

ical classification of plants there are frequently no definite dividing lines between varieties, and considerable overlapping of their characteristics occurs. Just how these obstacles are to be overcome seems to be a problem for the United States Department of Agriculture to solve, since the act also provides that "The President may by Executive order direct the Secretary of Agriculture (1) to furnish the Commissioner of Patents such available information of the Department of Agriculture, or (2) to conduct through the appropriate bureau or division of the Department such research upon special problems, or (3) to detail to the Commissioner of Patents such officers and employees of the Department, as the Commissioner may request for the purposes of carrying this act into effect."

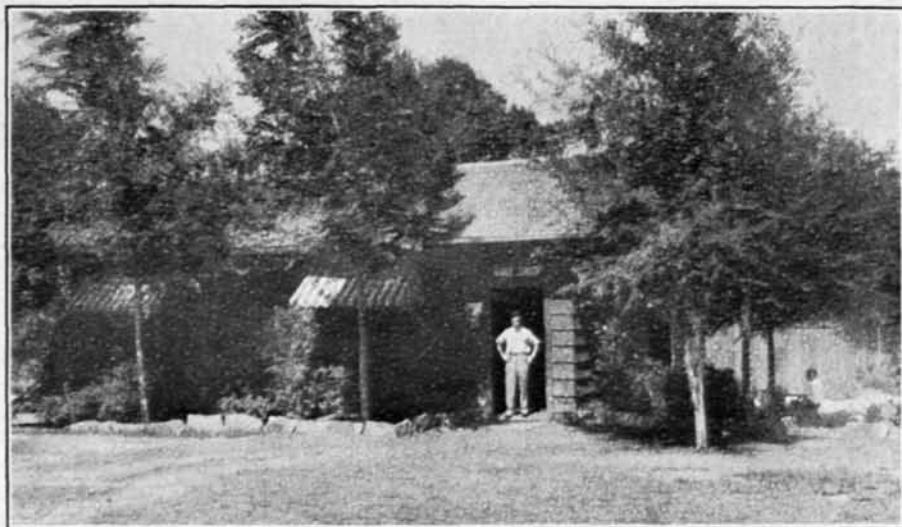
Despite the many complications that are certain to arise from the practical application of such an act, there is little doubt that it will have a valuable influence in the field of plant industry. Apparently this act would make it possible for one to patent a strain of bent grass for golf course use.

A New Elm for the Plains States

By Jay C. Painter

Oklahoma State Golf Association

Late in the winter of 1925 information reached me concerning a superior variety of elm tree that had recently been introduced into the United States from China. This is the Chinese elm (*Ulmus pumila*). The trees were scarce at that time, but after some corre-



Oklahoma's fastest growing tree, the new Chinese elm. These trees, which were raised from seed, are only four years old. Some of them are 6 inches in diameter and 20 to 30 feet tall.

spondence I succeeded in obtaining 24 of the trees from the United States Department of Agriculture. Since that time I have received seed imported from China, from which I have raised several thousand trees. During the last couple of years I have obtained seeds of

this tree from my own plantings, thus making it unnecessary to obtain imported seed.

The Chinese elm is the most rapidly growing tree we have ever had in Oklahoma and has proved to be admirably adaptable to local conditions on the several golf courses where it has been planted in this state. In good soil the seedlings will reach a height of 4 to 5 feet in one season. The trees which I obtained from Washington were $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter and about 4 feet high. They were set out April 1, 1926, and in 1930 one of the trees was 10 inches in diameter and about 30 feet high. Several of the trees grown from seed imported from China in July, 1926, may be seen in the accompanying illustration. When this photograph was taken, in July, 1930, some of the trees were 6 inches in diameter and 20 to 30 feet tall. The trees seem to be immune to disease and unmolested by insects that attack our native trees. They require very little water, and on very poor soil have lived through our hot and dry Oklahoma summers without any attention whatever. They are reported to thrive from northern Minnesota to southern Texas, and it is probable that they can be grown successfully anywhere in the United States.

The leaf of the Chinese elm is similar to the leaf of our native elms but is only about one-fourth as large. Because of their small leaves the trees are particularly desirable on golf courses, since they do not litter up the fairways and greens in the late fall. The trees leaf out very early in the spring and retain their foliage long after other deciduous trees are bare. Several of the nurseries in the West are now producing seedlings of the Chinese elm in large quantities.

Asiatic Beetles as Turf Pests

In relatively recent years there have been three destructive beetles introduced into the eastern part of the United States from Asia. These three beetles are commonly referred to as the Japanese beetle, the Asiatic beetle, and the Asiatic garden beetle. The destruction caused by the Japanese beetle on many eastern golf courses is only too well known. Its damage and methods for its control have been referred to in the Bulletin from time to time. The Asiatic beetle and the Asiatic garden beetle cause damage in many respects resembling that caused by the Japanese beetle; however, they have not yet spread to many golf courses and it is to be earnestly hoped that their spread will be no more rapid than it has been in the few years since the beetles have been introduced into this country. It is well, however, for golf clubs to be on the lookout for these insects throughout the regions adjoining the areas where the insects are known to exist. The grubs of all of these beetles cause similar injury to grass by feeding on the roots. Recently three publications have been written by state and Federal agricultural entomologists which give detailed descriptions of these insects and suggestions for their control. For the convenience of our readers we are printing abstracts of these publications. If further information is desired it may be obtained by consulting these publications referred to or by writing to the authors.

Bulletin 304, issued by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, Conn., entitled "The Asiatic Beetle in Connecti-