

Minnesota Gossip

By H. E. STODOLA, *Secretary*

THE October meeting of the Minnesota Association was held at Midland Hills and the University course.

There are many fine things about Midland Hills. The main one is the foundation on which the course is operated. The club house is managed by a capable manager who believes a club house is best managed by a man who devotes his full time to that part of the golfing plant. Then the pro has his shop and what a fine shop it is. He is an excellent instructor and a real booster for the pros—being active secretary for the Minnesota P. G. A. for years.

PICHA IS LEADER AMONG YOUNG GREENKEEPERS

THEN we come to the course proper, managed by the greenkeeper, Emil Picha, who is responsible only to the Greens chairman. I am so bold as to say he is the leader of the younger generation of greenkeepers of this country. His course shows it. The tees are large, fit into the surroundings, drain to the back and are mostly tough thru reseeding *Poa Annua*.

The fairways are getting better each year. They are carefully watered. The hydrants are in the center of the fairways for convenience and economy. I may say here that his water plant will pump 350 gallons per minute at sixty-five pounds pressure.

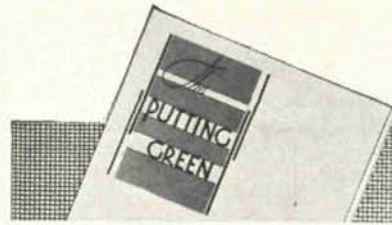
His approaches blend into the greens. His greens are well taken care of, putt fine and hold a pitch. However, Emil is striving for a finer putting surface and as he says, "I want it to resemble mohair." His equipment is well-cared for. His books and budgets are a lesson for most of us. This man Picha is a thinker and planner and his course shows it.

From here we went to Art Anderson's course, the University Recreation field. Art is a protege of Charles Erickson, the dean of the Minnesota greenkeepers. Charley can be proud of Art because he and Mr. Smith, intra-mural director, have made a real golf course for the University. It is a course of many problems. Some greens are Metropolitan, some Virginia, some Seaside, Washington and Woodhill bent. They all require different treatment.

Art manages to keep them all in good playing condition, but it is like feeding a mixed herd, they do not all eat alike nor do they all produce the same. While on greens I want to say that Art stands on record as the biggest hater of *Poa Annua* greens in this wide world. He has had 'em and know they are even more fickle than blonds, here today, gone tomorrow.

University has spacious tees and goodness knows they need them. The Profs may know their math and history, but they surely flunk when it comes to divots. The fairways are wide and watered.

This course is well wooded but as fast as the red oaks



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die out Art is ready to plant another tree. Traps. This course has two new ones that are a work of art. They have a large practice tee and fairway that would be a credit to any course. University Recreation Field is a fine golf course and is the reward of hard, intelligent work.

At both these clubs we had Hoover beer, or coffee and good cigars for all. The next meeting will be at the Minikahda tool house, 1:00 o'clock, Monday, November 14.

New Jersey Notes

By JOHN ANDERSON, *President*
Greenkeepers' Association of New Jersey



JOHN ANDERSON

SINCE the June meeting at Hopewell Valley Country Club the activities of the New Jersey Greenkeepers Association have not been forwarded to the *National Greenkeeper*.

The July meeting was held at Princeton, the course that the students at the college use. The layout is in the charge of Lew Whalen and is a credit to him considering the number of rounds of golf played in a season. Lew has been conducting some experiments with Metropolitan bent on his greens and tees and it seems as if the Princeton course will soon be solid Metropolitan bent. It looks beautiful.

The August meeting was held at Crestmont and while we had no surprises along turf management lines to show, the boys had a good test of golf on the long, hilly