

August 7, 1941.

Mr. W. D. Durrell,  
Black Mountain Road,  
Brattleboro, Vermont.

Dear Mr. Durrell:

Thank you very much for your kindness in writing me the letter you did on August 5th. This contains exactly the information that I desire, and I appreciate very much your attention to this detail.

I had the good fortune of playing nine holes of golf late yesterday afternoon with Mr. Irving Hill. I passed on to him the information that was contained in your letter and he seemed pleased.

I am just wondering, Mr. Durrell, if we could not have this Lawn Bowl court without going to the expense of the tile and the sprinkler system. I am faced with the proposition that I have no money and will not have any for quite some time, as seems apparent by other needs of the University. Why could not we grade this area to Lawn Bowl level, bring in good sod, sprinkle it and keep it sprinkled by having our own Physical Education students do it? It seems to me that a fellow could grow a beautiful lawn if he would sprinkle it and cut it when needed, and by adding bone meal, fertilizer or such vitamins as necessary that you could have a perfect enough lawn to roll a ball across. Of course, I realize that this Mascarine grass would be proper, but when we come to planting these stolons and vining them and preparing the ground then we are going to a deal of expense that will defeat our project. On the other hand, we could have a beautiful lawn and use it when indicated and not use it when contra-indicated. We could have this because we have the sod down on the football field and we expect to grade it after the football season. We could move this sod from the intramural field with little cost.

If I can improve the axis of this quadrangle without any expense to the chancellor and if I can enhance its loveliness, then I see no reason why we should not get the "go ahead" signal from the chancellor. But if we are faced with the situation of raising money, then removing what grass there is and planting stolons, I am afraid the red tape of the University would defeat it. There is a certain psychology among certain faculty members on the Hill that if you destroy a tree or remove the grass from a plot on the campus then there is a general uprising. And if that sod were removed and bare ground prepared for placement of stolons, the natural inquiry would be "What are they doing that for?" And the answer would be, "For a Lawn Bowl court."