, intelligent, unrelenting campaign against the alien is demonstrated by what has happened and is happening to the elms in western Europe and to the elms in an infected area that centers about the city of New York. The European situation is hopeless. In Europe the disease is now so widely spread, no action having been taken to check it in time, that any hope of eradicating it from Europe is not entertained there. Thus, speaking for the Netherlands Dr. C. K. Buisman, a pioneer investigator of the Dutch elm disease in Europe, remarked in a letter written to me last October—"For Holland, I see the only solution in the 'hunting up' of resistant types." Fortunately the epidemic has been detected in America before it has had a chance to get very far, and in that respect the situation is very different from what it is in Europe.

As early as 1929, a year before any case of the Dutch elm disease was known to be in America, Dr. Buisman, on leave of absence from the Netherlands, was making studies on the diseases of American elms at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University. Indeed it was Dr. Buisman who, during her sojourn with us, participated in the recognition of the first case of the Dutch elm disease in the United States. Following her departure in 1930 our studies of elm diseases were continued and extended with increasing zeal, always with the end in view of serving to the limit of our capacity in guarding

America's elms. As part of our undertaking at the Arboretum, we have endeavored to acquaint the public concerning the Dutch elm disease, we have made free examination of hundreds of suspected cases submitted for diagnosis, and we have established an adjunct laboratory on Long Island. The Arboretum, therefore, joins wholeheartedly with the Massachusetts Forest and Park Association in the crusade against the new threat to our elms. This brings me to the subject on which I am invited to speak—"Can we eradicate the Dutch elm disease?"

At the outset I wish to state emphatically that in my judgment there is no alternative to eradication if our elms are to be saved. The reasons for such conclusion are based on the characteristics of the disease and the means of its spread. The fungus that causes Dutch elm disease enters at the crotches of tender, healthy twigs, usually well up in the crown. It then grows down under the bark, invading all parts of the stem; its essential attack is on the water-conducting tissues. Eventually the flow of water to the foliage is so reduced that the leaves on the branch first attacked wilt and then in succession the leaves of the other branches. But a period of from one to five years may elapse before the first conspicuous wilting shows, or in other words the disease is in the tree for from one to five years before detection is possible. Ordinarily when the first wilting symptom shows the fungus is so extensively established that even drastic pruning cannot save the tree. The tree soon dies or it may linger for a period of years in a chronically sick condition. Soon after the first wilting, bark beetles, more often than not, lay their eggs in the obviously decrepit parts of the tree and after an incubation period of two or three months, or early in the spring in the case of overwintered broods, a new generation of beetles emerges carrying the spores of the fungus with them. These beetles, before entering breeding places, eat the tender bark in the crotches of healthy twigs and at these points infection takes place. The time for action, therefore, is when the first wilting occurs. Such trees should be immediately removed and burned.

As an alternative to complete eradication, control without attempting eradication is being proposed in some quarters. But because of the nature of the

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disease and the impossibility of control with adequate thoroughness, even granting a possible reduction of the number of carriers, the notion of continuously protecting selected trees and simultaneously tolerating the disease in other trees of the neighborhood is fantastic. It is, of course, conceivable that a given tree might be kept sufficiently coated with a repellent so that the newly hatched beetles would choose death by starvation. But even were such a repellent known, how many owners and how many communities would for all time to come so protect the elms of their homes, towns and landscapes? The cost alone would be prodigious; it would be prohibitive. The conclusion is inescapable that eradication in the long run is not only infinitely cheaper, but also that it is the only means if we choose to preserve our elms.*

In the United States thus far (that is, from 1930 to 1935) a policy of eradication has prevailed wherever the disease has shown itself. This includes Cleveland, Cincinnati, Baltimore, Norfolk, Indianapolis, Old Lyme (Conn.) and the New York area. By early April it is anticipated that every known infected tree will have been destroyed

except for a comparatively small number that have been heavily pruned and placed on a probation list for continued observation. In every one of these locations, except the last, the number of affected trees was small and eradication is conceded by everyone to be possible. But as to the New York area, an area extending for 45 miles out from the port of New York, New York and Connecticut, an area in which about 7600 elms attacked by the Dutch elm disease have been found, the situation is different. The disease in the New York area, unlike the others, had a good start before it was detected. The first trees were probably infected in 1926—trees located somewhere around the port of New York, quite likely in Brooklyn or on Staten Island. The beetles recognized as carriers were already established throughout an extensive zone

*From the economic point of view, prompt eradication offers an enormous saving. Should this disease be permitted to go unchecked the cost of removing dead trees alone would run into the hundreds of millions of dollars, while the loss to property values would run into billions." From a form letter by Charles F. Irish, President of American Society of Arborists, January 28, 1935.

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bordering on the Atlantic, though up to that time considered of little importance because of their habit of restricting their attacks to very decrepit trees; so the stage for an epidemic was fully set. The disease, however, was not detected until 1933, and by that time it was well entrenched. Moreover, because of the fact that from one to five years may elapse before the disease shows itself it is reasonable to assume that there are still thousands of affected trees in that area in which the wilting symptom has not yet developed. Naturally these circumstances have raised a doubt in the minds of some, and uncertainty in the minds of others, aside altogether from unsound opinions based on ignorance or misconception of facts, as to the successful outcome of a program of eradication.

Concerning the maintenance of a policy of eradication three views are held. A very few, so far not yet vocal in public print, maintain that eradication cannot be attained and likewise, because of the factors peculiar to the disease, control is equally impossible. This is but a concrete expression of their belief that the world is now so small that the world-wide spread of plant diseases is inevitable. They would abolish all quarantine services. And with respect to our elms they would write them off as a loss, and that is all there is to it. Such an attitude of mind is too fatalistic and too passive to merit further consideration here.

A rather larger group assert the impossibility of eradication but claim, without a vestige of proof, that the

Dutch elm disease is amenable to control. Not only do they speak without any proof of their view, but they reveal a lack of understanding of the essential features of the disease, they have misinterpreted facts concerning the progress of the epidemic, both in Europe and in the New York area, they cite inapplicable examples of other epidemics as precedents, and they virtually refuse to give the eradication plan a reasonable chance to see what can be done. The best that can be said for any control program that falls short of complete eradication is that the progress of the disease might thereby be slowed up somewhat. But the ultimate result would be the same; one of our most cherished heritages would be claimed by pestilence, once gone never to be restored to us—an America without its American elms.

The third view is that in complete eradication of the disease from America lies the only chance of saving our elms. This is now the view of the majority. To some of them it is a forlorn hope, to others it means a hard battle. Back of it all is the conviction that every possible effort should be made; nothing less will satisfy the responsibility we owe our country and our science. If we fail, we go down with our colors flying. But granted sound leadership and adequate financial support until the issue is settled one way or the other, there are substantial reasons for anticipating a successful outcome. They are as follows:—

(1) Public opinion is favorable. I think it can be maintained and strengthened.

At the recent Boston American Christmas Basket Fund exhibition match at the Belmont Country Club, it was reported the following comment was made to the American's representative without solicitation on the part of any of the interested parties, Jimmy Thomson, Lawson Little, Horton Smith and Harry Cooper all declared that "the Belmont Country Club greens were the best they had played on this season, in championship, tournaments or exhibition matches."

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(2) We are equipped at the very beginnings of the epidemic, as we were not in the case of chestnut blight, with knowledge of essential scientific facts—thus, we know the cause of the disease, its nature and how it is spread. This does not mean that research should be discontinued. On the contrary, research should be continued and at a high level of efficiency. It may well be that important additions to and refinements of our knowledge will result. But to delay action for further research is both needless and potentially fatal.

(3) We have learned how the disease found its way into America, and the entrance doors have been closed.

(4) Observations have shown that the disease does not spread by long leaps, as was true of the chestnut blight. In every instance, except for the one tree at Old Lyme, the infection has been traced to local veneer factories or to infected logs in transit. In this connection it is of interest to note that a veneer factory in Brooklyn, handling diseased logs in 1926, was located a short time ago. The New York area infection probably started from that factory.

There are two reasons why the disease does not spread by long leaps except through the agency of man—(a) the spores of the causal fungus are produced in wet masses and so are not liable to be carried by wind—again a contrast with the chestnut blight; (b) the insect carriers make comparatively short flights.

I would pause for a moment to challenge the fairness of citing failure to deal with the chestnut blight, or, indeed, of any other tree disease, as a reason for anticipating failure in attempts to eradicate the Dutch elm disease from America. Yet this argument is being innocently repeated by many well-minded people who are not in a position to know how fallacious and mischievous it is. There was a time when human medicine did not know how to prevent or eradicate any of the contagious diseases of man. But in more recent times science has taught us how to counteract many such diseases. Thus we have learned to deal with yellow fever by eliminating a certain kind of mosquito, malaria by eliminating another kind of mosquito, smallpox by using a special type of vaccine, typhoid

by using another type and by purifying milk and water, leprosy by cleanliness, segregation and the use of a specific, and so on. Note that in each instance, each disease is a separate problem, and that in no way does failure with one preclude success with any other. So it is with tree diseases. And step by step, as adequate study is given to tree diseases, we shall learn how to counteract one after another. As a matter of fact, we have already learned how certain plant diseases can be prevented or eradicated wherever so desired. As instances of tree diseases I would cite the blister rust of 5-needled pines in the case of pine stands, and citrus canker in the case of citrus orchards.

(5) A study of the occurrence of the Dutch elm disease in the New York area is encouraging. Concerning the status of the disease in that area there has been considerable misinterpretation. Comparisons made between the large number of diseased elms found up to the end of 1934 with the small number found up to the end of 1933 have led some people to draw erroneous conclusions as to the rate of spread of the disease. They claim to see in the numbers proof of a spread so rapid that the disease cannot be stopped. Parenthetically it does seem incongruous that at the same time they advise limited control measures. The numerical jump as between 1934 and 1933 is easily explained and it will be seen that it is no cause for panic alarm. The facts are as follows—(a) that scouting was not begun in 1933 until July 10, that is, not until after the most favorable period for scouting (May 15—July 1) was past, (b) that because of the size of the area and the large number of elms within its limits the completion of adequate scouting was not possible until well on in the 1934 season, and (c) the scouts began without experience. So the increase in numbers referred to reflects not the rate of spread of the disease, but mainly the progress of the scouts in their work. In reality we have little more than the first inventory before us, and this inventory will be of limited value as a basal index except in comparison with the inventories of from three to five years hence and the years thereafter.

Subdividing the entire New York area into small unit areas, as has been done for administrative purposes, it is noteworthy that the units within a comparatively short distance of say Staten

Island as a center show much the heaviest infection, those somewhat farther away show appreciably less infection, and not one of those in a broad zone occupying the remainder of the New York area have shown more than from none to five recognizably infected trees. In the surrounding belt, ten miles in width, not a single case has so far been detected. Another point of great significance is that a large proportion of the infected trees in the New York area had not harbored insect carriers before being felled and destroyed. Such trees then did not participate in the spread of the disease. With prompt detection and removal and improved sanitation with respect to as yet uninfected trees, the affected trees from which the disease can be carried will be eliminated. It is reasonable to conclude, therefore, that working from the outside towards the center, surely the infected area as a whole can gradually be reduced in size until eventually it will reach the vanishing point. But it will be more than a one-year project.

Address before the Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Forest and Park Association, January 31, 1935.

TRADE NOTES

We have been informed that A. M. Peckham of Kingston, R. I. has about 500 pounds of Kernwood strain velvet bent seed, and about 300 pounds of Piper velvet bent seed for sale.

We have been notified by the New England Toro Company that the prices of McClain products, as given in their advertisement on page 15 of the last issue were prices f. o. b. Canton, Ohio. Prices at West Newton would be:

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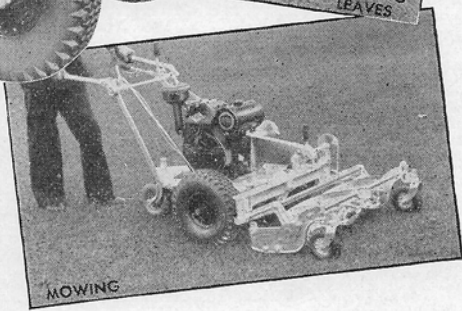
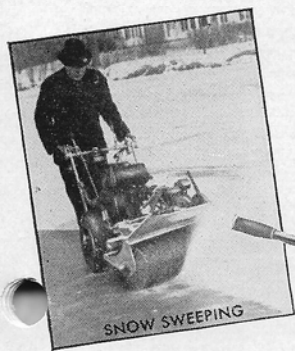
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A TIMELY SUMMER BULLETIN

Rhode Island Department of Agriculture and Conservation

Burton K. Harris, Director
Division of Entomology and Plant
Industry
John J. Barry, Chief

Japanese Beetle Control for 1938

So far as can now be predicated it is likely that in common with other infested areas Rhode Island will have an increase in damage from the Japanese beetle during the next 7 or 8 weeks.

The Division of Entomology and Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture and Conservation has in the past been combating this insect so far as its funds permitted and it has succeeded in reducing the numbers to such an extent that although the insect has been present in the state for over 8 years it has done relatively little damage to Rhode Island crops or lawns. It has, however, been impossible to wholly prevent spread and as the area to be protected becomes greater the work done becomes less thorough since there are no funds with which to purchase more traps and spray apparatus or material or to hire more workers to carry on increased work.

Organized pest control carried on by trained state workers is the most economical and effective but when as already in the case of the gipsy moth, and in the near future, of the Japanese beetle the areas become too great to be effectively protected by the number of men, that can be employed by the state, property owners must themselves take measures to check the depredations of destructive plant pests.

The Division of Entomology and Plant Industry is now entering on its Japanese beetle trapping campaign and is setting out traps in the most heavily known infested sections of the state. It has no additional traps for new areas and cannot therefore comply with the many requests coming from private owners to set traps on their land. Owners must therefore secure and take care of their own traps or, what is probably for them the simplest and best method, be prepared to spray such

plants as are attacked as soon as the beetle appears.

This procedure for small trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants is relatively simple and consists in spraying with arsenate of lead in the proportion of one pound powdered or dry arsenate of lead to ten gallons of water. The same spray will also protect large shade trees but application is more difficult since it requires climbing or use of high powered sprayers which can force spray into tops of tall trees. A little hydrated lime added to this spray is helpful since it colors the foliage white and the Japanese beetle seems to shun whitened leaves. A sticker of some kind such as Kayso or fish oil is also desirable except on plants or plant products which are later on to be used for human food. In fact all plants or plant products sprayed with arsenate of lead to be used for food must be **thoroughly washed**.

The Division of Entomology and Plant Industry, 310 State House, will be glad to identify suspected insects, investigate extent of infestations or suggest the best methods of spraying or other ways of reducing damage from the Japanese beetle.

“Don’t hesitate at any job for fear you aren’t good enough. The world is run by mediocre people.”

“Don’t sow small potatoes and expect a crop of laurels to accrue.”

“The boss who makes his orders stick has no internal problem.”

“Getting the breaks is more often than not a matter of looking ahead.”

“Good talking is a virtue. Good listening an art.”

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CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

Walter Howe of Wellesley won the annual club championship, played at the September meeting, held at the Winchester Country Club, Winchester, Mass. on the 12th. Howe had a fine gross of 80, which was three strokes better than the runner-up, Ralph Thomas. Net prizes were awarded as follows:

H. Mitchell—98-28-70.
P. Hayden—91-18-73.
T. Mattus—89-14-75.
A. Barney—93-18-75.

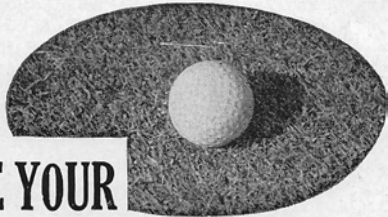
The October meeting will be held at the Vesper Country Club, Lowell, Mass. on October 3rd. A best ball tournament will be held with green chairmen as partners.

Another Sex Distinction

The three-year-old had taken his mother's powder puff and was in the act of powdering himself, when his small sister, age five, snatched it from him, exclaiming:

"Here, you mustn't do that! Only ladies use powder. Gentlemen wash themselves."

—Anon.



ARE YOUR GREENS RAZZ PROOF?

The average—yes, even the good golfer scarcely "smacks" his first ball until he joins the razzing chorus. He misses a putt (usually) and the green committee catches h—. Greens of Scott's Creeping Bent provide slander insurance to said committee.

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NEW JERSEY NOTES

by Kent Bradley

September Meeting New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents' Association—September 12.

Barney Roth, Superintendent of Hackensack Country Club, Oradell, N. J. was host to an attendance of thirty members and guests of the New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents' Association here today. The late Robert Bullock who was superintendent of Aldercress Country Club, Demarest, N. J., died Thursday, Sept. 8, and was given a two minute rise and silent tribute at the opening of the meeting.

Main speaker of the evening was Dr. O. J. Noer of Milwaukee, Wis. Dr. Noer is an eminent turf authority and is consultant advisor of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission that produces a well-known brand of fertilizer. Noer said that trying conditions found on golf courses throughout the central territory this year resembled in many respects those of 1928. While turf damage due to freak weather this season was severe—in many cases, the aftermath and fall conditions of turf are much better. This he said, "Is largely due to the fact that those in charge of golf courses today are much better versed in their calling and know more of how to go about in aiding the recovery of damaged turf."

"Conditions this year emphasized the importance of good surface and sub-surface drainage; proper soil texture; wise selection of grass strains, and the importance of careful irrigations."

Kodachrome lantern slides were projected on a screen and discussed by Dr. Noer to illustrate turf injury, the effect of fertilization, irrigation and other topics.

It was announced that a meeting will be held September 26th at Arlington Turf Gardens, Washington, D. C., sponsored by the nation-wide Greenkeeping Superintendents' Association and the Greens Section of the United States Golf Association. The next meeting of the New Jersey Golf Course Superintendents' Association will be held at Yontakah Country Club, Nutley, N. J. on October 10. John Cameron, President of this Association is Superintendent at Yontakah. Chairmen of Greens

Committees from all golf courses in this region are invited to attend, as are any golfers who are interested. A golf tournament will be held during the day. A demonstration and discussion of the modern irrigation system of Yontakah will be held in the afternoon and evening.

HURRICANE AND TIDAL WAVE

Extra! As this issue is at press, we are in the close aftermath of the worst disaster ever to befall the people of New England. Hurricane and tidal wave, and floods in most river valleys, have caused and are still causing much loss of life and of millions of property. The loss of millions of trees, one of our valuable assets seems small as compared to the loss of life, but, nevertheless is a disaster of no small importance.

The known loss to golf courses is large; there must be many others whose losses are as yet unknown to us. Within a few miles of us here in Rhode Island we already have heard of greens washed out, whole holes inundated, debris by the many tons scattered over rough and green and fairway and trap, flooded areas which will necessitate rebuilding some parts of the course.

At the Rhode Island Country Club we were very badly hit by the winds of over a hundred miles an hour force, by the heavy driving winds, and by the flood waters of the tidal wave, which covered more than half of the course with salty flood water, and which left us a residue of clay over much of the course, and of debris over it all. This debris consisted of parts of homes, furniture, hay, vegetables, lumber of all description, bricks, broken boats, and even bodies of some of the unfortunates.

We have seven greens of the twenty we have including practice greens, which were untouched by the flood waters. These are marked with holes where the wind drove pieces of wood or stones into the soft turf. We have thirteen fairways which were covered in whole or large part by the debris laden waters. A large highway bridge which bordered our course, and which with a flood gate prevented the tides from entering our central canal, washed away, and allowed the tidal wave to

inundate the whole central portion of course. This is the section which is now covered with a sticky clay residue. Nine bridges across this canal were washed away.

Trees by the thousand are broken off or uprooted.

This describes in a few words what has happened to one course; many more have suffered. Truly the whole story of this disaster is not yet written. We would appreciate hearing your part in helping us write it.

G. C. W.

TALKS ON TREES

By E. Porter Felt
Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories
Stamford, Conn.

Midsummer is a period when foliage troubles become apparent. A number of these are due to the relatively new and comparatively unknown wilts.

Maple wilt, a fungus infection caused by a verticillium, an organism which produces green streaks in the sap wood, blocks the water channels and produces a sudden wilting and later browning of the leaves of individual branches and occasionally most of a tree in midsummer. It appears to be particularly injurious to the Norway maple, though sugar and other maples are affected. It may spread from one tree to another through interlacing roots. The prompt cutting of the affected branches well below the affected portion and in the case of a serious infection, feeding in order to promote the development of healthy wood are the two most promising methods of treatment.

A related wilt of elm caused by a fungus, *Cephalosporium*, produces symptoms similar to those of the much more destructive Dutch elm disease. The sudden wilting and yellowing of the foliage upon one or more branches indicates the probable occurrence of one or the other of these troubles. The affected portion should be cut well below the invaded area and samples sent to a laboratory for culture, since it is only by this means that the trouble can be definitely identified.

Wilts occur upon other trees, producing a sudden collapse of the foliage upon individual branches or groups of branches. A condition of this kind on the smoke tree was brought to notice recently and more serious damage of a similar nature was observed upon a

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number of catalpas on the south shore of Long Island. There is not much that can be done for wilts aside from cutting well below the affected area and destroying the diseased branches.

Clean culture, using this term in the broader sense, is the most promising method of controlling troubles of this nature.

The evergreens have their difficulties and this season the condition of white pines in different sections has led to numerous inquiries.

The exceptional warm weather of last winter at a time when the soil was frozen and the roots presumably unable to supply the moisture demands of the top appears to be the most probable cause of a much browning of the tips of needles on individual trees or groups of trees. This condition has come to notice from various areas in eastern and southern New England and southern New York State. It is not due to either a fungus infection or insect attack. The cause is primarily physiological and may be explained in general terms as being

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due to deficient root action. In other words, the demands of the top have not been met by the roots. This latter may be due to some other cause than that indicated above. It may result in some cases from the use of substandard stock, poor setting, or unfavorable soil conditions.

Another common trouble of white pines is caused by the white pine weevil. This insect attacks the leader, producing a wilting in early summer and browning in midsummer. An examination shows that the bark of the leader and sometimes the bark below the top-most whorl of branches has been mined by the grubs of the weevil and the tip as a consequence is girdled or nearly so. This native pest is widely distributed and an idea of its abundance may be gained by the condition of nearby pines. The "cabbage-shaped" pine in the field is an indication of repeated injury by the white pine weevil and should be construed as a warning to those planning to set out young pine trees. Where such conditions obtain the newly planted trees are likely to suffer greatly when they have attained a height of 2 to 7 feet. Cutting and burning the infested tips in mid-summer is usually the most satisfactory control although such procedure kills parasites and, therefore, lessens the effectiveness of natural control.

Any fool can condemn, criticize and complain—and most fools do.

A great man shows his greatness by the way he treats little men.
—Carlyle.

Don't talk about what you want.
Talk about what your listener wants.
—Dale Carnegie.

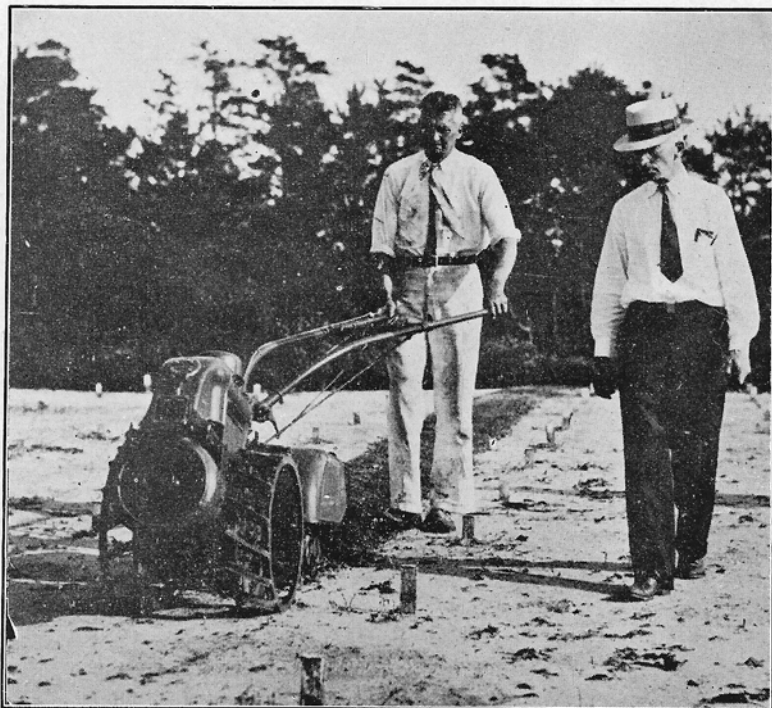
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