

Greenkeepers Club of New England

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 1949

"Greetings for the holiday season. May it be joyful and filled with the warmth of good fellowship."

The first indoor meeting was held at the Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass., with a fairly good turn-out of members. Mr. Donald Sweeney of the O. E. Link Co., Clifton, N. Y., and Mr. Lemuel Conn of the DuPont Semesan Co., Wilmington, Del., were the guest speakers.

Mr. Sweeney of the O. E. Link Co.:

"Quite a few of the men at the meeting approached me during the intermission to clarify the products which we introduced during my talk. The first was TAT EARTHWORM KILLER, used for control of the Native Earthworm in Golf Greens. One of the active ingredients in this formulation is the new insecticide 'Chlorinated Comphene'. It is used at the rate of 2½ lbs. to 1,000 sq. ft. This material should then be thoroughly soaked into the turf. The green should be watered until it puddles. The other product is used for grub control on all turf greens and fairways, and can be applied right with the fertilizer. The name of the product is TAT No. 137 and gives excellent results when used at the rate of 40 lbs. of 40w TAT 137 per acre. This product kills three ways—by contact, ingestion and fumigation, which is very effective and very similar to the manner in which Chlordene works. However, the cost of No. 137 is less than one-half of Chlordene."

Turf Diseases and Their Control, by Lem Conn, DuPont Semesan Co.:

"Greenskeepers are troubled by many turf diseases, but the most important ones are Brown Patch, Dollar Spot and Snow Mold. Others that do occur occasionally are Ring Spot, Zonate Eyespot, Pythium and Algae.

"Brown Patch is caused by the fungus *Rhizoctonia solani* and it occurs in almost all soils. The development of the fungus is favored by warm, humid conditions and is more severe during the rainy or hot, sultry periods of the summer. The disease appears suddenly as discolored areas ranging from small spots to patches several feet in diameter with a dark ring around the border where the disease is still active. An organic fungicide, known commercially as Tersan, has proven very effective in controlling Brown Patch without any injury or discoloring to the turf.

"Dollar Spot may occur any time during the growing season, appearing suddenly and overnight under conditions favoring Brown Patch but also much earlier and later in the season. The source of infection of dollar spot has never been established but the grass is killed in the affected areas, turns brown, and the spots seldom exceed the diameter of a silver dollar, from which it gets its name. Last spring we introduced a non-mercurial Cadmium compound, F-531, for the control of Dollar Spot. The results in general have been very good.

Snow Mold is caused by the fungus *Fusarium nivale* which lives in most soils. To thrive on turf, it must have a temperature near the freezing point and a saturated atmosphere, such as occurs when the snow melts in the

spring. High organic matter content of the soil, tender grass and snow on unfrozen ground encourage its development. Snow Mold occurs in irregular circular patches, usually less than twelve inches, which may run together to cover large areas. The disease has been effectively controlled by Tersan applied late in the fall at the 8 oz. per 1000 sq. ft. or Special Semesan—6 oz. to the 1000 sq. ft."

The Financial Statement as of October 15, 1948, as printed in the December Newsletter, is from the Massachusetts Turf Association of the New England section, at Amherst, Mass., under the direction of Prof. L. E. Dickinson.

The business meeting was called to order by President P. I. Cassidy.

Routine business was acted upon.

Reports were read from officers and committees.

The nominating committee submitted the list of officers for 1949:

President—PHILIP I. CASSIDY

1st Vice President—HAROLD G. MOSHER

2nd Vice President—ARTHUR C. CODY

3rd Vice President—GEORGE J. ROMMEL

Secretary—N. J. SPERANDIO

Treasurer—JOHN L. COUNSELL

Trustee 3 years—FRANK H. WILSON

Entertainment Comm. Ch.—MANUEL FRANCIS

Golf Comm. Ch.—MICHAEL O'GRADY

Auditing Comm.—ALFRED EDMONDSON

JOSEPH DINARDI

It was voted to advance the 25th Anniversary Committee the sum of \$500.00 to carry out plans for the silver anniversary of the club.

A motion was made and seconded that the by-laws be amended. It will be voted upon at the next regular meeting. The motion:

a. The annual membership dues shall be ten (\$10.00) dollars, payable in advance. New members shall pay an initiation fee of ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Section b.—To be eliminated from the by-laws.

Attention—FOR SALE—5000 sq. ft. of fine Kernwood Velvet Bent turf. Loaded on trucks. Delivery in spring. The turf is donated by the Mitchell Bros., Inc., the entire proceeds to be donated to the 25th anniversary Committee to help defray expenses on our coming celebration. Offers to be made to Chairman H. Farrant of Pine Brook Country Club, Weston, Mass.

The next regular meeting of the Greenkeepers Club of New England is to be held at the Hotel Statler, Boston, Mass., Monday, Jan. 3, 1949, at 12:45 p.m. sharp. This is the annual meeting. Election of the club's officers and yearly reports of various committees will take place. A prominent speaker has been promised by the Entertainment Committee.

A. J. SPERANDIO, Editor.