

# Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, Secretary



H. E. STODOLA  
Secretary, Minnesota  
Association of Golf  
Course Superintend-  
ents.

**T**HE first meeting since the Short Course was held at Westwood Hills clubhouse, Monday March 14. At this meeting we had a fine speaker. He was obtained by Mr. Gerald McNulty, owner of Westwood Hills and Pat Johnson, greenkeeper. The Minnesota association owes these men a vote of thanks. The speaker was Mr. Sven Norling, successful hydraulic engineer. He is well versed in drainage and knows a great deal about peat soils. He is a graduate of a famous University in Sweden. Besides his business he holds a position with the Minneapolis Survey Board.

\* \* \*

Norling told about the properties of peat; its large content of organic matter, unavailable nitrogen and water-holding capacity. He went on to explain how to take care of cracks in peat fairways. First of all he explained that cracks are caused by drouth and shrinkage. Plenty of water would cause that peat to expand and the crack would disappear. If you have the cracks with no water to soak the peat than the next thing to do is fill the cracks with peat.

\* \* \*

The reason for this is that when it rains again the peat will expand on both sides and the filling will give and let the walls come together. If you use clay or sand it will be a temporary proposition. When you get a rainy season the walls of the peat crack as they cannot come together because this clay wall will stop it. Therefore, your crack can never heal up gradually. Mr. McNulty and Pat Johnson have filled their cracks with peat and it works out just like Mr. Norling explained.

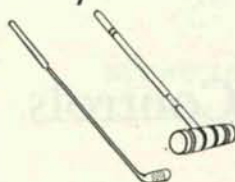
\* \* \*

Another thing—you can keep peat from cracking if you maintain your water table from three to five feet from the surface. Have your tile line three feet down. In a rainy season it will drain the peat. In a dry season you should be able to close this tile system and no water can escape. You can go so far as to pump water into your tile line and keep the water table at three feet. The point is; keep the upper three feet of peat fairly moist and you will have no cracks and good grass growth.

\* \* \*

Then he touched on mixing peat in your topdressing to create a cushion effect on hard greens. He said that 50% peat and 50% coarse loam would be ideal. His talk was very good and questions were thrown at him so fast that he did not even have time to keep his cigar lit. His

~ even as a **PUTTER**  
Surpasses a Croquet Mallet ~



*Jacobsen*  
**POWER  
Putting Green  
MOWER**

- all the speed of any Triplex mower.
- all the capacity of any power mower.
- cuts *finer* than any hand mower.
- lightness consistent with good mowing.

—including what no other power mower possesses, a Greens Brush Attachment for lifting matted Bent turf to the knives, making so perfect and complete a cut that daily mowing, as with hand power machine, is not necessary.

Large, turf-protecting, rear rollers that condition the green without packing or scuffing. High-speed, 7-

blade reel with  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch frequency of cut that produces the finest putting surface. Made in 19 and 24-inch cutting widths.

*Free Demonstration* on your own greens. We challenge comparison. You name the place. Orders now being filled for immediate delivery. Catalog and prices upon request.

**JACOBSEN MANUFACTURING CO.**  
735 Washington Avenue, Racine, Wisconsin

**JACOBSEN**  
BUILT TO SAVE RUNNING EXPENSE

# YOU.

Who Are Responsible for the  
**FAIRWAYS  
AND GREENS**

Wouldn't it be great to be able to say at the end of next playing season "Well fellows, we gave you the finest course you ever played over, and what's more, we actually saved you real money on its upkeep?" It is easy and economical to keep fairways and greens luxuriously verdant, in perfect playing condition, through the driest summer with the

**BUCKNER**  
One-Man Sprinkler System

The savings this system will accomplish for your club will soon pay for its complete installation. That other clubs know this from experience is evidenced by the fact that they use more Buckner equipment than any other make.

*Let us send you our latest catalog containing all the facts about golf course irrigation.*

**BUCKNER**  
MFG. COMPANY  
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

*Factory Representatives*  
P. L. Baldock, 2240 Casitas St., Pasadena  
Gordon Buckner, Athens Athletic Club, Oakland  
Buckner Irrigation Company, Nixon Bldg., Chicago  
*Eastern Engineering Representatives*  
Wendell P. Miller and Associates, 105 W. Monroe St. Chicago

Grass Seed  
Fertilizers  
Brown Patch Controls  
Rollers  
Distributors  
Buckner Sprinklers  
Milorganite  
Arsenate of Lead

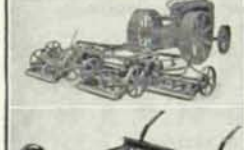
*J. Oliver Johnson, Inc.*

World's Largest Golf Course Equipment House

Morgan-Huron-Superior Sts.

CHICAGO, ILL.

© Reg. J O J Inc. 1928



## Did You Get Yours?

The descriptive literature of the 1932 National Fairway mower, heavy-duty type, with the latest improvements.

### Outstandingly Favorable Comment

was accorded this mower at the Greenkeepers' Show in New York in January for its sturdy, rugged construction and guaranteed quality which "made a hit" with the most critical.

The 1932 model costs us more to build, but we've lowered the prices.

*Send for the Catalog*

**National Mower Co.**  
839 Cromwell Ave. Saint Paul, Minn.

talk was what we wanted and if Mr. McNulty reads this I hope he will realize our appreciation of obtaining Mr. Norling.

#### MINNESOTA HAD AN OPEN FEBRUARY

Minnesota had an open February and the greens were exposed. There was plenty of snow mold. Now in March the greens are covered with snow again and conditions are ideal for snow mold. Most of the greens in the Twin Cities were treated in the fall with mercuric preparations. As a last resort when the disease is seen now it is immediately sprinkled with calomel mixed in sand. We are all hoping that this snow will leave fast and that our damage will be small.

\* \* \*

The meeting became informal toward evening and the boys changed ideas until dinner was served at seven. Mrs. Johnson is a fine hostess and surely puts on a fine spread for the hungry greenkeepers. We thank her sincerely.

The next meeting will be the Annual meeting, Thursday, April 7, at seven o'clock, at the Sea Food Grill, Lake and Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis. We want a 100% turnout of active members and election of officers will take place. Be sure to be on the job.

## Mid-West Notes

*By C. E. TREGILLUS, Secretary*

WHEN March was ushered in with pussy willows and spring flowers, the Midwest began lining up for an early start on golf course operations. However, when near-zero weather arrived a few days later and settled down for a week's visit, the picture changed considerably.

At this date it is difficult to say whether the turf has suffered damage from this topsy-turvy winter. The regular winter season was unusually mild with periods of growing temperature and this recent cold snap will most likely leave the turf with depleted food reserves. Some assistance in the form of readily available fertilizer will be most opportune when the big spring push gets under way.

The last gathering of the Midwest Greenkeepers' Association brought a good turnout of the membership. An interesting, technical address by Mr. George Thomson on the origin and disposition of plant food elements was so well appreciated that the meeting ran an hour or so overtime.

Many clubs are reorganizing their grounds staff in the hope of meeting reduced revenues. We trust such moves will not work hardship to those who have given the best years of their lives to the greenkeeping industry and the promotion of that sort of turf that makes golf a real pleasure and relaxation.