FEBRUARY, 1939

ROSEMAN
ROLLER DRIVEN
FAIRWAY MOWERS


WHEEL MOWER—NO ROLLING

ROSEMAN AFTER ROLLING

PROMOTE HEALTHIER TURF

The gentle rolling of a Roseman Mower stimulates turf growth. Heat cracks are sealed and the moisture retained in the soil. Regular rolling pushes down loose surface runners so they can re-root themselves. The top soil and root bed are kept in firmer contact with the nourishing sub-soil.

Fairways cut with Roseman Roller Mowers are in better condition to withstand the killing frosts of winter — and the drying winds and baking sun of summer. They are always ready for play — early in the spring and late into the fall.

PROVIDE BETTER PLAYING SURFACE

Every time a fairway is cut by Roseman Mowers the tufts of grass that cause “cuppy” lies are rolled smooth.

The large hollow traction roller carries the cutting knife over ridges and into the low spots—thus providing an even, close cut without scalping or skipping. This close cutting feature eliminates worm casts.

The faster revolving (7-blade equivalent) reel produces a high frequency of cut—eliminating the “wash board” effect and assuring a uniform lie for every fairway shot.

ROSEMAN TRACTOR MOWER CO.
2610 RIDGE ROAD
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS
Enlarged cross section of tips of two golf shafts. Left: the New TRUE TEMPER Golf Shaft . . . made with double-thick walls at tip for double strength and power.

TRUE TEMPER

Matched for Power

TRUE TEMPER Shafts are made from seamless tubes of costly super alloy steel, tapered by the exclusive TRUE TEMPER Process, with patented reinforcing shoulder at each successive reduction in diameter. The wall of the shaft at its tip end is of double thickness. This gives great firmness which notably increases the power as the club head comes into the ball. This construction is illustrated above. TRUE TEMPER Shafts have far more steel at the vital tip end than any other shaft, as the following comparison shows:

TRUE TEMPER Shaft—thickness of steel at tip end 100%

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<tr>
<th>Shaft</th>
<th>Thickness at Tip End</th>
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TRUE TEMPER Shafts are not only packed with power—they are matched for power by exhaustive tests and inspections. We will welcome any inquiry for further information about TRUE TEMPER Golf Shafts.

THE AMERICAN FORK & HOE COMPANY
Sporting Goods Division • DEPT. G-8 • GENEVA, OHIO
HOLDING members is always a tough problem for country clubs during the colder months. Too often, the resignations are accepted philosophically and effort is devoted to getting new members. The chairman of one club's membership committee, decided that in club work, as in business, it's as important to hold the old customers as to get new ones. So instead of simply saying "sorry" when resignations were received he really got after those who contemplated dropping out.

He opened up the solicitation with a letter that's a classic. Its effect was great in getting members to reconsider resignations. The letter:

Dear Harry:

I have your resignation from the Country club, to become effective as of July 1st. There is no use in telling you how sorry I am if this really happens to you, as I do not know of anyone who should enjoy playing golf, get out over the hills and find recreation and recuperation through this source more than you.

I realize that belonging to the Country club or any private golf club is an expense and I have always tried to do my part with you and other members in helping you keep your expenses to the minimum. This I will always do to the best of my ability and means. Harry, the Lord only knows what I would do for fellows like yourself and others for whom I have great admiration, if I were a wealthy man. I am afraid I would not only ruin myself, but also some of my best friends, especially with kindness.

I know a lot of fellows who would be afraid to say that they love a man and probably that isn't quite the right word, because it doesn't convey my respect and admiration for a lot of fellows whom I know. But, I know you believe I get a great kick out of seeing men enjoy themselves.

I hope you look over the following:

1. Annual Doctor bill for a man who doesn't feel good and is always sick: $200 to $2,000 depending on what is wrong with him.
2. Annual cost to a fellow who is always grouchy: no friends.
3. Annual cost to a fellow who is not happy around his home: irritated wife and distressed children.
4. Annual cost to a fellow who does not struggle to buy his own home and pays rent: $600 to $1,000.
5. Annual cost to a fellow who does not like anyone and does not enjoy association with men on a golf course: poor health, indigestion, grouch, never gets a promotion, never gets a raise, can't direct others in their work. Poor manager, only has his own ideas and can't accept ideas from others and put them to work.
Alex Cunningham, pro at North Shore CC (Chicago district) where the 1939 National Amateur will be held, has made a big hit with parents and kids using motion pictures in junior instruction. After taking the pictures he assembles the kids and points out good points and errors. Series of pictures taken at regular intervals throughout the season show amazing improvement in the kids. Pictures also make a swell feature for adult entertainment during club party nights.

6. Plans to live to be 80 years old, only for himself. Shouldn’t live longer than 40.

7. Annual cost to a man who stays at home too much and does not play enough golf: wife gets tired of him, too many children. Doesn’t enjoy spending any of the money he does have. Doesn’t even have to buy golf clothes. Doesn’t have a wife who says—“You spend so much for golf, I am going to spend just as much for a new dress and hat.” He doesn’t know any of these pleasures.

Comparative cost statement: Annual cost to man who plays golf and belongs to the Country club: Annual dues, $140; federal tax, $14; locker, $7; locker-room valet, $6; professional service, clubs, etc., $13; clothes, balls, incidentals, etc., $20; locker-room diet—lunches, etc. (your own business but estimated at) $50; Total cost per year $250, or approximately $20 per month.

Harry, this is the best $20 a man your age can spend and the benefits which you will derive from being affiliated with the Country club, not only in your own social standing, the men with whom you associate, your work, but your customers and the people you contact from outside are all a part of this.

Keeps the Doctor Away

From a health standpoint and the relaxation of a man’s brain, especially in these kind of times when everybody is worrying about business and conditions, it is worth more than $20 a month. If you don’t believe this, just get sick, have a nervous breakdown, call the doctor, go to the hospital and then start paying these bills.

I can gamble a few bucks that if I would write your dad a letter and tell him his son Harry couldn’t play golf on account of forces beyond his control, I am afraid your dad would give you two reasons why he could knock the stuffing out of you.

Now then, if after you review this volume with the Budget Controller in your home, and she agrees with you more than she does with me, I would suggest you write your resignation all over again, as follows:

The Country Club
Mr. Manager:

Due to failing health, caused by old age and other infirmities and upon advice of several outstanding physicians and medical scientists and after the expenditure of numerous sums of money for such technical data, I hereby tender my resignation to the Country club.

I believe I can get along without the recreation and fellowship at the club, as it does not help me in any way pertaining to my business, associations or health. I expect to live twice as long as I would if I continued this membership.

I propose to become grouchy and disagreeable every day and at the termination of my life here on earth I will expect to be buried on a beautiful grass covered hill, surrounded by trees, with proper marking. The surroundings to be similar to those you have at the Country club. Here I may lay in peace until resurrection day and my only ambition and thought at the present time is that my corpse will enjoy the beautiful hillside.

I sincerely hope that all members of the club who are now spending their money to enjoy themselves while they are living will have a similar burial to what I am anticipating.

I hope my resignation does not effect the club in any way whatsoever and that all of the remaining members will enjoy themselves more since I am not a member. Therefore, I hereby resign.

Yours very untruly,

Harry.

Now Harry, since you have read my discourse and ballyhoo I am asking that you see me and let’s talk this matter over. Remember this: even though we are going through a depression now and our incomes are not as high as we would like to have them, if we practice a little economy here and there it will not interfere with our recreation and our health, which we certainly owe to our families at this stage in our lives.

I am in hopes that the things I have said may influence you somewhat to remain in the Country club, where you need the club as much as the club needs you.

H. H. Ramsay Dies—Herbert Hartley Ramsay, prominent for many years in golf association work and president of the USGA in 1930 and 1931, died Jan. 27 in New York City at the age of 52. Surviving are his widow and two sons.
In Birmingham,
They Have a
12-Month Job

By George H. Watson

YEAR-ROUND playing requirements together with soil conditions are primary factors to be considered in the maintenance of golf links in the South, according to Frank H. Dooley, greenkeeper for the Birmingham (Ala.) CC, and formerly connected with Donald J. Ross Associates.

But against the added expense of year-round maintenance, turf culture budgets may be balanced somewhat by the fact that labor costs are less. At several representative clubs in the South, Dooley explains, the custom is to allow from $500 to $700 per year per hole for maintenance, although he mentions figures with his fingers crossed, as do other experienced greenkeepers when they refer to cost “averages”.

The 36-hole Birmingham CC course is located in a mountainous section where it has been necessary to build up the fertility of the soil over a period of years. The course was established in 1923, moving from a location nearer the city. The club has 800 members and from 1,000 to 1,500 use the links per week. About one-third or more of this play is at the week ends.

Native Bermuda grass provides a dependable turf with domestic rye (Oregon) used as a green winter cover crop over the dormant Bermuda. Some clubs in the South use double greens, one for winter and one for summer, but Dooley finds he can change over without interruption, except that a green may be closed down two or three days while the rye is being planted in the fall.

The Bermuda greens are played through mid-October or November when the rye is planted. The rye dies out with hot weather, usually about the first of June or thereabouts when the Bermuda gets a fresh start.

Lime is used considerably as a soil conditioner since Bermuda and rye are both lime-loving plants. Milorganite and sulphate of ammonia also are on the fertilizing schedule. Effort is made to keep the soil at a pH value of 6 or 7. If allowed to get on the alkaline side weeds develop too rapidly, so a slightly acid base is preferred. Weeds with which the club has to contend are crab grass, crowfoot (goose grass) and nut grass. Woods soil is bought, broken down with No. 1 sand and applied as a topdressing.

Dooley reports that arsenate of lead is used to control worms, grubs, beetles and other such pests. It has been found also that arsenate of lead controls crabgrass successfully at Birmingham.

“Greenkeeping is a strenuous twelve-month job with us,” says Dooley. “There is the fall planting of the rye as the Bermuda greens begin to play out. In a few weeks the rye greens give most
Smart lad, this Tommy Meehan, pro at Illinois CC (Chicago District). Being a snappy dresser, on and off, as the actors say, Tommy gets himself a winter job representing a clothing company and does right well.

Southern golf courses better greens, perhaps, than they have in the summer. The Bermuda, however, is entitled to some of the credit, for although dead to all appearances, its roots form a base for the rye, giving the green its cushion and texture.

"Besides coaxing the winter grass, our labors are concerned with some reseeding of the Bermuda, fertilizing and odds and ends of new work. In the summer months a disc is run over the Bermuda occasionally. The fairways are cut twice a week in the summer and the greens daily. In the winter cutting is as the weather and other conditions permit and require. Borders and tees are cut twice a week by power mowing. The rough is constantly being cut."

Of some 120 acres of fairways, tees and greens (not counting the rough), Dooley estimates that greens comprising about six acres at the most, require about one-third of the time and money devoted to the whole course.

Water at Night

The club has its own water system, pumped from a spring-fed pond to the greens and tees. Watering is done at night. Ice drinking water is also provided at convenient spots on the links.

About $10,000 worth of equipment is required to maintain the two 18-hole courses. Major pieces are two International motor trucks, one a pick-up and the other a 1½-ton job; three tractors which pull the five-gang fairway cutting units and the rough cutting unit; two motored mowers for cutting tees and greens borders, a discing machine and 10 hand mowers used for cutting the putting greens. In addition various small implements are required as well as considerable shop equipment for upkeep of the equipment. A full-time mechanic is employed and in the off season the equipment is completely overhauled in the club's own shop.

Dooley's power machines are rubber-tired and have been for three years or more.

"Since equipping our tractors with rubber, we are cutting one-third again as much as we had done in the past and that without consuming any more gasoline," says Dooley. "We have found that tractor tires absorb shocks to the driver while eliminating the stronger part of all vibration. We are now able to do any construction work necessary with the same tires and do no damage to our present courses, as the tires give us all the traction needed in either cutting, plowing, harrowing or any other work."

Dooley tells that from 5 to 25 lbs. of air can be used in the tires, so they can be inflated or deflated as circumstances require.

Dooley is a native of Rome, N. Y. He was retained by a club there as time-keeper and clerk and while Donald Ross was building the club's course. Ross, on completion of the course, invited Dooley to join his staff. Dooley put in more than 10 years with the Ross Associates. Dooley's last Ross assignment, prior to going to Birmingham, was on the second 18 holes of East Lake CC in Atlanta. He was then sent to Birmingham where Ross was doing some work on the West course. That was in 1930. Club officials liked him and invited him to stay on as greenkeeper.

WCRE not saying it might be a good idea for general use but Wolf Rimann, pro at Hillcrest CC, Kansas City, put in a special price of $1.50 monthly for club storage for husband and wife. The bargain price accounted for a quick and big hike in his storage income. Rimann figured that women have to be brought in by bargains. He also reasoned that about half the women at Hillcrest were playing only once a week, hence the deal would not put a burden on the shop.

In addition to the increase of storage revenue, the deal brought more people into the shop and gave Wolf a better chance of making ball and club sales.
Kansas City Ready for G. S. A. Meet

By Karl Sutphin

WITH all plans and most of the preliminary work needed to successfully put on a national convention, completed, GSA officials and committee chairman for the 13th annual Greenkeeping Superintendents Assn. convention, to be held in Kansas City February 7-10, are all set to handle one of the largest convention crowds in the association's history. Most of the greensmen were expected to be on hand by Tuesday morning when the Mayor of Kansas City gets the convention officially under way by opening the Equipment Show, which is to be held in the city Municipal Auditorium.

All of Tuesday will be devoted to the exhibits. The first session of the educational conference will be held Wednesday afternoon, and the annual banquet will be held that evening at the President Hotel, official convention headquarters. Annual membership meeting will be held Friday morning, at which time officers will be elected and other work completed for the coming year. Joseph Ryan, Rolling Green CC, Media, Pa., president of the association during the past year, and his committees have worked energetically with Chester Mendenhall, convention general chairman, to insure a successful meeting. Mendenhall is secretary of the Heart of America Greenkeeping Assn.

Meaty Program Planned

The Educational program for the convention follows:


Friday: “Turf Insect Pests,” by Prof. G. C. Decker, department of entomology, Iowa State college; “The Modern Conception of Soil and Its Relation to Plant Growth,” by Prof. C. O. Rost, division of soils, university of Minnesota. A round table discussion with John Monteith as chairman, assisted by Claude Whalen, Francis Scheider, Perley A. Hill, Jim Haines, W. E. Langton, and M. L. DeParlier, will be concerned with “Experience with Bent Greens Through the South and West.” The educational sessions will begin at 2:00 p. m. each day in the Little Theater, located right off the exhibit hall in the Municipal Auditorium.

Everybody Welcome

The 1939 convention and equipment show is the first national meeting to be held west of the Mississippi. Western greenkeeping groups, notably the Heart of America association, have been working for some time to bring the convention farther west, and have promised that this year's event will be one of the best in the history of the organization. GSA members and their green-chairman will be admitted to the conference without charge, while non-members may attend upon the payment of $3.00, which covers all sessions.

Strong bid for the 1940 national convention is being made by New York City while Columbus, Ohio, is working energetically to obtain the 1941 show.

Considerable interest is being shown in the green building contest this year. Officials expect four or five of these model greens will be built on the exhibit floor. All materials and equipment are being supplied by the association, and teams will consist of not more than five men, all to be GSA members. Contestants, however, must furnish the drawing that

Compilation of the various records set during the brief but violent marathon golf fever of 1938 reveals that distinction is due Bill Carson, pro at the Mahoning Valley CC, Girard, O. In a few minutes under 10½ hours he toured his 6804-yard course eight times and maintained an average score of 78 blows per round. Carson played the majority of his 144 holes while the mercury simmered at 110 degrees. In playing the distance he used but two balls.
Golf, in taking advantage of the "new leisure," should make far greater use of the old country idea of Artisans' clubs. Team and individual competitions at municipal and daily-fee courses, between representatives of various business and industrial organizations is inex- cusibly neglected in many communities.—W. H. Livie.

illustrates their actual model. Basis for grading winner will be: 20% for general appearance; 20% for contours of greens and traps, and reducing cost of mainte- nance; 20% for the most interesting green; 20% hole most suitable for the average player; 20% best general con- struction. First prize is $25, second, $15, and third $10.


Unicorn Gets Its Face Lifted

A RECORD in revival of a run-down golf club has been made by the Uni- corn G&CC, Stoneham, Mass. The club, drooping since the early years of the depression, was about on the ropes in 1937, when a new set of officials took it over as a private corporation. Moulton Cox, pres. and treas., P. J. Donaher, asst. treas., and Emile Germanprez, clerk, undertook to put the club back into the running.

Basic policy of the revival was to do the fundamental job of restoring the course, all at one time, instead of dragging it out. The hunch, of course, was that prospective members would sign on the line when they saw a complete job being done, instead of stalling while details were stretched out over a period of years.

The rehabilitated club, being on a strictly business basis, also considered the policy of getting the job done at one time a whole lot cheaper than the strung-out procedure.

Actual work on the reconstruction of the course was begun October 5, 1937. Exactly 15 working days later over 50,000 sq. ft. of sod had been laid on the old greens as well as regrading them also. This work was done with a maximum of 15 men. In round figures, this means that over one mile of sod—a piece a mile long and one foot wide—was laid each day. Hardy velvet bent sod grown in northern New England, was used. It was brought to the course in large moving trailer vans. The club's trucks then hauled it to the various greens. The sod was cut in 4 ft. lengths, 1 ft. wide, and rolled. Crews on the greens were organized in bucket brigade fashion and the rolls of sod passed on from man to man so that there was no lost labor or time. This applied modern automobile production methods to reconstruction of a golf course. The sod was carefully and scientifically laid so that when the club opened last spring it was possible to play on all 18 greens by April 19, this date being generally considered opening day in Unicorn's locality. All of the outside work was under the personal supervision of Donaher.

When the new organization took the property over it was very much run down. All of the eighteen greens were in such condition that some had said that they would have to be closed for a year in order to have them in playable condition. All fifty-odd traps were in bad shape and had to be refilled with new sand. In the modernization program several old type fairway traps were eliminated to prevent penalty tee shots.

A new electric water system was installed as the old system would not pro- vide necessary pressure at all points on the course.

All eighteen tees were rebuilt and resodded. Underbrush along fairways was cleaned out to prevent lost balls. Many trees were also cut at various places on the property.

All buildings were repainted on the outside and redecorated and remodeled inside. A modern daylight gas kitchen was installed. This was in charge of a competent chef and crew.
Spanish type clubhouse of Bel Air CC near Los Angeles. Tenth tee is at the right center. Photograph taken from the edge of abyss (seen in picture) that greedily guards the tenth green.

Emphasis on Food

By D. Scott Chisholm

One of the most unusual country clubs on the West Coast is the Bel Air club some 12 miles distant from downtown Los Angeles and a few stiff brassie shots from Beverly Hills. It is ideally situated atop a prominent hill in the hoity-toity Bel Air suburb where a plain home must not cost less than twenty grand to build and twenty more to furnish and beautify externally. In short it is an exclusive club for the prominently rich, many of whom are pretty near tops in the motion picture industry.

The course, hilly in most parts, is the work of Thomas and Bell and rightfully boasts of perfect putting surfaces. Walter Hagen once said Bel Air’s greens were the best in the country.

But I honestly believe that Bel Air’s outstanding asset and attraction is its food. Nowhere in the Western country can one get better and finer meals than at Bel Air. A dinner there is a meal never to be forgotten and the cause for it all is none other than the manager and his uncanny skill to do things right. Let me introduce to you my good Holland-born friend, Barney Van der Steen, Bel Air’s manager for many years past and very likely a fixture for many years to come.

Barney’s personality has made him just another member of the Bel Air family of 300. Trained in the finest food palaces of Europe, he is quite European in his mannerisms. He knows his place when mixing with his members in the locker-room and at the same time he’s an idol of the ladies. They insist on Barney’s advice in arranging their parties at the club because they know he’s a past master in seeing nothing is left undone that ought to be done. If they want 200 additional chairs for a big event, Barney can supply them in a jiffy. If they wish 10 carloads of flowers for decoration purposes, Barney will see they are delivered and properly distributed to the best vantage points. And when they want some special dishes on their bills of fare, dishes from far off Arabia or nearby Mexico, Barney is always called upon for his suggestions. Now that you’ve met the great Barney, let’s hear what he had to say to a few questions I fired at him while sitting in his back office in the store room of his club.

“Fred Ackerman is my boss. He’s chairman of my department and I work very
close with him. I am not tied down in any way but I like to have a talk with him as often as possible. It is helpful to both of us. I never go downtown to purchase anything. I select my merchants and I stick to them just as long as they deliver to me what I order. They know that I know that their trucks run both ways and for that reason they dare not try to put anything over. I use the telephone for all my ordering, thus saving a great deal of time which I can give to my members.

Golf No Worry of His

"You ask me how I spend my time. Well, I do not know the first thing about golf—that's the professional's business. Joe Novak, our pro, knows his business perfectly. There's never a chance for us to conflict in any way. From 8 in the morning to noon I can be found at this desk every week day. I am open to see salesmen, if any happen to be around, from 9 to 12. Other interviews have to be made by appointment. That time after 12 is for those to whom I may have something to sell—a member who may want to put on a party or something of such like. A member who may want me to arrange a banquet at his or her home. I prefer to make such appointments after high noon unless we can come to arrangements satisfactory to both over the telephone. Mark you, I'm always ready to serve my members and my members always come first.

"After noon on each day I mingle with my members and try to give them the ultimate in service. I find it pays to move around as they sit down for luncheon and as they mingle around the locker-room both before and after their play around. Special attention in the way of tasty sandwiches attractively served in the locker-room while the boys are having a snifter or two, appeals tremendously to the majority of my members. They like that personal touch which I am anxious to give to them because it makes everybody happy.

Office in Stockroom

"I prefer to have my office down here in the stockroom because I feel I must be right behind my business all the time—and here is my business among those provisions you are now gazing at. Yes, that's my reserve stock of Scotch whisky. It's the best money can buy and I make a great deal of sales to my members. I allow them a discount when they buy from me. I make a profit right there. I sell a great deal of whisky that way.

"I also send a great deal of food out to the homes of my members. There's big business and big profits in doing so and I'm ready at any hour of the day or night to give such service. I often arrange for barbecue parties for members and I always stand ready to supply orchestras, additional seating accommodations, transportation and any imaginable thing that pertains to any kind of a party. Of course I must charge well for such accommodations in order to keep those figures on the club books very much in the 'old black.' I don't know how red looks on a book.

"You ask me what is the greatest problem in club life. The fatal mistake many clubs make in their administration is allowing too many inexperienced executives dictate to those under them—those whose life's work is to do what they're engaged for. Rich sons of no experience are a source of trouble wherever they are given the least bit of executive authority and they, more than anybody else, are apt to cause disruption and discontent in club management. There is no room for inexperience in club management if the club hopes to carry on with success. I am very happy at Bel Air and I know my efforts have been appreciated by my splendid and loyal membership. I wish for no finer job."

1939 Seniors Event at Sarasota—1939 PGA Seniors championship will be played on the Bobby Jones GCse at Sarasota, Fla.; dates have not been decided upon.

This will be the third Seniors event, the first two having been played at Augusta, Ga. Jock Hutchison won at the first championship, and Fred McLeod won the individual title at the second playing of the event. All PGA professionals who have reached their 50th birthday are eligible for the competition.