The second line of defense are these traps guarding the eighth at Interlachen.

with, but now we have one big enough to sod six large greens. I have one man who weeds, waters, cuts and top-dresses the nursery. Half of the nursery is Washington Bent, and the other half I got from a fellow greenkeeper in the eastern part of the state. This bent has no name unless we call it Wisconsin Bent after its native state. This bent is fine and is dark green in color. It has not been subject to brown patch as long as I had it, although I did have a touch of brown patch on the Washington Bent right next to it.

Mr. Gilbertson, the greenkeeper who gave me this bent, said he never had brown patch on any of his greens as long as he has been with his club, some 18 years.

Avoids Brown-patch

I do not believe in much dosing of chemicals on my greens. The fertilizer with which I have had the best results is cottonseed meal mixed with equal parts of blood meal and dried fish. Twenty-five or 30 pounds of this mixture mixed thoroughly with one yard of compost makes an excellent top-dressing. If this top-dressing is put on your greens the first part of June it will carry you through the brown patch season without feeding your greens too heavily.

I have been very busy the last month repairing my machinery and getting it in shape for spring. We have a Peerless mower sharpener, and with it I keep my fairway and green mowers always in A No. 1 cutting condition, with a large saving of repair bills.

Have Warm Work Shop

I believe all greenkeepers should have a warm work shop, so they can repair and repaint all their mowers, benches, flag poles and other equipment so everything is ready for use in the spring.

Keeping things painted and ready for use improves their looks and worth, and saves many bills. An old rusty piece of machinery is a lot of worry and grief, for

This is the Interlachen clubhouse that will be headquarters for the 1930 National open. you can never depend on it when most needed.

I know there are a lot of greenkeepers who cannot do things the way they would like as they have not the co-operation of the chairman or greens committee, which is very necessary.

It is a pleasure to state that I have one of the best chairmen I ever worked for.

Cleaning “Jungle” Keeps Good Men Thru Winter

By JOHN ANDERSON

Greenkeeper, Crestmont C. C.

When the playing season is over it is the rule at most clubs to lay off the maintenance staff, with the exception of the greenkeeper and perhaps one handy man or, in some cases, two men, who may do a little painting, snow shoveling or make slight repairs to equipment, as the case may be. Some who are fortunate find other jobs; others hang around all winter waiting for the course to open again next spring.

Very often when spring comes the greenkeeper is called upon to make some improvements, such as draining some wet
spots in the fairways, cleaning up some rough between parallel fairways or often, and more important, cleaning out the woods alongside fairways which were left in their natural condition when the fairway was cut through them. These woods cause a lot of inconvenience to members and their guests, especially from lost balls. There is delay from the players having to throw the ball out if they are lucky enough to find it and from holding up play right through a busy week-end. I find much of this work can be done during the winter months, sometimes more efficiently and economically than it can be done during the playing season.

At Crestmont we are fortunate in having a clear-thinking, understanding green-chairman, who, in the face of some criticism, has given me a free hand to utilize from six to eight of our best men each season during the winter months as the weather and other conditions warrant. During the last three winters we have cleaned up most of our rough between parallel fairways so that it is now in a condition to be mowed once a week, with the fairway units raised a half inch above fairway cutting height instead of being cut once a month or so with hay mowing machinery. In addition, we have cleaned up most of our woods fifty to sixty feet in from the fairway, taken all dead wood out, cleaned up all stumps and stones, filling the holes up and leveling up and having these places in a condition permitting a ball to be played out.

In this way we have done much to improve the property of the club, the speeding up of play, and gained the confidence of many of our members who do not understand those conditions, but wonder what is the matter when they and their guests have to spend half an afternoon looking for their ball in the woods. This work is done by the picked men of the crew, who do not have to be shown what to do and how to do it. Consequently, we give the club more per dollar spent. The work is done at a time when the greenkeeper has more time and nothing else to demand his attention, and the best of his crew have a year round job, which makes them very much more efficient.

Screened compost is mixed under cover with poultry manure, allowed to heat, turned several times; possibly heat kills weed seed in compost. Is the resultant loss of ammonia compensated by killing of weed seed? Several of New England greenkeepers’ members are trying this method. What do you think?—N. E. Greenkeepers’ Newsletter.