Ridgewood — Scene of Nation

U. S. G. A. Officials Praise Splendid Condition of Course

IN

3225

No.4. From Back Tee

6550 yda.

Hole

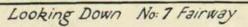
Out 3325

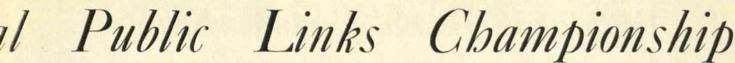
"PERFECT from tee to green" were the apt words of James D. Standish, Jr., Chairman of the Public Links section of the United States Golf Association in compliment to Frank Ermer, greenkeeper of the Ridgewood Golf Course, Cleveland, at the conclusion of the National Public Links Championship the first week in August.

"Ridgewood is the best course we have ever had for the Public Links Championship" continued Mr. Standish, "and its splendid condition considering its age reflects great credit on the greenkeeper, Frank Ermer and his crew." There's a reason of course. Ridgewood was built in 1924 and first opened for play

The Ridgewood

NO.



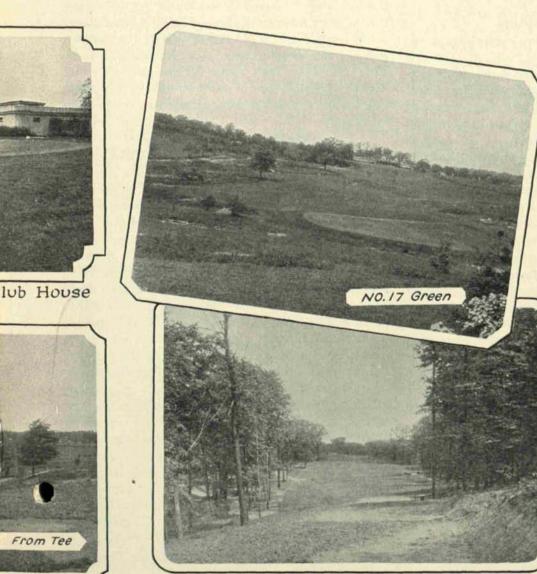


on July 4, 1925. Built on a heavy clay soil the fairways came slowly. Last summer the task of whipping it into shape for a National Championship seemed hopeless. But Ermer is resourceful and with the advice of O. J. Noer of Milwaukee, John Morley of Youngstown and Fred Burkhardt of Cleveland, all experts in turf culture and greenkeeping, a plan was laid out and followed to the letter.

Let Ermer tell you in his own words how he treated the fairways:

"We started in the 15th of August, 1926 and fertilized fairways by broadcasting a mixture of 200 pounds acid phosphate and 75 pounds sulphate per acre, then

used a tractor disc (setting blades so as to cut straight and prevent turning of the sod) and went over each fairway at least three times in different directions so as to help work fertilizers down to the roots. The fairway was then top-dressed with a good grade of screened top soil, and seeded with a mixture of fescue, redtop and a little Italian rye. The top-dressing being worked into the grass by using a large wire flexible mat pulled by a tractor, and with a light rolling the work was completed. We used 1600 loads or approximately 3000 yards of screened top-soil on the fairways. Then as the freezing weather came on we gave all the poorest spots a liberal coating of well rotted manure, and also



No: 3 From Back Tee

used twenty tons of bonemeal.

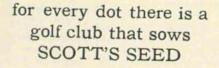
In the spring this manure was matted around and left lying to wash into the grass. Any bare spots on approaches and landing areas were either sodded and seeded in the spring and four weeks before the tournament the approaches and landing areas were given a mixture of 750 pounds Milorganite and 75 pounds nitrate of soda which gave very good results. The fairways were kept a little longer than usual until two weeks before the tournament when they were nipped right down.

### Getting Greens Ready for Tournament

We went through our (Continued on page 40)



Frank Ermer



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### Let us tell you about it

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# Ridgewood—Scene of National Public Links Championship

### (Continued from page 23)

regular process of brushing up the greens every ten days and spring top-dressing and maintenance until three weeks before the tournament. As there have not been any weeds to speak of it saved a big task of weeding so we brushed them up well and cut as close as possible. Broadcast 100 pounds of Milorganic per green and put all the top-dressing that could be worked in (consisting of two-thirds sharp sand and one-third well screened soil) and never giving them a chance to dry out.

As for brown-patch I used—starting about the last of May—a mixture of four ounces bichloride of mercury and ten pounds sulphate once a week—cutting sulphate down with the weather during July and August to five pounds sulphate per green. I use three barrels of water to put this on so as to be sure and flood green and not leave any streaks or burned spots. By using this method I have not been bothered with brown-patch last season or so far this. Also by using this mixture I have not been troubled with worm casts. Incidentally, I still have a small amount of bichloride on hand from fortysix dollars' worth purchased over two years ago.

Say you saw the ad in The National Greenkeeper