Fencing Club Grounds Serves As Multiple Safeguard

By SEWARD DAVIS

CHECKING over details of club maintenance neglected during the depression sharply reveals that golf club fencing, in many instances, is in bad shape and overdue for rehabilitation now that financial conditions have improved.

Although the appearance factor of club grounds' fencing has substantial value to a club that takes pride in its standing, it is probably the legal liability angle that proves strongest in moving golf club boards to favorable consideration of fencing when the annual budgets come up for approval this fall and winter. Courts have been tough on private and fee courses that have not been marked by fencing as being establishments not open to the general public, or that have not indicated by fencing that hazard is incurred should the fence be scaled. The latter infrequently is the case but has figured in law suits against golf clubs.

Especially when golf club property adjoins a heavily travelled highway does the fencing matter become important. Stray shots that go out of bounds into the road may cause automobile accidents that will bring suits far beyond the extent of the club's insurance coverage, in case the club has gone to the expense of protection against damage beyond its ground. One of the leading Midwestern clubs has a tee alongside of which—and to the right—a heavy-traffic highway runs. Ostensibly as protection for the club and the passing motorists, the club has a 12 ft. high stretch of chicken netting. The netting has stood for several years and now is full of huge holes allowing many slices to bound along the highway. Erection of a sturdy, weather-resistant wire fence of sufficient height at that point to stop the high slices of the flailing members would be a logical item in the budget.

Development of flowering landscaping at golf clubs is another factor that has made adequate fencing a requirement. During the blooming season clubs have their valuable shrubs sadly hacked and jerked by marauders who make off with arm-loads of blossoms. The old story of hose thefts at golf clubs continues to be an expensive one, although the loss has been reduced by the growing practice of buying hose identified as exclusively golf club property, and by locked hose storage wells.

Automobile parking spaces where prowlers may enter and sneak away with whatever is left in the cars of members and guests, and caddie yards, which generally are rather untidy and unconfined, also call for attention when the item of fencing is being considered in the budget.

Grass Paint Fungicide Is Green Section Meeting Sensation

DR. JOHN MONTEITH, JR., technical chief of the USGA Green Section, amazed the hundreds of greenkeepers and chairmen who attended the outdoor meeting held during his recent tour by demonstrating the quickest known method of restoring grass to rich, healthy color.

Coloring is by means of material sprayed on the grass. Patent is being applied for by the Green Section with the idea of making the material available at low price and without license fees. The material also has fungicide properties. It is of special value where greenkeepers want to have good colored greens without forcing and weakening treatment that sometimes is demanded when a club has a tournament a few days away. The coloring, which dries quickly, lasts for three