

NEWSLETTER

MARCH
APRIL,

1956

GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOCIATION OF NEW ENGLAND

The writer has used the weather as the subject matter of so many Newsletters he was determined this month not to mention it. Yet, how can one avoid it. Here it is March 19, the day before the vernal equinox, officially the first day of Spring, and this Newsletter is being written during the middle of the second blizzard in practically 48 hours, accumulating some 18-24 inches of snow in that time. Ever since the present editor has been writing the Newsletter the weather has been making and breaking records in one department, or another, nearly every year. And this year, with only three months gone, seems to be no exception. Is it good or bad to have such an abundance of snow over the turf on March 20? The writer would say more good than bad providing S.M. doesn't run rampant.

"With what a heavy and retarding weight does expectation load the wing of time." W. Mason.

The March 5, meeting at Waltham was another interesting one. The subject of the educational program was on the use of Aero-Cyanamid ably presented by Frank Allen and L. J. Evans of the Cyanamid Company. This product is being used as a fairway top dressing during the dormant period, as a weed controller when establishing new turf, and as a soil sterilizer for top dressing soil. It contains 21% nitrogen and 70% lime.

Cautions. For golf course fertilization, apply any time during cool weather dormancy when soil is *not covered with ice and snow* - 300-400 lbs. per acre on fairways. Spreading equipment must be working properly. Use splash boards to break up streams. A drag mat following spreader is often used. *In preparing new ground* for seeding, stolons, etc. use cyanamid 50 lbs. per 1000 sq. ft., 25 lbs. harrowed in 1½ inches and 25 lbs. raked into the surface. Leave for 3 to 4 weeks. Keep moist. *For soil sterilization* use 13 lbs. to one cubic yard of soil or compost. Mix when temperature is above 50 degrees and store for 7 to 8 weeks. Moisture content must be high enough to maintain vigorous plant growth. For more details see the Aero-Cyanamid folder.

At the business meeting two applications for associate membership were read. Robert St. Thomas, Cohasset C. C., Southbridge, and Thomas Niblet, Scituate C. C.

TIDBITS - Tedesco, Malone, and McBride won the attendance prizes. Please note Tedesco and McBride have repeated two months in succession. What psychic powers are at work here? . . . John Sperandio has taken over Tony's former job at Framingham C. C. . . . Paul O'Leary is boasting of a baby boy in the family . . . The California travelers gave a good account of themselves at the Long Beach, National Turf Conference, including border incidences . . . The Amherst conference was surprisingly well attended in spite of adverse weather, thanks to more hardy souls than ye editor who got as far as Spencer and returned home immediately rather than risking a mid-night questionable journey. A very interesting meeting was reported and high praise was given Prof. Roberts for his excellent management of the entire affair.

NEXT AND LAST INDOOR MEETING

Date: April 2.
Place: Waltham Field Station.
Time: 12:30 Luncheon.
Speakers: From Mitchell Bros. Nursery.
Subject: Golf Course Construction and Kernwood Velvet Bent Sod.

Now that we are approaching the last indoor meeting of the winter and all of us will soon be actively engaged in maintenance problems it may not be out of order to ask ourselves some questions about our association. What did I get out of it during the past winter? What could have been done to have made it more interesting to me? Whether the answer is in the affirmative or the negative another question might be asked, What did I contribute to make it a better organization? The success of any organization depends greatly upon the enthusiasm, loyalty, and unselfishness of its members. What you get depends upon what you wholeheartedly give. Our association has an excellent reputation but the editor sometimes wonders if we aren't too much inclined to coast along on this reputation. For our association to grow big in character we as members must do things for the organization big in character.

*"What others say of me matters little,
what I myself say and do matters much."*

Elbert Hubbard.

H. DARLING, Editor