

tion, however, at a certain club in the Philadelphia district early last summer, all the creeping bent greens but one were given one application of ten pounds of arsenate of lead (about two pounds per thousand square feet). No additional arsenate of lead was applied. These greens today are firmly turfed and in splendid condition, except along the edges where the grubs have crept in and chewed up the turf to some extent. The one unpoisoned green is cut to pieces with grubs, and the turf can be rolled up with the hands—all this in the presence of one of the heaviest Japanese beetle infestations in my experience, for the fairways were simply teeming with grubs. This experience is given merely as an indication of the value of arsenate of lead as a grub-control measure and not as a dosage recommendation. It does not seem advisable to be stingy as regards the amount of arsenate of lead applied to turf, since the chemical is relatively cheap and an absolutely grub-proof condition is the object of the treatment.

Time for Treating a Fairway

If grubs are not present in the fairways, but an infestation is feared, apply the entire amount of arsenate of lead at one time before the first of June. This will insure its being on the turf before the beetles begin laying eggs. If grubs are present in the turf and injury is feared, apply the arsenate of lead at once, regardless of the season, provided the ground is not frozen or muddy.

In conclusion it seems advisable to issue a word of warning regarding the grade of lead arsenate used in poisoning the soil for control of the Japanese beetle where turf grass is to be grown. As the demand for the poison increases it is not inconceivable that a lower grade of material may be put on the market which might be more or less injurious when applied to the fine turf grasses. As a safeguard, therefore, the purchaser of lead arsenate should always demand a grade similar to that used for insecticidal purposes.

An Unusual Golf Course Pest

A recent letter from Mr. L. W. Kephart, who has spent several months in plant exploration in East Africa for the United States Department of Agriculture, tells of a problem that greenkeepers encounter in some parts of that country, but with which they are never likely to be confronted in the United States. In speaking of the golf course at Jinja on the north shore of Lake Victoria in the Province of Uganda, he says:

“In the evening Bill and I took a stroll out across the beautiful little golf course that has been built along the hillside overlooking the lake and the falls. The Jinja golf course is, undoubtedly, distinguished from all other golf courses on earth, by reason of the fact that one of the chief difficulties of its manager is to keep the hippopotamuses off the greens. I have no doubt that many an inebriated American golfer has seen green crocodiles and purple hippos in his sleep, but here they are a sure enough hazard. One evening, not long ago, a dance was held at the golf club. During an intermission two couples went out for a stroll across the grass in the moonlight. Coming to a nice shady mound they sat down to enjoy the moonlight, when the mound with an enormous grunt rose up beneath them, scattered the couples wildly in all directions and moved off. Since

then the Jinjitas have chosen other scenes for their moonlight sonatas. And it must be discouraging for a greenkeeper to have his carefully nurtured turf devoured in one gulp by a pensive hippopotamus."

Resignation of Mr. O. B. Fitts

It is with regret that we are again called upon to report the loss through resignation of another member of the Research Committee of the United States Golf Association Green Section. Mr. O. B. Fitts, who has been with the Green Section since March 1, 1923, resigned, effective February 1, 1928, to assume charge of a golf course at Washington, D. C. For some time Mr. Fitts, as a part of his duties, has had direct supervision of the turf garden at Arlington Farm. He has also upon request visited many golf courses for the purpose of consulting with and advising greenkeepers and green committeemen regarding their problems. While his services will be greatly missed, the Green Section wishes to take this opportunity to extend its best wishes for success in his new field of endeavor.

Hints on Making Compost

By Kenneth Welton

At this time of the year every greenkeeper will find himself with one of three situations facing him as regards the compost pile. He may have insufficient compost or, worse still, none at all, and will look forward with dread to the day when he will need it, and need it badly; he may have a pile recently made and which will, therefore, need watching during mild spells and thaws to avoid loss of nitrogen, or humus, through neglect; he may have an abundant supply of well-rotted compost as a result of following a regular procedure year after year. The greenkeeper with sufficient compost is to be congratulated. It is likely that he will have his pile under cover, where he can put his men to work now and then during the winter months. Compost already screened will lighten the work in the spring when there are so many other things to do.

In building a compost pile the thickness and number of layers should be governed by the material that is available and the character of compost desired. Ordinarily, with partially rotted manure that is not too strawy, equal layers of loam and manure will do; but if the soil to be used is a stiff clay, the pile should be built in three layers, as follows. Six inches of clay, six inches of manure, and four inches of sand. If the humus is furnished by peat, muck, or leaves, it may be advisable to add 25 pounds of lime to each ton of such material to assist in decomposition and guard against any toxicity that may be present, otherwise lime should not be used. If the manure is fresh and very strawy, the thickness of the manure layer should be doubled. If the available soil is of a light, sandy type, enough manure or vegetable matter and clay should be used in the pile to make the resulting mixture that crumbly garden loam so desirable for use on the green. When the pile has been made up, do not let it overheat. The rain usually takes care of the cooling, but otherwise the hose should be used.