



NEWS LETTER

"He who speaks plainly to us about our faults is our best and truest friend—but he won't be long"—Unknown.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

1942

PLAN NOW!!

FALL FERTILIZING—

Now is the time to plan, buy and use your fall fertilizer. Mixed goods with soluble nitrogen will be out. Convert to organics while they are still available. MILORGANITE is still available.

WEED ERADICATION—

Fall treatments with MILARSENITE have proven this is a satisfactory method to be used. Less interference with play and much less discoloration than spraying.

GRASS SEED

New crop Astoria and Seaside Bents will be less than usual due to labor shortage for harvesting and heavy rains after cutting. We have good stock 1941 Bents NOW and plenty of 1942 crop on order for spring delivery. Prices will firm, therefore buy now and save money.

BROWN PATCH—

Most mercurial stocks have been exhausted. We suggest you use THIOSAN now and learn of its merit for next year.

SNOW MOLD—

THIOSAN has already shown excellent results both in prevention and control of SNOW MOLD. Ample stock on hand now. Will accept orders NOW for future delivery at today's prices.

REPLACEMENT REPAIR PARTS

We are still able to fill all TORO parts orders. Don't delay ordering your winter needs NOW.

GOLF ACCESSORIES—

These are each day becoming harder to purchase. As yet we have been able to fill orders from all of you. We must accept orders now subject to prior sale. DON'T DELAY.

New England Toro Co.

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NEWSLETTER

This NEWSLETTER is published by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Green's Chairman. Subscription price one dollar per year.

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SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1942

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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.

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This is the final issue of the Newsletter for 1942.

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WEED CONTROL WITH MILARSENITE

By

Richard D. Mansfield
Mink Meadows Golf Club
Vineyard Haven, Mass.

The elimination of weeds by the use of chemicals has been receiving considerable attention in recent years. We have had considerable success with the use of Milarsenite on weed infested fairways at Mink Meadows.

Parts of our fairways were sown to hayseed that had been swept out of nearby barns and therefore were badly infested with weeds. The most troublesome weeds were English buckhorn or narrow-leaved plaintain, dandelion, both the common and fall variety, yarrow, and clover. The plaintain and clover were the most predominating. The plaintain sends up seed stock continuously during the playing season and so fast that it is very difficult to keep cut off and the clover blossoms caused the players great difficulty in locating their balls.

We decided to use Milarsenite to control these weeds as it seemed to be the most economical method. Our first treatments were made in the fall of 1940 and more areas were treated this spring. It was found that either a fall or spring application can be successful providing weather conditions are not too unfavorable.

The first treatments were made in the fall of 1940. We used a spreader on the first application that was made primarily for distributing lime. Unfortunately this spreader had round openings about six inches apart and did not distribute the material evenly. It was found that it would be impossible to use this spreader so we purchased a McCormick-Deering distributor which we found would spread any mixture with great precision.

We applied the Milarsenite at the rate of 400 lbs. per acre and this ma-

terial contained 75 lbs. of sodium arsenite per ton of Milorganite, therefore, we were putting on about 6 ozs. per 1000 sq. ft. of the sodium arsenite. This rate was found to be too heavy for the turf on our golf course so it was decided to run some tests on 1000 sq. ft. plots. Three plots were made and the mixture applied with a Master Hand spreader; the first at the rate of 200 lbs., the second at 300 lbs., and the third at 400 lbs. It was found that the 200 lbs. had no effect on either the turf or weeds, the 300 lbs. burnt the grass very slightly but burnt the weeds severely, and the 400 lbs. burnt everything. From this it was decided to use the 300 lb. rate, which would mean about 7½ ozs. of sodium arsenite per 1000 sq. ft.

Two more applications were made and the final results were excellent. We had materially thinned out the clover and yarrow and eliminated a high percentage of the plaintain. The dandelions were not loosened to any great extent as I believe they would require at least four applications. We are not greatly troubled with them so are using a Root weed gun which will kill them with one shot. The turf has thickened up from the fertilizer value of the Milorganite and additional fertilizer which we have applied.

We have again made three more treatments to other parts of the course this spring and the results are equally as gratifying. It was found that if the weather was warm enough the results could be as good as in the fall.

The cost of the material delivered at our shed plus the cost of application, exclusive of the tractor and spreader, was \$7.52 per acre, per application. This is slightly higher than it would be elsewhere as our Club is situated on an island which adds to the cost of transportation. It must be remembered that this cost cannot be charged entirely to weed eradication as the Milorganite in the mixture is fertilizing the turf at the same time.

The important things that we found in using Milarsenite for weed control by the dry method are:

1. Determine experimentally the correct rate of application for your particular course. I believe that the rate will vary on different courses due to different types of soil. Probably lower rates should be used on a sandy soil than on a dry soil, as it would normally be drier, and moisture is an all important factor in the use of sodium arsenite.

2. Always apply the material by going back and forth in a straight line on the fairway rather than follow around the edge of the fairway and working in. This is important because when a spreader turns it will give out the material unevenly as most spreader agitators are driven from one wheel.

3. Use an accurate spreader. The use of an accurate spreader cannot be emphasized too much. Our old spreader had always been satisfactory for our other work of applying fertilizer and lime, but would not do the work correctly with sodium arsenite. Whether a hand or tractor distributor is used, it should be the best obtainable.

4. Make due allowance for the moisture content of the soil as this is the governing factor in this work. If the soil is very dry the sodium arsenite will take too much moisture from the grass plants and if there is an abundance of moisture it will not take enough from the weeds. The best time to start is the day following a heavy shower and when clear warm weather is expected for at least the next three or four days.

5. Spring applications have the advantage of the plants being weaker when they are just starting their early growth but warmer weather is generally more consistent in the fall, so it is a problem to be decided according to each

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individual club.

6. A second dose should follow the first in about ten days to two weeks or when the leaves of the weeds are at least half their normal size. This application, like the first, should follow at least a light rainfall.

7. A third application should follow this in the same manner and a fourth might be found necessary in some cases. The less injury caused to the grass during these treatments, the quicker will be its recovery to take the space left by the dead weeds.

**BUY WAR BONDS**

## TURF IN THE NATIONAL WAR PROGRAM

(Excerpts from a G. S. A. Educational  
Conference Paper)

By Dr. John Montieth, Jr.

U. S. G. A. Green Section

Washington, D. C.

The war today brings into focus a good many problems other than those on our golf courses.

Naturally, in turf for war we think of the home area first and how our work will relate to the war program. There have been many discussions about what golf is going to mean and what it may not mean. There has to be speculation because no one knows what will happen from day to day. It is rather interesting to note, however, that John B. Kelly, Assistant Director of Civilian Defense, in his statement about golf says: "The purpose of this Physical Fitness Division is to have more people play golf as often as they can and as much as they can, as we believe that golf, because of the amount of walking required to play, ties in definitely with soldiering and other civilian defense duties, which we may be all be called upon to do."

In another statement he said, "Golf, like baseball and other popular sports, has a definite place in the American Physical Fitness program, instituted by me at the direction of President Roosevelt, because golf is a game that affords physical conditioning, exercise, and recreation as well. It is therefore necessary that nothing endanger its existence. As a matter of fact, I believe its scope should be enlarged to enable more and more people, especially defense workers to enjoy its benefits."

We have heard panicky stories about cutting down on golf maintenance, such as let the rough go. Take care of the rough—that is very important, because that is where the players that I am talking about are going to spend their time. Golf courses must be places for relaxation and not places to become irritated. That is a phase you have to think about and it is hoped now that

the emphasis will be placed on definite exercise, which means the exercise on the 18 holes not the relaxation entirely of the 19th hole, important though that may be.

Recently there was a meeting in Washington—just one of the thousands in this war setup—and it included the gardeners. One of those present remarked: "We are all glad there is no plan to plow up our beautiful lawns and parks, as was done during the last war. We know there is no need now and probably never will be one which will call for such action."

The figure from the Defense Housing Administration was eight million just for grass around defense housing projects.

Most of us do not realize in this grass work is the enormous acreage that is being used in lawns of public agencies.

Another item is recreation in general—the tendency to play more and more games out of doors. The Army and Navy are both putting in a lot of grass for these recreation areas. Some of the efforts are not as productive as we would like to see them, but at least the money is going into them and the chances are that as time goes on there will be more and more of those areas developed to encourage outdoor recreation to the maximum degree.

The Government has other activities, and many of our Federal, public and semi-public institutions have other large areas of turf that most of us are not acquainted with that are related to the defense program. For instance, few of us realize that the Veterans Bureau of the Federal Government in front of their hospitals maintains 36,000 acres of lawn throughout the country.

Another item of interest is in college grounds where the turf on campuses and playgrounds amounts to 300,000 acres. You have a lot of turf in the golf courses, but there is a lot of grass growing around that you haven't appreciated I am sure.



### Roadside Turf

Another big item of turf that comes closer to the war effort is the roadside turf. That turf requires low maintenance; it must have a low cost and be something that will stand up throughout the seasons, with as little as possible of these ups and downs that get in pasture grasses and other crops. Under average roadside conditions we must find a grass to fit roadside conditions.

It was brought out at that meeting that the highway department last year used over two million pounds of grass seed, considerable fertilizer, and the cost of that was half a million dollars. They tell us that we do not have enough national highways nor enough turf. The figures that they published recently in Scribner's indicated that Hitler had developed in the course of years his system of defense highways that criss-cross Germany. He had developed six thousand miles of these military highways on which he could move sixty thousand men each way every hour, as compared with our effort two years ago. I haven't seen the figures for this year, but they had tests of troop movements over our roads in a movement from Lake Placid down to the World's Fair. Their figure of movement was two thousand men and 157 pieces of equipment. That is a strange acknowledgement from the Army that they had that many pieces of equipment—but they moved that amount in one hour and twenty minutes, as compared with Hitler's movement of sixty thousand men each way an hour.

The purposes of the turf are numerous, of course. The idea is to have something tough that in normal times will carry a car running off the pavement and give some protection while the driver gets it under control. In military uses, it is to permit temporarily disabled cars to run off the paving and be repaired, to allow the drivers to rest, and for all other purposes of delay—at the same time not interfering



with the high speed and constant use of the cement paving.

There is also the item of dust, and that is important right now. Because of car production curtailment we are going to be more interested in the life of motors than ever before, and if the roads are lined with grass and have no dust blowing when a car passes, it is going to cause less trouble to the mechanism of the automobile before it joins the ranks of the extinct species.

The roadways, of course have practically the same general problems as we have—kind of a hybrid between the rough and the fairways. They have higher cut stuff than the fairways, but the density of the fairway a little more than the density of the rough. They don't need the close cutting in these things, so it is easier to maintain than fairways, but there is a tremendous acreage that needs the same principles as applied in golf course work.

### Turf On Airfields

Another item that definitely ties into defense work is the airfield. At a meeting of the National Aeronautics Association in Louisville, the president of that association called attention to the fact that word had just come out that there would be authorized some 400 new airfields. He spoke with a great deal of pleasure about that addition to the facilities for aviation, but he also said that 4,000 new airfields is the way airplane people look at the future in this country. From the military standpoint they are building them so fast that nobody can keep track of them, but when we hear of 2,000,000 men in the air force we know that means many more airfields, and the airfields need grass.

A great many people, even in high positions, do not seem to have any appreciation of what that grass means to the airfields. The basic training work, as I understand it, is done primarily on turf. Air Corps men have told me that in the ten-week basic training school for the first eight weeks they do not want the cadets to touch concrete. They want turf or bare ground. If they have the bare ground, as they usually have, it gets dusty, and this large amount of dust with all the abrasive action of that in the motors, is cutting down the efficiency of the motors tremendously. One fellow reported that over 90 per cent of the efficiency is reduced by dust in the motors—that is, 90 per cent of all the troubles are caused by dust. Not only is there damage to the motors but there is the damage to the personnel. These boys coming down and breathing these clouds of dust, are not helping their constitutions any too much; and also because of the heavy dust there is increased danger of accidents.

At the same time they are chiefly concerned with getting the dust and the mud under control—so that every shower will not clog up with clay their drain-

age system. You know from your golf courses, the flat areas of airfields are not the easiest fields on which to keep tiles open, and unless they can stop that silt from getting down in those enormous drain lines, it means plenty of expense and a lot of digging up—which will cause dangerous holes in the field.

EDITOR'S NOTE. Dr. Montieth is now connected with the War Department, Chief Engineer's Office, Washington, D. C. His work is with turf in the war program. Dr. Fred U. Grau is assisting him in this work.

—o—

On April 13 an order became effective relative to the conservation of rotenone-bearing roots, including timbo, barbasco, cube and derris. According to this order, rotenone is to be used only for strictly agricultural purposes, and by the Army and Navy as a delousing agent. Formerly the greater part of our supply came from East Africa, British Malaya, French Indo China, the Dutch East Indies, and the Philippines. Therefore even with annual imports from Peru increased to 2½ million pounds, there will probably not be more than 6 million pounds imported this year, whereas the normal annual demand of 8 million pounds will be increased by Army and Navy requirements as well as by increased food production.

—Timely Turf Topics.

## BUY WAR BONDS

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### CLUB ACTIVITIES

Since the last "Newsletter" was published we have had three successful greenkeepers' meetings. The attendance at these meetings has been very encouraging.

Most of the greenkeepers in this section have had plenty of dollarspot this year. According to reports from those who have tried it, Thiosan appears to be a probable solution to this problem.

All of the clubs are carrying on in spite of labor shortage, gas rationing and lack of materials. Golfers are putting up with war conditions without complaining and golf is making its contribution to the war effort in every possible way.

Following are the winners of the Pro Greenkeepers' tournament at Brae Burn.

|                             |    |    |    |
|-----------------------------|----|----|----|
| 1st net—Jack Simpson        |    |    |    |
| H. C. Darling               | 81 | 11 | 70 |
| 2nd net—Arthur Gusa         |    |    |    |
| John Latvis                 | 86 | 14 | 72 |
| Gross-tie—Jerry Gianferante |    |    |    |
| Ralph Thomas                | 81 |    |    |
| Joe Stein                   |    |    |    |
| Jack Counsell               | 81 |    |    |

The August meeting was held at the Charles River C. C. Arthur Cody nosed out Nick Bruno on the 19th hole for the club championship. Each had 79 for the 18 holes. Net prizes were won by Phil Cassidy, 81-67, and N. J. Sperandio, 85-73.

Luncheon at the clubhouse was followed by a short business meeting. Jack Counsell was elected treasurer to fill the vacancy made by Frank Wilson's resignation. Frank is now connected with the Army Engineers in charge of turf work in New England.

It is rumored that a clerk's error in shipping golf clubs instead of cricket paraphernalia to Boston in 1890 brought the Scottish game to New England.

There was a good turnout of greenkeepers and chairmen at the Salem Country Club for the September meeting. Winners of the fourball were:

|                      |    |    |  |
|----------------------|----|----|--|
| Net-tie—Phil Cassidy |    |    |  |
| J. Ryan              | 77 | 65 |  |
| Jack Counsell        |    |    |  |
| Jack Collins         | 82 | 65 |  |

Winners of the individual greenkeepers were:

|                     |    |    |
|---------------------|----|----|
| 1st net—W. Margeson | 93 | 66 |
| Gross —Ralph Thomas | 82 |    |

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## BUY WAR BONDS

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Ploughs are busy on golf courses all over the Kingdom, (British Isles) and officials appear to be dictated by politics rather than by equity. From every golf course where the land is at all suitable for raising crops one-third is taken; there may be any amount of arable land lying untilled in the neighborhood of the golf courses, but the golf courses must make their contribution. There are golf courses which are of national service in providing recreational facilities for Naval, Air Force, and Army men home on leave or who are based in the neighborhood, and are afforded occasional opportunity of getting a little distraction from the stress and strain of their hour to hour duties. These golf courses, however, are going the way of the others and a proportion of their acreage commandeered. By all means let us have the maximum of national effort and, if need be, plough up every acre on every golf course, but before that is done let Government officials order to be ploughed the miles of pasture land we see in agricultural areas which are sparsely used for feeding sheep.

"Golf Monthly,"  
Edinburgh, Scotland.

### OUR CHAIRMEN

Some golfers think the men who serve  
As chairmen, shouldn't have the nerve  
To use the course to have some fun  
But just keep thinks fixed and on the  
run.

They catch him on the 18th tee  
The match is hot, as all can see  
The last hole halved, the chairman's  
down  
He's out to win, you know by his frown.

The ball is washed and teed-up nice  
He knows damn well that he won't slice  
He takes his stance, we're still as a  
mouse  
When right in his back swing some dirty  
louse  
Yells "Hey—MR. CHAIRMAN, I GOT-  
TA COMPLAINT!"

The Chairman finally makes the green  
Aided by curses and swearing obscene  
Tho' dubbed was his drive his approach  
was so sweet  
It left him a putt of only two feet  
His face is now smiling, he knows he  
can take  
The hole and a par and the five cent  
stake  
He wiggles his putter and lines up the  
cup  
He's ready to stroke when a son of a pup  
Yells "HEY MR. CHAIRMAN, I GOT-  
TA COMPLAINT!"

Now down the road and into the yard  
An ambulance speeds with windows  
barred,  
Two men in white with muscular build  
Come up with a straight-jacket and get  
it well filled  
They gently subdue the babbling wreck  
That once was our chairman, so boys,  
what the heck.

Let's give these lads a bit more support  
They're hackers like us but a regular  
sort  
They hook and they slice and tee up in  
the rough  
But generally as chairman they aren't  
so tough  
They like to play golf, God only knows  
why  
But as you and as me they're entitled  
to try  
So squawk all you want, whatever the  
source  
**BUT LAY OFF THE CHAIRMAN,  
WHEN OUT ON THE COURSE.**

By Leo Bernier,  
Walpole C. C., Walpole, Mass.

### FOR DEFENSE



### DON'T GIVE HITLER THE SACK

The jute from which burlap and bur-  
lap bags is manufactured is largely  
grown in India. Because of the far  
eastern situation and present problems  
of shipping, the supply of new material  
imported has been and will continue to  
be seriously curtailed. Prior to the  
rapid acceleration of activities in the  
national defense program, eighty-six  
per cent of the burlap used in this  
country went into agricultural bags. The  
suddenly increased demand for burlap

sandbags for defense purposes, how-  
ever, combined with the curtailment of  
importations of new material may cre-  
ate an acute situation for the users of  
agricultural bags. Since there are also  
increased demands for such materials  
as heavy paper which might be used  
as a substitute for burlap, the conser-  
vation of used or second-hand bags is  
imperative. Our readers, many of  
whom have been buying large quan-  
tities of material in burlap bags, are  
urged to turn them back into circula-  
tion.  
—Timely Turf Topics.

*You "Saw It Coming!" . . . Now, Here It Is!*



# THIOSAN

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Here it is—Du Bay "THIOSAN"—not only ready, but tested and proved! As Tetramethyl thiuramdisulfide in the Du Bay Research Laboratory, it has consistently shown fungicidal superiority over many other non-mercurials. A U. S. G. A. Green Section report calls this chemical compound "one of the most promising of 100 chemicals tested . . ." And in practical application on turf nurseries and 18 playing greens in Delaware and New Jersey, "THIOSAN" has repeatedly proved its fungicidal value and the high degree of safety needed for fine grass turfs.

Relatively non-poisonous, well tolerated and easily applied, "THIOSAN" does not retard the growth nor discolor the grass. Because it is insoluble it stays longer on the green, yet disperses readily in water for sprayer application. Under ordinary conditions, 2 2/3 ounces of "THIOSAN" per 1,000 square feet every 7 to 10 days will give preventive protection at a cost comparable with that of Special Semesan. When conditions are especially favorable to brown patch and dollar spot infection, double this dosage may be needed.

1. Developed, tested and proved by Du Bay.
2. An organic fungicide; no mercury or other metals.
3. Relatively non-poisonous; well tolerated by turf. Wide margin of safety.
4. Disperses readily in water; easily applied by sprayer.
5. Cost is comparable with that of Special Semesan.

**"THIOSAN" is now available in 5, 25 and 100 lb. sizes. Order TODAY!**

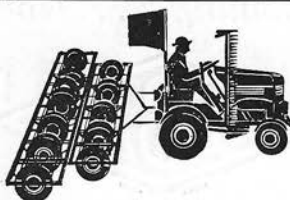
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SINCE 1818

## "duration" or LONGER.



### Your WORTHINGTON machinery must last for the "duration" — or LONGER

We, as manufacturers, and you, as owners of our products, must face the fact that "Lawn Mowers" of all sizes and types; except for the Military Branches of the Government, will be out of production for the Duration and perhaps for some time after the War.

We both will have an extremely difficult servicing problem during this period. Due to Government regulations affecting our industry and material shortages, we know that for these reasons beyond our control it will not be possible for us to maintain normal parts stock and to give the same fast and efficient service we have always provided for the owners of Worthington Equipment during peace times. However, we can assure you that we will do the best we can under existing conditions.

It may be necessary for you to operate your present machinery for years and with this thought in mind, here are a few suggestions which might be helpful in preserving it and keeping it operating efficiently:

- 1** When the mowing operation has been completed do not unhook and leave the gang mower out where prolonged exposure to the elements may be harmful.
  - (a) Bring the gang to the Service Sheds.
  - (b) Wash off grass and dirt with hose. (Dirt hides wear and trouble).
  - (c) Place the gang under cover. (Use a tarpaulin if shed space is not available).
- 2** Make a detailed monthly inspection.
  - (a) Check carefully all lubrication points.
  - (b) Tighten all bolts, nuts, and screws.
  - (c) Make necessary repairs immediately. (Remember that one badly worn or broken part quickly affects other parts).
- 3** When cutting unit blade edges need sharpening, "lap-in" with emery and oil. (Grinding takes off more steel than is always necessary and shortens the life of these parts).

*Look in this same magazine next month for some helpful hints on "Winter Overhauls"*

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