

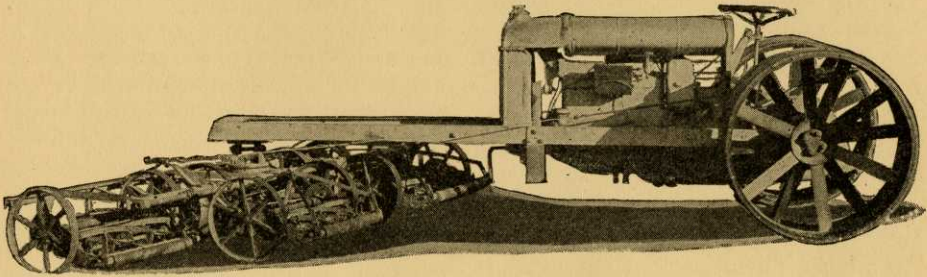
## Fairway Mowing Equipment

By H. T. Coldwell

WHEN golf was introduced in America the only method of mowing the fairways was by the use of the old-fashioned, horse-drawn lawn mower. These machines were constructed with a heavy roller as wide as the width of cut and were drawn at a rate of about two and one-half miles per hour. From this statement, however, it must not be supposed that an actual distance of two and one-half miles was cov-

attachment. They were very popular for a time on account of the greater amount of work they could do, but the constant rolling of the turf soon packed it so hard, particularly in warm, dry weather, that very few courses could stand the treatment.

To obviate these bad features the "Triplex" style of mower was introduced. These were really three 30-inch mowers attached to a frame and cut a swath about 84 inches wide.



The "FAIRWAY FORDSON"

The most modern type of mowing equipment for the fairways.  
Cuts a swath 142" wide and can easily mow 40 acres a day.

ered, for such a rate of speed would be an impossibility for a horse to keep up and a rest of at least 10 minutes per hour was necessary. The width of cut averaged about 35 inches and one of these mowers had a cutting capacity of about half an acre per hour. Mowing an 18-hole course with these mowers was a slow and expensive procedure.

Following these horse roller mowers the "Ride Type Motor Mower," cutting a swath 40 inches wide, was brought out. This machine traveled about five miles per hour and would mow about an acre or an acre and a half per hour. They were very heavy, being practically a miniature "steam roller" with a lawn mowing

The mowers were an enlarged Hand Mower without rollers and were horse drawn. It was possible to mow about an acre and a quarter per hour with them, but, being much heavier than the old style horse-drawn mower, they were very hard on the horse. The use of the motor mower showed the advantage of the motor over the horse, hence the "Tractor" mower found a ready market.

A "Walk Type" Motor Mower, similar to the old-style horse mower with a motor attached from which the power was derived, came out about this time. The operator walked behind to guide it. Such a mower was quite desirable for medium-sized lawns, but could not compete with

Ride Type Mowers for cutting the grass on fairways.

The next mower was a tractor-drawn affair pulling five 25- or 30-inch old-style horse mowers and cutting a swath about eleven feet wide. They had a capacity of about five acres per hour and would easily mow an 18-hole course in two days. This machine combined all the bad features of its predecessors, constantly rolling the turf the full width of cut every time the course was mowed, with the additional feature that the tractor preceded the cutters and had a tendency to roll down the grass before the mowers could cut it. It was a great gain, however, over all previous methods of mowing large grass areas.

The latest and most improved method of mowing fairways is with the Tractor Pushed Mowers. This machine is operated by a standard light tractor and the cutting units are placed ahead so that the grass is cut before the tractor wheels have a chance to roll it down. The same type of mowers are used in this machine as were used on the "triplex" mower, namely side wheel mowers without the heavy rollers attached. The tractor wheels cover about 38 inches of turf while the width of cut is about 11 feet so it would require three or four times over the ground before the tractor had had a chance to roll it completely once. This infrequent rolling is good as it has a tendency to iron out worm casts and other upheavals. These machines are simple to operate, economical as regards fuel and lubricating oils and much cheaper in the first place than any other outfit of equal capacity. Using a standard Fordson tractor, repairs and replacements when required are always within easy reach.

## Golf Clubs We Have Financed

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they pay these accounts promptly, neglect by the responsible financial officers in signing checks when ready, and failure of these officers to install some efficient system for handling financial matters. Lack of foresight in purchasing more than there was any possibility of paying for promptly rarely is a factor in slow payment of accounts by clubs.

The results of this investigation led to a similar examination of the accounts of clubs in other localities. These were selected at random, the only qualification being that we had had at least five transactions during the same period of time as covered by the above list. The results are not yet ready for comment, and will be covered in a future article in this paper. However, one notable fact came to light which is especially pertinent to the remarks in the last paragraph.

There is a certain long established Golf Club located near one of the large centers of population, its membership composed of the wealthiest men in the city. For many years materials have been supplied to this club. For the two years prior to last year it took an average of 95 days to pay invoices for material. About a year ago, a new set of officers were installed, including a new Treasurer. Since that time, their checks have been in our office within *seven* days from the time the bills were put in the mails. Why was this, and how was it that payments were never prompt before?

It is almost too obvious to merit comment that if it were possible to persuade all clubs to conduct their affairs in such a way as to enable them to make their payments in this manner, prices of materials could be reduced by a heavy percentage. Why, then, blame the seedsman when the clubs neglect to hold up their end? It is high time a radical change was made.