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Green Section August Meetings

The Green Section meetings to be held in August this year are unique in that they will be held at what are perhaps the two largest and most complete experimental golf turf gardens anywhere in existence. The Arlington turf garden, at which the Washington meeting will be held August 19 and 20, has been the Mecca of greenkeepers and committeemen since before the Green Section was organized, having been established by the United States Department of Agriculture 13 years ago. Fully as comprehensive as the garden at Arlington is that on the Mill Road Farm Golf Course, Everett, Ill., at which the Chicago meeting will be held August 26 and 27. The steps leading to the establishing of the latter turf garden, and the character of work being conducted at it, have been detailed in the December, 1928, and the March, 1929, numbers of the Bulletin, and golf clubs of the Mid West are particularly fortunate in having organized experimental work so near at hand. Both of these turf gardens are under the direction of the United States Golf Association Green Section. Greenkeepers and committeemen will therefore have an unparalleled opportunity this summer of observing the results of organized experimental work conducted on a large scale at two important golfing centers.

The Chicago meeting will mark the first formal opportunity for the followers of the game in the Mid West to observe side by side, under the same conditions of growth, the different species and strains of grasses and to compare the different fertilization and other treatments being given to these grasses. The plans for this meeting call for a gathering at 10 o'clock Monday morning, August 26, at the Mill Road Farm Golf Course, at which time the details of the plots and the work being conducted on them will be explained. The afternoon will find opportunities for golfing available for those interested, and indeed the Green Section has arranged for a tournament on the course in which all are invited to participate. After this event the Chicago District Golf Association Green Section has arranged for a dinner, at which an informal discussion pertaining to topics of interest may be expected. For the following day the Mid-West Greenkeepers' Association has arranged a tour of the golf courses in the Chicago district.

The first day of the Washington meeting, August 19, will be devoted to a demonstration and explanation of the various projects under observation at the Arlington turf garden. Following this, four nearby golf clubs—Burning Tree, Columbia, Manor, and Washington—have extended the privileges of their courses to any of those who may wish to mix a bit of enjoyment with the more serious acquisition of facts pertinent to golf turf maintenance. On the evening of the

19th the Mid-Atlantic Greenkeepers' Association will hold a meeting, to which all visitors are invited; Mr. O. B. Fitts will preside. The following day this association will afford visitors an opportunity to look over any of the local courses as well as those in the Baltimore district.

Experimental plots of turf have much in common with turf under actual playing conditions, and plots on portions of both gardens will, no doubt, at the time of the meetings show evidences of many of the diseases which attack fine turf. Checks are arranged along with treated areas so that one may readily observe the effects of various treatments for disease control. An inspection of the fertilizer plots at Arlington should be particularly interesting from the standpoint of cumulative effects over a period of years. These and many other conditions will be pointed out by members of the Green Section staff, who will be on hand at both meetings to discuss the various problems which may be outstanding at the present time.

Ample accommodations have been arranged for visitors at both gatherings. More complete details of the meetings have been announced in the June number of the Bulletin.

Trapping Japanese Beetles

More than a hundred Japanese beetles a day have been collected this summer in traps placed on public and private grounds in Washington, D. C., and vicinity. The purpose of the traps is to attract and capture as many as possible of the beetles following their emergence, with the hope of reducing the spread of the pest, or possibly—although this is scarcely to be hoped—of effecting its eradication in the vicinity. Such trapping in a new and isolated area of infestation should be of special value, because there are no beetles in surrounding territory to replace those caught and killed in the traps. Therefore reduction of the future beetle population will be in direct proportion to the efficiency of this method.

Similar trapping operations are under way in a number of other areas where a few beetles—or only one in some cases—were found last year.

The trap looks something like a tin pail with a small fruit jar screwed into the bottom of it. It hangs from a support or from a limb of a tree a few feet above ground. Inside the pail is a funnel-shaped bottom leading down to the glass jar. The trap is baited with geraniol, a substance with something the same odor as geraniums. This is particularly attractive to the Japanese beetles, and not, or much less so, to other insects. The beetles fly toward this odor, so delightful to them, slide down the sloping sides of the funnel, and are then unable to escape from the jar.

Why not offer your caddies a bounty for each dandelion plant with at least one inch of root removed from the fairways or greens? A single dandelion blossom produces over 100 seeds.

Nature can't be hurried, worried, or flurried. It is a wise man who waits until his heavy soil is dry before attempting to work it.