

## Plans for Research on Turf Problems in Great Britain

For some time there has been intimation of establishing an organization for conducting turf research in Great Britain along lines somewhat like those of the United States Golf Association Green Section. In the January issue of *Golfing* we read that these plans are now taking definite form. It is stated: "The English Golf Union has now issued its official appeal for support of the scheme for the formation of a Board of Research for the scientific investigation of greenkeeping problems, which is to be under the control of the Joint Advisory Committee of the British Golf Unions. The main objects of a Board of Research would be three: (a) to improve existing golf courses; (b) to reduce maintenance costs of golf courses already in good condition; (c) to cheapen and simplify the formation of new courses."

It is apparently recognized in Great Britain as in this country that there is still much to learn about the fundamentals of producing and maintaining fine turf such as is demanded for modern golf. The proposed Board of Research is to act as a clearing house for information on technical questions relating to turf culture, much as our Green Section office functions in Washington. In addition to this extension or educational service it is to operate experiment stations in different localities for conducting research. Concerning the research work the magazine further states: "In course of time, say in three or four years, the harvest from the research work would begin to come in and, if one may judge from American experience, it would give a return in reduction of costs and improvement of greens entirely profitable to the contributing clubs."

Financing of the new organization is to be arranged through the county unions. It is interesting to note that plans are being made to start the work on a five-year basis. This indicates that the founders are quite aware that research which is worthy of the name can not be conducted on a year-to-year basis, but must have some assurance of stability for a period of at least five years. Americans on the other hand are prone to want their problems settled almost overnight. Research in the natural sciences must of necessity be a slow process, and apparently the British Golf Unions are building well. Naturally we shall all be interested to hear of their progress and extend to them our heartiest wishes for success.

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A vegetable garden is by no means out of place on a golf course. In fact, it can be made a thing of profit while at the same time lending much to the rural attractions of a country club. We know of one golf course that runs a vegetable garden to supply its club house kitchen, and besides raises sufficient produce to sell to its members and at the end of the season produce a profit. In connection with its garden it feeds a number of hogs with leavings from the kitchen and tables, and also harvests the hay from a two-acre meadow. The grease from its kitchen it exchanges with a soap maker for washing powders. There is profit even in waste.

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