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NEW YORK

If it does it is not harmful—it may be in fact beneficial.

As an accompaniment of spiking treatment, greens should be topdressed, seeded and fertilized frequently. Some greens will be found to require more dressing than others, depending upon how long they have remained unspiked and how long the matted roots have existed.

Any roughness produced by the action of the spikes may be smoothened over by light rolling, not severe enough to do more than to lightly press down whatever little disturbance of the surface has occurred. A light roller attached to the rear of the spiker is a convenient way to carry out this smoothing operation.

OUSTED PRO WAILS

Having Put Fee Course in Black, Gets Gate

CHECKING GOLFDOM's mail for an average month, it becomes plain that the fee courses have more problems than any other type of establishment in golf.

Not a little of it, kindly candor compels us to say, is their own fault. Golf is a business and like any other business requires men who know the business for its successful operation. The real estate men, the doctors, lawyers, butchers, bakers, merchant chiefs and farmers who started fee courses when it looked like the nation was golf crazy, are learning one important thing about fee course management and that is to hire a dependable man who knows golf to operate the plant.

It is really pathetic how the old rackets are worked on the hopeful fee course owners. Even the two-for-one ticket book, which was a sad flop when tried before, has returned and the promoters gather a sweet harvest from the unwary at the start of the season. After the two-rounds-for-the-price-of-one gag has been worked several times—always with enough time in between to let the suckers forget—you would think that the fee course owners would recall that the gag never brought in any increased income but cost the fee course owners who participated in the scheme plenty of income.

The promoters were the boys who cashed in. They had a small printing bill, and got a half buck out of every dollar the 2-for-1 coupon books gathered from the players.
But, that's none of our business. We're just telling the story.

Pros Make Fee Courses Pay

It's our observation that the fee courses that have made money and coming out of the depression in the best shape are those at which good business men pros have been conducting the golf plant affairs.

Certainly good pros are hard to get, but on the other hand when you get one, he's worth keeping with co-operation and some earning incentive. The fee course pro has no soft life. Many times he is lucky if he gets a day a week off, and you may be sure that if he lines up some tournament for what should be his off day he will be there to see that he and the plant make money.

Just to give you an idea that the fee course pro's job in some of the smaller towns is not love's young dream, here is a letter we received:

I came here in September, and opened up nine holes October 6. My position was pro in charge of the works, salary $75 per, expecting lots of lessons, club and ball selling. Later I discovered there were two country clubs also about ten stores that sold golf equipment in the neighborhood.

Anyhow, I had to rebuild the nine hole layout. It was too dangerous. After a lot of work we got down to normal.

First season 30,000 nine-hole rounds were played. I acted as starter, issued tickets, collected fees, and worked as caddie master and refreshment slinger from daylight until dark.

Next season I built another nine-hole, making 18. Up to then I had only three or four rounds on the course. My two bosses who owned the course worked in relays, one always on the job. Every once in a while one or the other would come to check up the cash register, then take a hike off over the course, count the players or observe their names, then come back and check up again to see if all was "hunky dory".

Saturdays and Sundays were my busy days, starting at daybreak and ending at dark. Sometimes I even had to eat on the first tee. After two years I thought I would try to make a little money, so I started seriously into giving lessons. Knowing the people and being then very popular I soon began to make good. Put up a course record 68—34-34. Some of the players came from the other clubs and took lessons. This did not suit the owners.
push PGAs and Penfolds... if you want to lick store competition!

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---they thought they were getting nothing out of it, so I had to cut it out.

So again I started another "racket". I gave the boys and girls from high school golf lessons free and provided clubs and balls. This went along fine for a while. There were 20 girls and 40 boys. So once again came owner No. 1 and said, "I'm sorry, but we will have to discontinue this. The kids are getting in the way and no revenue."

Then along came the end of the season. We had had plenty of play and made money, but they informed me it was not up to expectations; therefore, they would have to cut down on expenses. So after a little conversation, they decided to let me go, saying they could manage through the winter without a golf pro, as both of them could handle the job, one inside the club, the other out on the course.

I did not go back last season; they got a pro in June. He stayed six weeks and packed up again and went back home. Last season I opened up a golf school and driving range. Made a little money but got persuaded to install lights for night practice. This not only burned plenty of light, but burned me and my few dollars up. So this season I have decided not to open up again here.

I have had 25 years' experience in the game of golf in all branches, but the last three years have been the limit.

Bowling Leagues Weld Members' Interest Thru Winter

Each winter sees more and more clubs turning to bowling as a means of holding member interest through the non-golf months. Alleys are reserved for a definite day and hour, and few clubs find it difficult to stir up plenty of enthusiasm.

In Chicago, no less than fifteen golf clubs have regular weekly games among teams of members. Medinah CC, Olympia Fields and South Shore have a regular tournout of ten or more 5-man teams from early fall until well into March. Interest in Chicago, no less than fifteen golf clubs have regular weekly games among teams of members. Medinah CC, Olympia Fields and South Shore have a regular tournout of ten or more 5-man teams from early fall until well into March. Interest

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