

NEWS LETTER

Some Useful Don'ts

- Don't rush your shots.
 - Don't try to drive 300 yards when you can only drive 200.
 - Don't worry if your opponent is holing them—it can't last forever.
 - Don't worry if you are putting well but not holing them—they will soon drop in.
 - Don't worry about what others are doing—get on with your own score.
 - Above all**, don't tighten grip when nervous.
(“Golf in Australia”)
-

MAY

1938

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When writing, mention NEWSLETTER.

This NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Green's Chairmen. Subscription price ten cents a copy, or a dollar a year.

GUY C. WEST Editor
Rhode Island Country Club
West Barrington, R. I.

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Business Mgr.
28 Granville St., Dorchester, Mass.

May, 1938

Vol. 10, No. 5

The ideas and opinions expressed in the subject matter of this NEWSLETTER are not necessarily those of the Editor or the members of the club as a whole.

FORESTRY AS IT SHOULD BE PRACTICED ON THE GOLF COURSE

by George J. Rommell, Jr.
(A Recreation Conference Paper)

Forestry as it should be practiced on the golf course, is synonymous with landscaping the golf course.

By far the overwhelming majority of golfers are those who work in offices or other places of confinement, where they see nothing, but 4 straight walls all during their working day. Whether consciously or unconsciously these people are going out to play golf to get away from all this. They may say they go out to play golf and for no other reason. This may be true, but most everyone has taken up golf, to get out in the open and to commune with nature.

To still further show the importance of proper landscaping or forestry on the golf course; and I do not believe I am going too far out on a limb in saying this; in the not too distant future golf courses will be called on to make the last stand against the encroachment of civilization on nature, near the large cities. This condition is being aggravated by the steady push of city dwellers to the suburbs and outlying towns, where the natural scenery is being destroyed, and slowly an artificial landscape is made. To be sure there will

be parks and beautifully landscaped homes, but this will become monotonous as they must of necessity be largely formal, and the great hue and cry will be to get somewhere, where a fellow will see trees and nature in the raw, so to speak. Herein lies the opportunity of every golf course.

A golf course therefore should make a definite landscape plan that should extend over many years, and that will wind up with an objective which was visualized before the plan ever started.

The Clubhouse

Clubhouse plantings should be more or less formal. The entrance of the clubhouse should be formal. The view from the dining room should have a vista. The service portion should be hidden.

It is entirely possible to supply the clubhouse with flowers for six to eight months, grown in flower beds near or in the clubhouse area. These can be grown from Narcissus in the spring to Chrysanthemums in the fall.

Too many trees near a clubhouse, with no small bush or flowering plants are monotonous.

Fairway Plantings

Now fairway and rough plantings of trees should never be formal, or have a formal appearance. There should never be straight lines of trees to outline these fairways.

There should never be too many of one type of tree because of the monotony of the picture it produces. Particularly is this true with evergreens except the more or less informal growing types.

Straight lines of evergreens give a stonewall effect which when the eye hits them stops dead, and you can see no further. However, if you are making an attempt to blot out an undesirable view, there is no better way to do it than with a line of evergreens.

As far as possible the landscape picture on the golf course should give the feeling of openness and freedom, yet should blot out undesirable views and parallel fairways.

Trees should be planted so as to give the element of surprise, as for example to walk out upon a tee and suddenly face a hill or valley. Or to come across little groups of naturalized flowers; such as: Narcissus, Lady Slippers, Naturalized Tulips, Water Lillies growing in a pond or a rock garden, growing naturally on a natural piece of rock in the woods near the fairway.

Monotonous horizontal lines may be avoided by drawing vertical lines from an already established piece of woodland to the proposed planting.

Plant only types and kinds of trees that are growing naturally in that area.

Evergreens should not be planted too near fairways, as the low branching characteristic of the evergreen, make it almost impossible for the golfer to get out from under them, and this also is worth considering, the low branching characteristic of this tree, makes it the prey for the cigarette tossed into the tall grass by the careless golfer. This also applies to roadside planting of evergreens.

Evergreens are desirable from a maintenance angle, as they will greatly reduce the leaf problem. Nevertheless, do not let this influence you to go to the extreme of planting so many that they make a monotonous picture on the course. Properly placed with deciduous trees, they have a very important part to play in the landscape.

Certain types of oaks, whose leaves remain on the trees through the winter, should be discouraged as much as possible, as they create a leaf problem in both the fall and spring, and therefore add to the maintenance costs. Also the poison oak which is often as poisonous, as poison ivy to some people.

DISEASES AND INSECTS OF TREES

It might be well to dwell for a few moments on the insects and diseases which are terrorizing the northeastern part of our country at the present and thus be able to recognize them if they should arrive in our vicinity.

Elm Leaf Beetle

Hundreds of Elms die as a result of continuous defoliation and by subsequent attack by bark beetles.

Adult beetle lives over winter in rubbish. When buds begin to swell, beetles begin to emerge, mate and feed on leaflets.

Control—Spray trees with arsenate of lead just after buds burst and again two weeks later.

Gypsy Moth

Imported from Europe in 1869.

Female white with few black markings. Abdomen yellowish brown and so heavy she is unable to fly. Male dark brown with black wavy lines on wings. Eggs found in early July, usually on or close to tree on which it feeds. The caterpillars hatch the following spring.

A double row of blue and red spots distinguishes them from other larvae. The larvae feed on many trees, preferring hardwoods.

Control—Paint egg masses with creosote. Spray when larvae hatch with arsenate of lead. Imported parasites are helping to control this insect.

Brown Tail Moth

Moths pure white with abdomen tip covered with brown hairs. Clusters of 2 to 3 hundred eggs are laid July on underside of leaves. They hatch in the middle of August, and larvae start feeding. The larvae live in a winter nest of terminal twigs and leaves bound with silk. In spring larvae come out and eat bud scales and leaflets. Caterpillars have barbed reddish brown hairs, on all tubercles. These hairs are poisonous.

Maple, elm and oak suffer most injury.

Control—Cut webs from trees in winter and destroy. In spring spray with arsenate of lead.

American Tent Caterpillar

Control—Destroy nests. An ideal and inexpensive way to destroy them is to put burlap soaked in gasoline on the end of a long pole and ignite the gasoline soaked burlap, and burn off nests which are always easily discernible.

DISEASES

White Pine Blister Rust

Caused by parasitic fungus within pine bark girdling the trunk and killing the tree. It must have two hosts in order to complete its life cycle. Currant and gooseberry bushes and pines.

Control—Pull up and destroy all currant and gooseberry bushes within 900 feet of pines.

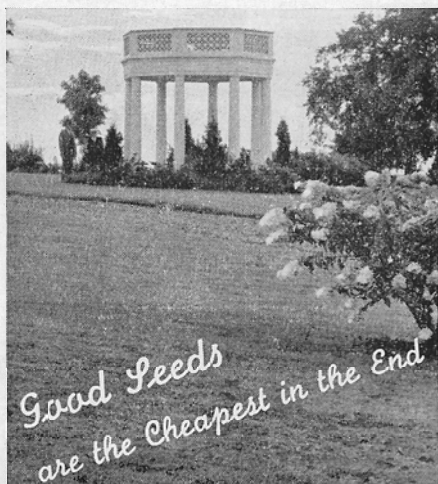
Any pine having five needles in a cluster is subject to attack.

Dutch Elm Disease or Graphium of Elms

Federal government recently appropriated one-half million dollars to fight this fungus.

Discovered in the Netherlands 15 years ago. In ten years it has killed trees in 12 European countries. Nine infected elms were found in Ohio in 1930 and 1931. A serious outbreak in N. Y. and N. J. in 1933. During summer of 1934, 7000 infested trees were reported around N. Y. City. Connecticut 55 cases.

It attacks the circulatory system. Sometimes kills within few weeks, generally over a period of years. Young




Good Seeds Are Cheapest in the End

Specify

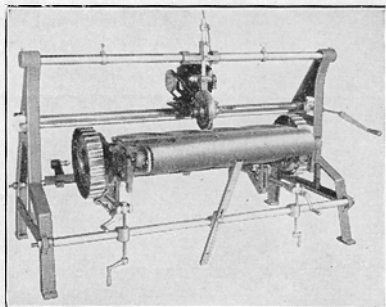
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Get in that "LUCKY PUNCH" EARLY!

Don't underestimate the savageness of brown patch. It strikes swiftly, killingly. The time to paralyze its power is *before* it gets under way — with regular, effective applications of *Special SEMESAN* or the other tried and proved Du Bay fungicides, Regular SEMESAN or Nu-Green!

Special SEMESAN gives liberal and *exact* turf coverage — one pound treating 6,000 square feet of turf for as little as \$1.29. Fewer applications are needed. That's why it offers you such sensible, practical and economical protection for your greens. Easily applied in water solution or dry with compost. Used in solution, it does not damage the spray rig — so you have less sprayer repairs to add to your application cost. *Two* organic mercury ingredients assure high effectiveness, yet the cost is low: 5 lbs., \$7.00; 25 lbs., \$33.00; 100 lbs., \$129.00. Order from your supply house, and write direct for free Turf Disease Pamphlet.



OTHER BROWN PATCH FUNGICIDES

Regular Semesan, the original brown patch fungicide, and *Nu-Green*, the preventive which also hastens recovery of infected turf, are also available to all greenkeepers who prefer them. *Regular Semesan*: 5 lbs., \$9.90; 25 lbs., \$45.50; 100 lbs., \$180.00; 300 lbs., \$535.00. *Nu-Green*: 5 lbs., \$6.30; 25 lbs., \$29.00; 100 lbs., \$115.00; 300 lbs., \$338.00.

BAYER-SEMESAN COMPANY, INC., DU PONT BLDG., WILMINGTON, DEL.

and old, strong and weak, are susceptible. Sprays do not control the disease. Spores of graphium are carried into tree by Elm Bark Beetles.

The beetles are found infesting imported logs, but the larger type beetle has never been found in the field. They are one-tenth to one-eighth inch long and have glossy reddish black wing covers. The grub is a crescent shaped, white, legless creature slightly larger than the beetle. Both adults and larvae live and feed on elms breeding and spending the winter under the bark in weak or dying trees or parts of trees.

Get the Circular "Dutch Elm Disease in Connecticut". No. 106, Conn. Agr. Exp. Station.

Look for leaves that turn a dull green and then yellow. Wilting symptoms

usually appear first toward the crown of the tree. Cross sections of twigs and limbs show brown specks in the outer ring of the specimen. Other diseases produce symptoms closely resembling. At present the disease can be confirmed by laboratory culture only.

How to do Forestry Work at Low Cost

You may ask, how can we afford to do all this work? I offer a slight ray of hope in the way "The Wellesley C. C." has worked out a solution.

The members are doing this work themselves.

Let me read a report which was recently made by the forestry committee of this club.

The Forestry Committee, during the last 17 years has gone over every acre

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of our holdings about 75 in all, taking out all dead pines and at the first of our operations many dead Chestnut trees killed by the blight.

Burnt all underbrush as we went along leaving no cleaning up for the greenkeeper. We have salvaged cord wood to the value of \$2000 and have given the club about \$8500 in labor. We have had an average of eight and once we had 25 turn out with no accident. We have worked every week end rain or shine from Dec. 1 to Mar. 1. During the war period we heated the clubhouse with the wood we cut for long periods. Two members, Mr. Charles M. Sellman and Robert W. Puffer, chairman, have been members of the committee without interruption. Mr. Sides, the club president, has been an active member for 12 years.

Red Pine was planted around a gravel pit. The soil was poor, but the trees have done nobly.

The White Pine were planted on a light soil with a yellow loam bottom and have all done well.

The White Spruce were planted where there was a natural damp soil.

Phooey, you will say, wait until the CIO or AFL gets after you for putting men out of work. Let me say that with the exception of a very few courses, nothing is being done about forestry. Herein lies the opportunity for a wide awake greenkeeper to direct and plan this work, and to get the members interested in the idea. For once the members of a club get started they will be enthusiastic to the point of overworking. Guard against this possibility as many people get sick from overwork—and this can be avoided by limiting the time for work.

To get the members started on this work a dynamic spark plug must go to work on them. Perhaps a case of beer etc. or a lunch put up by the wives might get it going.

“The first rule of successful organizing is to focus and restrict responsibility.”

“The second is to follow up instructions.”

“The third is to check closely on results.”

The June meeting will be held on the 6th at the Framingham Golf Club, Framingham, Mass. Lunch will be served at noon, followed by an eighteen hole medal handicap tournament. Also, keep in mind the John Shanahan Memorial Greenkeeper-Pro Tournament in July, date to be announced later.

The Ninth Annual Greenkeepers' Field-Day will be held at the Rhode Island State College on May 23rd. A visit to the experiment plats, lunch, a speaking program, exhibits and demonstrations make up an interesting program which you shouldn't miss. We'll see you there!

Our old friend and fellow member, Joe Oldfield, was married on May 7th to Miss Mary Jane Hines of Boston. Best of luck, Joe!

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mitchell of the Walpole Golf Club on April 23rd, a boy, Richard. Another future greenkeeper in the Mitchell clan!

The May meeting was held at the Weston Golf Club, Weston, Mass. on the 2nd. Winners in the golf tournament were:

P. Wanberg—95-66.
S. Hannon—100-71.
J. Counsell—89-72.
N. Bruno—87-74.
H. Mosher—99-75.

In talking with Harold Mosher recently we gathered the following of interest about Riverside G C. Two tees planted to straight yarrow last year have given very good results. Riverside is to complete in the near future the watering system on the second nine. Results on the first nine were so satisfactory that there was no question about completing the work. Universal pipe with Buckner valves and sprinklers are to be used.

The M. D. C. have recently taken over the Greenwich G. C., on the site of the new Quabbin Reservoir, and Riverside and Ponkapoag are each bringing down some eight to ten thousand square feet of sod from this course, to use mainly on tees.

NEWLY DEVELOPED LAWN MOWER FEATURES ALUMINUM CONSTRUCTION, RUBBER TIRES

Complying with a definite need for a light, quiet, easy-running hand mower for use by home owners, parks, playgrounds, golf courses or cemeteries, the Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Works of Primos, Pennsylvania, recently announced a newly developed lawn mower featuring aluminum construction—rubber tires and rubber covered roller—and a patented single-screw adjustment on each end of the lower blade.

"Our new Great American Meteor," says the Sales Manager of Pennsylvania, "was developed in answer to a consistent public demand for a light, quiet and easy-cutting mower, which would be capable of withstanding the hard use of day-in and day-out, week-after-week work required by those who have large areas of lawn to maintain."

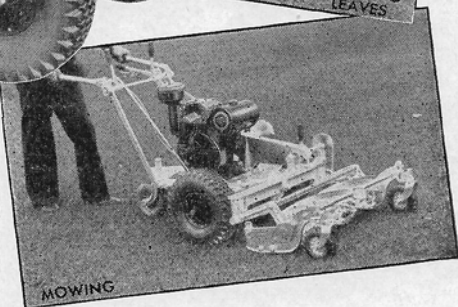
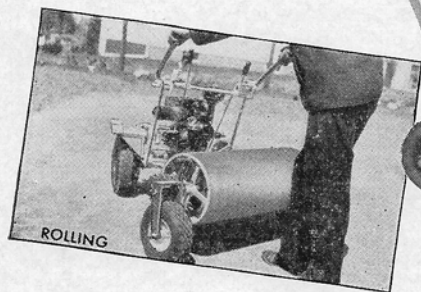
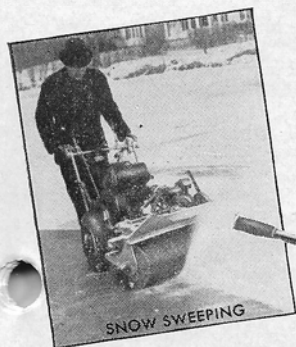
The Great American Meteor, weighing only 35 pounds, one-third less than the weight of conventional lawn mowers, achieves its extreme lightness through its aluminum construction. Lightness is combined with special design to insure good ground-holding qualities, which are further enhanced by distinctive treads on the rubber tires giving greater traction.

Although the design is based on the world famous Great American, the improved construction of the Meteor is such that it requires an absolute minimum of attention and care. The axles, for example, are packed with grease which feeds steady lubrication to the wheels, thereby lengthening the periods between regreasing.

The patented, single-screw adjustment on each end of the lower blade, replaces the conventional four screw arrangement, assuring a more rigid and accurate adjustment between the lower and the whirling blades. The precision with which this lower blade can be set makes it possible to obtain a fine adjustment which makes the cutting noiseless and the mower easier running.

The Meteor truly sounds a new note in lawn mower design and reflects the progress made in the development of grass cutting equipment and the industry's desire to satisfy the public needs.

Year Round Utility with the IDEAL Caretaker



A Power Lawn Mower — a Power Sweeper — a Power Roller all in one convertible combination—the Ideal Caretaker.

The **mower** assembly embodies advantages found in no other mower. Full-floating, power-driven cutting unit with 8" reel. Will trim close around flower beds, drives, etc.; and will handle a wide variety of mowing conditions with maximum efficiency.

The **sweeper** assembly offers an efficient method of windrowing—leaves in the fall; sweeping dead grass and debris from lawns in the spring; sweeping snow from walks, driveways, platforms and skating rinks in the winter.

It takes less than 30 minutes to convert the "Caretaker" from a power mower to a power sweeper or vice versa—the power unit will haul lawn roller, spiker, etc. Truly an implement of practical, year-around utility.

Write for complete information and catalog, or ask to have our nearest representative call.



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WHAT TIME OF THE DAY IS BEST FOR MOWING PUTTING GREEN GRASSES

Student paper read at 1938
Recreational conference

Martin C. Higgins, Pro-Greenkeeper
Fall River (Mass.) Country Club

Before determining the time of day best suited for the mowing of putting greens, a few fundamental facts must be considered.

All the food manufactured in a plant by photosynthesis is synthesized in the green portions of the plant. (Photosynthesis means simply the chemical combination of water with carbon-dioxide within the plant, in the presence of light and chlorophyll, to produce carbohydrates of food.) Chlorophyll is the green pigment which imparts to plants their green color. It is only natural to assume that any injury to the green part of the plant, such as cutting away green tissue, will be detrimental to the process of food manufacture. Needless to say, photosynthesis is the most important physiological process on earth. Without it, life would soon cease to exist. Coming a bit closer to the subject, we shall discuss mowing after sunset and will discuss advantages and disadvantages of each together with the other factors to be considered.

Nature determines the size and shape of the leaf, and if some unnatural force, such as clipping, cuts this necessary leaf surface in half, then the plant's source of food supply and manufacture is limited to one half of its original capacity. The manufacture of food is dependent upon the surface area of the leaf, and upon the amount of this area which is exposed to the sunlight to activate the process of photosynthesis.

The manufacture of food in a grass plant cannot occur after sunset, because of the necessity for light.

A plant loses considerable water, mineral food and chlorophyll from an open wound, because the osmotic pressure from the roots accentuates transpiration through the new and unnatural opening. This excessive transpiration automatically increases evaporation. All these conditions coupled with dry weather and intense sunlight will cause a depletion of soil moisture, which, in turn, will cause wilting.

Increased activity in photosynthesis causes a greater production of food. It is reasonable to believe that nature can

and would accommodate this demand for additional food storage space by an increase in root growth. Cultural practices that promote a more intensive root growth will allow the plant to draw on larger volumes of soil for nutrients and moisture, and consequently resist more unfavorable weather conditions than would otherwise be possible. Soil nutrients assure the production of sugars and starches in the leaves which, in turn, take part in the formation of the internal chemical energies that account for the entire plant growth.

Leaf and root growth should be relative or balanced in order to resist all unfavorable conditions to a growing grass plant. This is accomplished only by keeping all of the working parts of the plant in operation.

Past experiments also show that, in general, root growth will not respond to applications of fertilizers if photosynthesis is hindered by close clipping in the sunlight. Such being the case, your fertilizer applications will be much more effective if mowing takes place after sunset.

It is a known fact that grass growth is most abundant in the evening. In consideration of this fact, it would be wise to capitalize this abundance of plant growth. With the added strength from growth, a plant becomes much more resistant to drought, fungus disease, temperature, evaporation, and competition of its neighboring plants such as clover, dandelion, crab grass, knotweed, and plantain. These plants, by their prostrate habit of growth can escape the severe injury of cutting.

Other facts and approximate statistics which have been results of experiments and which should be kept in mind because of their bearing on the subject at hand are:

That the stomata in Bluegrass leaves are 78% open at 12:00 noon, 96% open at 6:00 A. M.; 58% open at 6 P. M.; the stomata of the Red-Top are 15% open at 6 P. M.; the Red Fescue are 72% open at 6 A. M. The majority are closed at 11 A. M. and 88% open at 6 P. M.

Experimental statistics show that uncut putting green grasses double their degree of growth every second day, varying from 1-4 inch on the odd days and 1 1-4 inches to 1 3-4 inches on the even days

Bleeding of leaves from cutting necessitates 3 to 5 hours of sunlight before healing.

AGAIN THE
GOLF
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GREEN
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You take NO RISK in buying. One dozen box of the LARGE COUNTRY CLUB size is \$9.25. Use one. If not satisfied with results return the rest and owe nothing. Four dropper attachments to prevent waste and save time, with each dozen.

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You can grow NATURE'S OWN INSURANCE into your turf by using FRESH, VIABLE seed which grows in YOUR latitude in YOUR country.

SAVE for your club: Buy your seed direct from the grower.

A. N. PECKHAM
KINGSTON RHODE ISLAND

Infrequent mowing promotes a coarse grass, higher tillering of new leaf blades and more shade for root protection.

And, finally, regardless of our cultural practices and conditions, we should always remember that a perpetual vegetative reproduction and a lack of seed reproduction caused by frequent close cutting, will eventually develop a degeneration of all putting green grasses.

In conclusion, it will be noted that I have not given any consideration or explanations, regarding Golf Playing Conditions. I feel that this is an important problem in itself, and should be discussed only after one has reached a decision as to what is the best time for mowing putting green grasses. From the foregoing, I believe that the best time to mow is between 12 o'clock at midnight and 2 o'clock in the morning, or that part of the day when the manufacturing of food is at a standstill and the accumulated product has been completely translocated to the roots.

Realizing that this is quite impossible because of that ever important factor, namely LIGHT, my second choice would be to start mowing putting greens at an hour that would enable me to do a careful and thorough job just before dark.

TALKS ON TREES

By E. Porter Felt
Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories
Stamford, Conn.

Keep fire away from trees in the general spring clean-up.

There are possibilities of serious damage by fire to trees and shrubs when burning debris. A leafless tree appears lifeless to the casual observer and yet beneath the bark are delicate living cells which transmit the sap from root to top and the vital fluids from the leaves to the roots. Circulation in both directions is necessary to the life of the tree.

Recently there came to hand some branches of red maple showing peculiar scars on one side. They were irregular, swollen, reddish brown masses of scar tissue three to eight inches long and over half an inch wide. The general appearance was a little suggestive of tree hopper or tree cricket injury due to a series of egg punctures. A closer examination showed there were no egg punctures in the wood and that the swollen scar tissue had overgrown a dead area originally about one-fourth of an inch wide. The growth rings date the injury back three or possibly four years.

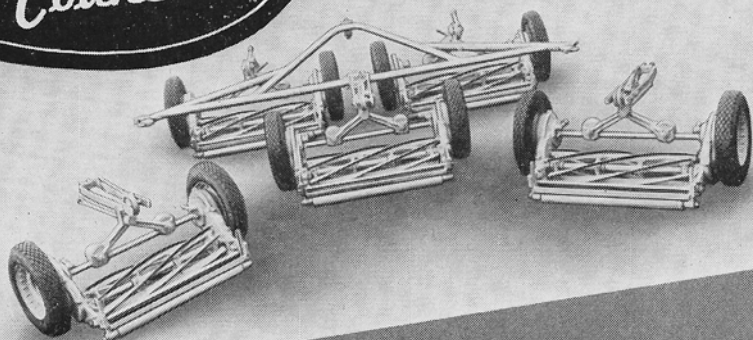
It is quite possible that the fire causing the damage described above occurred during the dormant period and that there was no marked charring of the outer bark. All that is necessary is sufficient heat to kill the cambium. It is probable that no one suspected trouble until the bark cracked and loosened from the wood.

Few realize the possibilities of fire injury to small branches. It is much hotter above than on the side of a fire. The danger of injury to overhanging branches is greater when there is little or no air stirring than if there is a breeze. The only safe way is to refrain from building even small fires under trees where air currents will carry the heat toward the branches. It is surprising how many build fires under trees or allow fires to run over weedy areas with small trees standing here and there. Occasionally small piles of leaves are burned close to the trunk of a nice lawn tree.

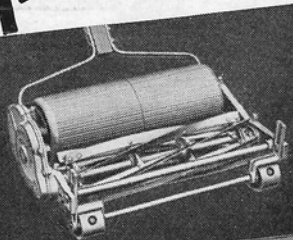
The only safe procedure is to keep fires, even small ones, at some distance from trees.

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**PENNSYLVANIA SUPER-ROLLER
GREENS MOWER**

Experienced Greenskeepers say this hand mower produces the finest greens in the world. Cuts uniformly true, ribless 18-inch swath. Blades are of the finest crucible steel, oil-hardened and tempered. Bearings are oil-tight and dust-proof. Lightly pushed, it treads the green as lightly as a rabbit and turns without tearing sod.

OF COURSE, Pennsylvania has improved its new, 1938 line of Golf Mowers . . . Of course, Pennsylvania has incorporated in this new line the latest refinements in design.

BUT! What is more important is that all the newest mechanical improvements in the 1938 Pennsylvania line have been tested under actual operating conditions—are *Proved Improvements* that bring you *NOW* the features you may have to wait years for in other mowers.

THE PENNSYLVANIA QUINT

(Above): Favored because of its extreme flexibility and ease of handling. Sturdily constructed of *Unbreakable Malleable Iron*. Frame connecting mowers, rests entirely on units, eliminating ground wheels, thereby assuring uniform cut. Light but strong—and allows greatest flexibility of mowers.

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A burl is usually an irregular, frequently more or less globular growth developing upon the trunk or a branch of a tree.

A remarkable burl was found recently on a soft maple branch with a diameter four and one-half inches. It was at the base of two nearly equal branches, the larger with a diameter of about three and one-half inches and the smaller three inches. The burl developed from an area of approximately three-quarters of the circumference of the branch below the fork. The abnormal enlargement has a diameter of about fourteen inches and a length along the limb of approximately twelve inches. The external surface is covered with rough bark coarsely divided into irregular areas quite different from the surface of the normal portion of the branch. Within it is a mass of twisting fibers.

Many burls start with the development of adventitious buds and continue enlarging year after year, in some cases attaining much greater size than the one described above. This is particularly likely to occur on white oak. It is stated that burls of the western redwood and of some other trees if provided with heat and moisture will produce a cutting-like growth in a few days. Knotty or burl-like growths, especially on hickory may be due to bacteria or fungi. Some may be due to the bacterial infection known as crown gall. Hickories and black walnut are sometimes badly affected, the larger limbs having an irregular series of gnarly swellings. There are burls on spruce and fir which have been definitely associated with plant diseases. Once started, the abnormal development of the tissue continues and it seems possible that the interruption in the normal circulation may be an important factor in the later growth of these unusual masses of tissue.

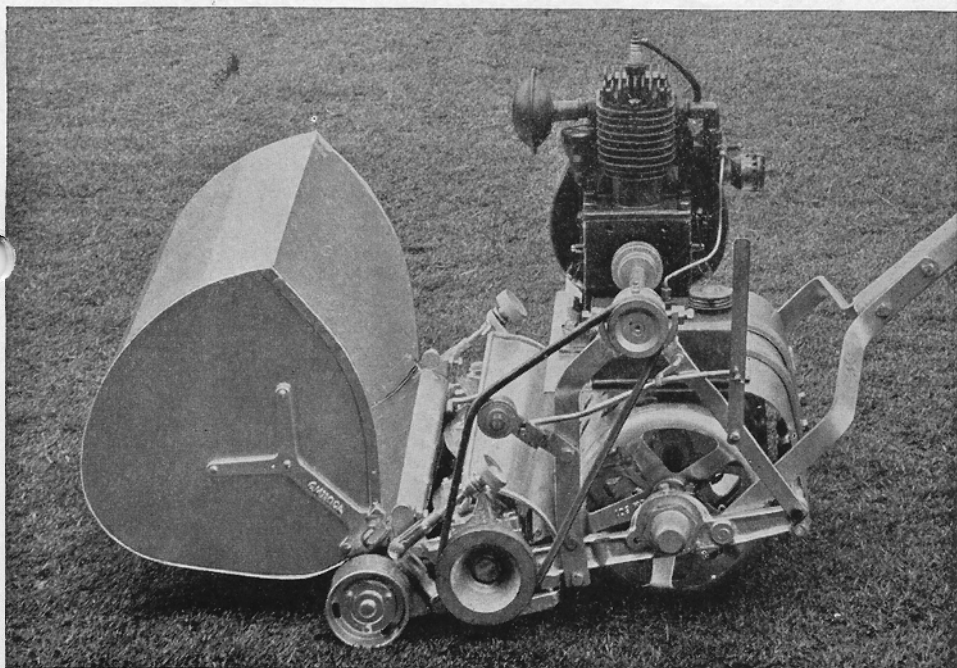
Burls may be picturesque. They are rarely injurious. If they are objectionable prune off the affected parts if it can be done without disfiguring the tree markedly.

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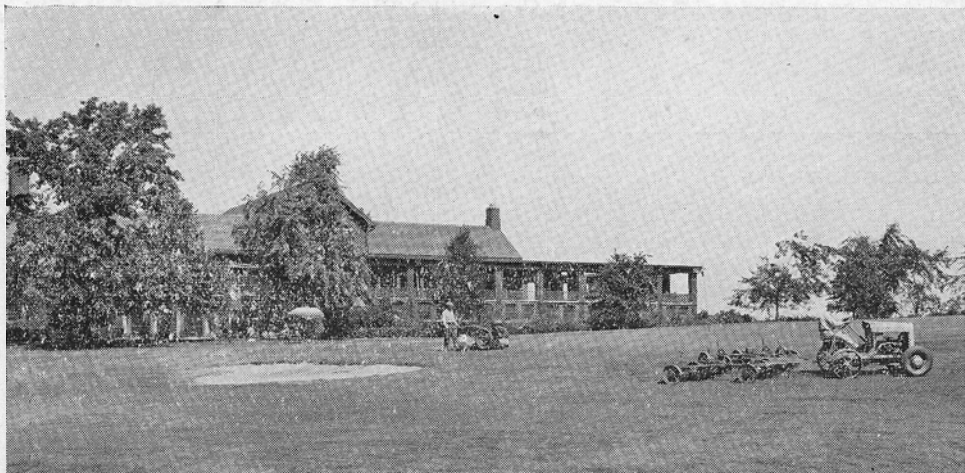
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