Reducing Storage Losses

by Ernest W. Fair

Most of us keep an eye open at all times to cut down costs of every kind in operation of courses. The average supt. for example, who is alert and has a good business head has become very adept at keeping loss factors out of his management.

Yet, we often overlook some of the most obvious ways in keeping costs down by eliminating losses, which after all, cut seriously into any supt's budget.

Here are at least 25 storage methods being used today by many supts. at courses large and small. These men have given a great deal of attention to all or part of the factors listed in taking care of supplies and equipment in storage.

1. Use storage space that provides maximum efficiency. Far too many people select the most useless corner as a storage spot. A spot well selected to provide maximum efficiency is most important.

2. Make certain everything is accessible. Every item in storage should be so stocked that it can be reached immediately. Delays cost money, lead to breakage, damage, etc.

3. Every storage setup should be flexible. It is more difficult, in these times, to anticipate long range storage needs. Any storage plan which is completely flexible is always a better one than a stopgap system.

4. Store so that counting is easy. Inventory control costs jump when storage is so haphazard as to make the job a long and tedious procedure. Remember that counting is also necessary at many other times besides inventory periods.

5. Keep piles regular and uniform. Too many people look on the storage room as a catch-all corner and dump goods into it without plan or any attempt at neatness. Everything should be piled in uniform stacks. This prevents damage, facilitates counting, reduces losses and lends itself to easy, good housekeeping practices.

6. Handling costs should be kept at the very minimum. Items in storage, which must be moved constantly before being put to use, are expensive to store. When an item can be put away on arrival, left there until used, its storage costs are very low.

7. Reduce exposure to weather as much as possible. Even on the inside, weather damage is possible through improper ventilation or over exposure to heat.

8. Provide dividing spaces between items. Dumping goods side by side reduces accessibility. If dividing space is provided between supplies handling is easier, control more accurate and storage damage reduced materially.

9. Place units so that labels are visible. This point should be checked each time a new container is placed in storage.

10. Keep order of piling and removing uniform for smooth and neat operation of storage procedure. Helter-skelter piling is never efficient; most often is a sure way to damage goods in storage.

11. Keep old stock to the front: use it up first. The practice of stacking new arrivals in front of old stock seldom is good procedure. This is advisable even when the arrival of new stock requires complete rearrangement of old.

12. Standardize all equipment used in the storage room, such as shelving, bins, etc. This facilitates rearrangement for changing conditions and arrival of entirely new items and lends itself to easier maintenance and upkeep of the equipment.

13. Plan storage for compactness, ease of handling of supplies. Compactness utilizes available space to maximum extent and helps to keep down hazards brought about through accumulation of waste and debris around sloppily piled supplies.

14. Make certain storage bins, shelves, etc., are easily expandable, have proper strength and high salvage value. Purchase of equipment should not be made until a complete study of future expansion has been taken into consideration.

15. Take maximum safety precautions in storage. This applies not only to stor-
Mac Divot Strip Puts in Plug for Pro Shop

The syndicated sports page pictorial serial on pro, Mac Divot, of Rolling Knolls, had strong propaganda for pro shop business in its Apr. 7th installment. The drawing and writing team of Keefe and Lansky which produces Mac Divot had a new member of Rolling Knolls being introduced to the old pro and being advised to become a member of the pro shop.

Maurice T. Reilly, executive vp of the Chicago Tribune-New York News Syndicate, which distributes the Mac Divot strip, the Tommy Armour golf lessons, Dick Tracy, Orphan Annie and other popular features, is the godfather of Mac Divot and, to a considerable extent, a collaborator in its production. He is a member of Winged Foot. Reilly recently told GOLFDOM: "In Mac Divot we have always endeavored to present the home pro as one of God's superior citizens. In my sessions with the writer and the artist I continually emphasize the fact that old Mac, in addition to being an expert golfer and teacher, must also be a gentleman, a kindly philosopher, a politician and a helluva good merchant. Maybe we ought to run the guy for President.”

16. Fire is one of the most prevalent causes of loss in storage. Every fire insurance company has information on proper storage and many companies have individual practices which must be followed if insurance coverage is applied. Have a local agent check storage procedures and facilities regularly.

17. Guard against vermin of all kinds. Good housekeeping is the best practice to follow. Sealing all cracks in walls, floor and ceiling and eliminating damp conditions in the storeroom help.

18. Cleanliness is a must in all storage. Not only is it needed to preserve the conditions of stored goods but it is helpful in eliminating fire hazards, reducing accidents and in pest and vermin control.

19. Keep goods off floors, away from walls and free of ceilings if it is at all possible to do so. Wood runners for floor storage, for example, are inexpensive and easily made.

20. Keep aisles wide enough to accommodate handling of supplies. Attempting to secure more storage space by narrowing aisles is poor procedure. One of the most often neglected points is failure to make certain that there is plenty of room around corners for easy handling in the storeroom. Most accidents occur at corners; so do greatest losses from collapsed piles.

21. Provide an area for unpacking, inspection and temporary storage within the storeroom itself. This helps in the reduction of waste and greatly facilitates checking of goods before being removed from storage.

22. Provide fire-fighting apparatus for every part and section of the storeroom. If a sprinkler system is not feasible, then fire extinguishers should be in sufficient quantity and placed so that one is always readily available from any part of the storeroom. Heavy losses therein can result from the brief interval it takes for a man to get from a far corner to the spot where fire extinguishers all too frequently are concentrated.

23. Oily rags and other substances subject to spontaneous combustion must never be allowed to accumulate. Closed metal
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containers should be available for all combustible material. These containers should be placed away from walls and stored piles of goods.

24. Goods subject to rust and corrosion should be stored in a dry place and in most cases, should be slushed in oil or covered with heavy grease.

25. Goods easily subject to damage should always be stored in containers; preferably the containers in which they were shipped by suppliers.

Golf Ball and Club Manufacturers Elect New Officers


The Golf Club Mfgrs. Assn. elected Carl Benkert, Hillerich & Bradsby, pres., succeeding Henry Cowen, The MacGregor Co., who had served four years. Others elected were: Paul Pedersen, Pedersen Sales Co., vice-pres. and William Schaffner, Burke Golf, secy-treas. Main offices of both associations are at 209 S. State St., Chicago, Ill.

New Color Movies of St. Andrews Available for Rental

National Educational Films, Inc., 165 W. 46th St., New York City 36, producers of USGA "Golf House" films report a brisk demand from all sections of the country for the two newest additions to its rental library, St. Andrews — Cradle of Golf, and First World Amateur Team Championship. Both films are 16mm, full color, sound — 14 minutes. The St. Andrews film includes a beautifully scenic tour of the historic town and the famous Old Course. Its companion film shows dramatic moments during the first world's amateur team competition of 29 countries over the Old Course for the Eisenhower Trophy. The films make fine entertainment for club affairs. Rental details can be obtained from NEF.