

## **Green Section Summer Meeting at Interlachen**

Requests have been received from friends in the Middle West that the Green Section call a meeting at Minneapolis at the time of the National Open Tournament. It has therefore been decided to have a gathering of those who are interested in the turf problems of golf courses, on July 9, at the Interlachen Country Club. One of the Green Section's demonstration gardens is located on the Interlachen course, and it is planned to give visitors an opportunity to discuss the various tests under way at this garden during the course of the meeting. The many grasses and fertilizers used on these demonstration gardens, as described in the Bulletin for December, 1929, will provide much of interest to club officials who have charge of courses. Details of plans for this meeting will be given later in the Bulletin.

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## **Annual Meeting of the Green Section**

As previously announced in the Bulletin, the program for the 1930 meeting of the Green Section was reduced to a single session instead of including three sessions of meetings as held in previous years. This change was made as a result of the increased activities of the Green Section during the summer months. During 1929, meetings were held at Washington and Chicago, at which the attendance was well above that at any of the winter gatherings. In addition to these summer programs various local meetings during the season in different golf centers provided an opportunity for the Green Section staff to carry its work to a much larger number of individuals interested in turf improvement than had been possible in any previous year. Our experience indicates that visitors are more likely to obtain useful information from these summer meetings than from lengthy programs consisting entirely of lectures and indoor discussions. Therefore it was decided that the Green Section program might profitably be changed this year, not with any idea of reducing its activities but merely to shift its efforts to summer programs, which prove more interesting and profitable to all concerned.

The annual meeting of the United States Golf Association was held on Saturday morning, January 11, and, as customary, the Green Section annual meeting was held on the preceding day. The Green Section's various activities throughout the season were briefly summarized and several interesting talks given. These will be printed in the Bulletin for the benefit of those who were unable to attend.

A new feature of the annual meeting was an exhibit of seed, fertilizers, and soils. The specimens were exhibited in the Green Section's customary impartial manner and proved of much interest to many who lingered long after the close of the regular program. One of the most attractive features of the exhibit was a set of tubes of soil showing the effect of type of soil on the movement of water from the subsoil to the surface. Many of the visitors expressed much interest and surprise when they saw the effectiveness of an extremely thin layer of peat in checking the natural movement of water through the soil. In a nearby tube it was clearly demonstrated that the same amount of peat properly mixed with soil had no appreciably harmful effect on soil water movement. Many who witnessed this exhibit remembered having seen thick layers of peat applied to soil for the pur-

pose of increasing the water available for putting green turf; consequently the effect of even the very thin layer which was used in this tube of soil was decidedly instructive.

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A French entomologist killed the ants in five hills by means of a poisonous gas and undertook to count the dead. In the smallest hill 18,000 dead ants were found, in the largest 94,000, and he was afraid to estimate how many live ants had escaped.

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## **Annual Report of the Green Section for 1929**

**By Wynant D. Vanderpool, Chairman**

Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Green Section in New York City,  
January 10, 1930

During the past summer the Arlington turf garden was reorganized. Much of the turf which had served its purpose for experimental work was discarded. Approximately two-thirds of the garden was planted anew or sodded with old turf. During the season the experimental work was continued as usual. Particular attention was paid to the control of leaf-spot disease of turf grasses, and promising results in controlling this type of disease were obtained with certain chemicals. Further work will be necessary before these methods can be recommended for general golf turf use. The number of strains of velvet bent being tested at the turf garden was greatly increased and the work attracted much attention from visitors throughout the summer. A new soil and tool shed was built and the old clay road was graded and surfaced. These improvements should greatly facilitate the work in the future.

The new experimental garden at the Mill Road Farm Golf Course in the Chicago district developed rapidly during its first year. In the fall the planting at the garden was almost doubled, so that now practically the entire property leased to the United States Golf Association Green Section is in use. It was too early to expect any striking results from any of the tests started at this station, but the behavior of the various grasses proved of much interest to those working at the garden and to those who visited it.

During the season members of the Green Section staff availed themselves of the opportunity to work on turf problems at the universities of Chicago, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Some investigations of physiological problems have been undertaken at the University of Chicago and snow-mold studies have been conducted at the universities of Minnesota and Wisconsin. These institutions have furnished laboratory facilities and personal advice gratis to the Green Section. The Green Section staff feels greatly indebted for the many courtesies and privileges they have received from these institutions.

The Green Section has continued its cooperation with State experiment stations in conducting turf investigations. The New Jersey, Florida, Nebraska, and Kansas experiment stations have received the usual small amount of financial assistance from the Green Section.

During 1928 demonstration turf gardens were planted on 15 golf courses in various golfing centers. In addition to those planted on