

Here's "How" From Florida!

By SCOTT TUPPEN

Greenkeeper at Cleveland Heights Golf and Country Club, Lakeland, Florida.



Scott Tuppen

Editor's Note: It is not often that we find a greenkeeper, only 24 years old, who has already made a name for himself. Mr. Tuppen is the son of Frank Tuppen, veteran Florida greenkeeper, and is probably the youngest man in his profession in charge of a championship course in America.

SOMETIMES a young man chooses what he will do in life, and sometimes he is pushed into a line of endeavor he would never have chosen for himself. Luckily for me, my father's profession attracted me from the time I was going to school, and therefore I have had the benefit of his long experience in keeping golf greens in the South. Eighteen is not too young to start, if you know just what you want to do, and I did. I followed in his footsteps and took up greenkeeping, not because he had made a success of it, but because I wanted to.

In 1924, when they were building the course at Cleveland Heights, I took the position as greenkeeper. This is what is known as a championship course, and hundreds of golfers from all parts of the country play over it during the winter season. In fact, it is an all year round course, busy during the summer, too.

Native Soil and Grasses

We have two different types of soil, depending upon the elevation of the land. On the lower levels the soil is dark sandy loam, and soil from these lower levels makes a

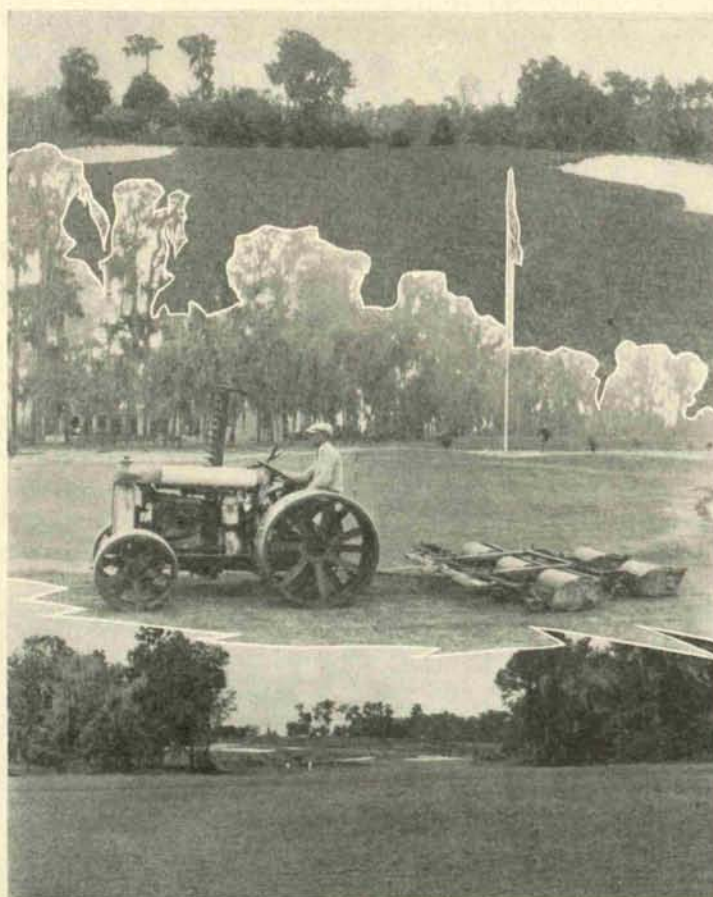
fine top dressing for use during the winter season. On the high land the soil is a yellow sand, and this soil mixed with the dark loam from the low places we use for summer top dressing with excellent results,* as it is almost entirely free from foreign vegetation.

Our greens were planted with the Atlanta strain of Bermuda, which is a much finer strain than common Bermuda, and gives a smooth texture of surface for summer play. In the winter season the greens are sown with Italian rye and red top, while the Bermuda is in its dormant stage.

The higher fairways are planted in common Bermuda, which seems to make more satisfactory growth on high dry fairways. On the lower fairways we planted carpet grass, and this is very well adapted to low ground. Our rough is all natural grasses, blanket corn, Bermuda, wire grass and Mexican clover.

Keeping Bermuda Greens

We have a more equable climate than prevails in many sections here in Florida, our temperature in summer averaging 73°, and in winter 62°. We have no difficulty in keeping a proper degree of moisture in our greens, as our water supply is very good. We use lake water, pumped to a tank and distributed through the course with a 3-in. line. Our pressure is 45



Views at Cleveland Heights, Lakeland, Florida. Upper, Number Four Green. Center, Mowing Fairways on a Sunny Morning. Lower, Number Six Fairway and Green, Along 3-Shot 5-Par Hole

pounds, and we use $\frac{3}{4}$ inch hose, as many courses in the North do.

Through the summer season, we have to water twice a day, early in the morning and again in afternoon, never watering while the sun is hot. In the winter the greens may be watered any time a day, night watering being preferable so as not to interfere with play.

Top dressing we apply to the greens approximately every three weeks to a month during the winter while they are under heavy play. During the summer rainy season, June, July and August, on account of washes they have to be top dressed oftener.

When ordinary soil is used, we mix with every two yards to a green, three pounds of sulphate of ammonia to every 1000 square feet of green to be covered, and this dressing must be thoroughly watered in and kept moist until sulphate shows results, to prevent burning the grass. Our compost mixture is $\frac{1}{3}$ yard of well rotted stable manure to $\frac{2}{3}$ yard of dark loam soil.

We have a plentiful supply of laborers, and keep twelve men all the year around, at from \$3.50 to \$4.50 a day.

Greenkeeping Asks for the Best You Can Give

One of the worst animal pests we have is the Salamander, a burrowing animal somewhat on the order of

the northern gopher, and we find the easiest method of eradication to be traps placed in the burrows. Army worms, hibernating worms, grubs and Hessian flies keep us busy at times with copper lime in dry form or arsenate of lead in liquid form, and so far their deprivations have been held pretty well in check.

While sometimes our winter grass, red top and Italian rye, is affected to a slight degree with Brown Patch, Bermuda grass is immune to this disease. From all I hear, we have no more drawbacks for the greenkeeper in this section of Florida than he finds in the Northern states, and I guess greenkeeping means about the same thing the country over, a good knowledge of individual soils, climatic conditions, and how to grow and maintain the kinds of grass that are suited to any one given locality. No job holds the interest of the man at the helm unless it holds difficulties to overcome, and if a man sticks to the game of greenkeeping and makes a success of it, there is only one answer to it,—he loves his work. There are many easier ways for a man to make a living, but the easy road, even though it leads to success, is seldom the one that gives the most satisfaction. I am only twenty-four years old, but down here in Florida, where thousands of dollars have been made over night by boys a lot younger than I am, I am not sorry that I have stuck to keeping greens.

The Permanent Beauty of Concrete

By JAMES E. FOSTER

Portland Cement Association Educational Bureau

IN order to cut the time they must devote to structural improvements (such as walks, bridges and fences) to a minimum, many greenkeepers are using concrete extensively on the courses under their supervision. Its permanent qualities, together with its resistance to climatic conditions make it easily adaptable to the needs of the greenkeeper.

Concrete Gives Service

Consider first of all the matter of steps and of sidewalks. They are constantly used and are exposed to changes in temperature. Naturally, they must have outstanding wearing qualities. The action of rain and of wind, of zero weather, and of the sun's unchecked rays on a hot summer day must not impair their quality. Concrete meets these requirements.

Artistic Possibilities

The broken down bridge crossing a stream is a relic of bye-gone days where this material is used in making bridges. The smallest structure can be as well built as

a gigantic span weighing thousands of tons. Concrete can be colored; and since it can, in its plastic (or gluey) state, be put into any shaped forms, it is adaptable to numerous design schemes. Even rustic beauty, which harmonizes so well with the natural surroundings of a golf course can be successfully and permanently reproduced with this material.

Such garden ornaments as fountains, bird baths, sun dials, flower boxes and similar pieces, when made of concrete, demonstrate the artistic possibilities of this material. As with benches, these fixtures, because of their weight, should be set on very firm ground or on flat slag supports.

Extremely ornamental fixtures, such as bird baths, benches and sun dials are manufactured by several products plants, located in different parts of the country.

Preventing Washouts

By the use of dams, piers and abutments, erosion can be retarded and changes in the stream channel can be



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