MAXIMUM MANPOWER UTILISATION

From an article by Mr Orville Clapper in the December, 1966 “Turf Grass Times” with grateful acknowledgments.

Golfers are demanding better turf every year. This means more grooming and time table scheduling of work jobs. Every man must be fully utilised from the moment he checks in until he checks out. There can be no loafing or waiting for “play-through”. All this is lost time.

We’ll have to water those greens, tees and fairways at night. It could even be better for the grass as the nights are cooler, and, with no player interference to start or stop a sprinkler, we know we have applied the amount of water scheduled.

In my own business I am facing that mountain of paper work — government forms — tax collector’s duties, until we seem to be sliding backwards. And the pile is growing daily. We note that businessmen who are in the same boat are actually calling on, not waiting to be called on, data processing and other updated equipment to speed up their work with fuller utilisation of present manpower.

Is it not about time that club officials start co-operating with their operations and management personnel to see what is new and better in equipment or methods to accomplish greater results with their present staff ??? It is not to “keep up with the Jones” nor beat “the Jones” but to make more golf time available for the increased membership necessary to carry this increasing cost of operation.

As we drive to and from work and note the heavily loaded traffic complexes we wonder why so much time is lost — just waiting in traffic lines. Yet, we find the same good folks “a huffing and a puffing” — “dilly-dallying” in line on the first tee. With earlier starting times (Continued on page 17)
we might accommodate even 25 per cent more golfers in a given day. Yes, we might even light the last 3 or 4 holes if necessary.

It reminds me of the little boy with the wild eyes who crams his fist into the jar of jelly beans only to find that a very limited number can come out in his hand every time he tries. We can’t make the hole in the jar any larger but we can put it on the counter earlier.

We have about reached the peak in reducing the number of necessary staff so we have only two other roads open to us: (1) greater efficiency from new and more modern equipment, and (2) move into the hours of darkness for much of the “on the course” maintenance tasks.

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MISCELLANEOUS

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