WHY YOU'LL BE
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THE KROYDON COMPANY
MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY

SURVEY SHOWS PHILA. AREA GETS BETTER TURF BY AERIFYING
By Charles K. Hallowell

Better fairway turf is coming for Philadelphia golfers, according to the statements of the Golf Course Superintendents who are members of the Philadelphia Association. They reported, at a recent meeting held to discuss how and when to use the Aerifier, that this implement was making it possible to do the right maintenance practice at the correct season of the year.

It is the opinion of Joe Tagnon of Ashbourne CC, that the Aerifier is the one machine that has been manufactured in the last thirty years that will do most to help the superintendent produce better turf on fairways, tees, and greens.

Agreement among the Philadelphia group was that fall is the time when Aerifying will give the greatest returns. Lime-stone, fertilizer, and insecticides to control grub, can be worked into the soil at the place desired with the Aerifier, which heretofore has been impossible.

September and October are the months when the Aerifier is used on all turf on all courses, but a number of the superintendents reported using the Aerifier in the early spring when turf was below par. Reports were given that April aerifying had encouraged better root growth, resulting in a denser turf throughout the summer. May 15th to August 15th is the period during the growing season when the Aerifier is seldom used. For a compact soil or areas where there is a layer of undecomposed organic matter, several operations of the Aerifier corrects the trouble. After aerifying such areas, both the plants and soil use rainfall and artificial water more efficiently.

When renovating fairways to change the species of grass such as Blue Grass to Bent, or when increasing the Bent population, 12% of the Superintendents reported Aerifying to be a must. After using it at least twice, and several reported three times, there was sufficient loose soil to enable the seed to get a good start.

The summary showed all agree the breaking up cores of soil either immediately or within a few hours after aerifying, is essential. The opportunity of getting the fine soil mixed with existing grass plants is lost if the cores become hardened. In that unbroken condition, the cores are ob-

April, 1949
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HOW TO BEAT THE BUDGET

Since 1939 there has been a steady increase in production costs which goes something like this:

- Labor up 156%
- Fertilizer up 15%
- Supplies up 29%
- Equipment up 30%

From 50 to 80% of every golf course maintenance budget goes for labor so the big problem is to reduce the man hours of labor without lowering the standards of maintenance. Here are some suggestions that will help:

1. Substitute (profitably) mechanical power for man power wherever possible.
2. Minimize time used for moving from place to place. Schedule work assignments for each man so second job starts where first one ends.
3. Replace old obsolete equipment with new modern more efficient equipment. Keep machinery in first class working condition.
4. Train men to accomplish the greatest amount of work with the least amount of energy.