three weeks ahead of those that have been left to the mercy of the weather. The United States Golf Association Green Section has a local experimental plot at Druid Hills where we are making some tests with Bermuda grass covered with various materials, including cottonseed hulls. Some of the plots will not be covered, in order to provide a control. Next year some of the results of these tests may be available for publication.

---

**Save the birds from starvation over winter.**—The providing of food for birds on golf club properties this winter is urged by the golf club bird-sanctuary committee of the National Association of Audubon Societies. A pamphlet entitled "Winter Birds as Guests of Golf Clubs" has just been issued by the association and is being distributed from its offices at 1974 Broadway, New York, N. Y. In the pamphlet the following statement appears: "It is not the cold weather that kills birds. It is the lack of food. Their presence adds a touch of life and good cheer. As we feed these winter guests we come to regard them somewhat in the light of personal possessions, and with the satisfaction of one who feels that he has done the right thing by his neighbors." The pamphlet contains specific instructions as to the simple methods that may be successfully employed to care for birds about golf club properties during the winter months. This pamphlet, it is announced, is the first of a series of publications to be distributed in the campaign which has been inaugurated by the National Association of Audubon Societies to make bird sanctuaries of golf club properties.

---

About 337,000 insect parasites of the Japanese beetle were received in the United States from Japan and India during the 12 months ending June 30, 1929. It is reported that 5 or 6 species of these insect parasites have now become well established in this country. It is expected that the introduction of these insects will keep the abundance of the beetles reduced to such an extent that the damage the beetles may cause from year to year will be no more serious than it is in the Orient.

---

The development of an organic insecticide which may take the place of arsenate of lead is a problem which specialists of the United States Department of Agriculture are encouraged to regard hopefully. An organic insecticide now being studied with this end in view is rotenone, at present obtained chiefly from the roots of derris, a plant occurring in Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula. A new source of rotenone promises to be a wild plant occurring in the mountains of Bolivia and Peru, called "cube." The Indians of those countries use the roots of this plant to poison fish. Small quantities of the plant thrown in streams stun the fish sufficiently for the natives to catch them with spears or nets. It is thought the plant may be adapted to growing in the southwestern part of the United States. The demand for organic insecticides, such as mowrah meal, nicotine, and pyrethrum powder, seems to be much greater than the supply. For most agricultural purposes these materials are to be preferred to the inorganic insecticides, such as mercury and arsenic compounds, since their poisonous effects are attended with less dangerous consequences, especially when used on fruits and vegetables.