

# How We Overcame the 1932 Depression

*More information about the problems of golf course maintenance as expressed by the greenkeepers*

## Keller Club Has Gone Ahead

By H. E. STODOLA, *Greenkeeper*  
Keller Golf Course, Saint Paul, Minn.



H. E. STODOLA

THESE are several things about this season that stand out in my mind. The first is that I have never heard Mr. Coates, county engineer in charge of this course, ever mention that horrid word that is on so many people's lips.

This spring we started with three less men, shortened the hours and raised our standard of work. We remodeled our tool-house and built a compost plant into it, whereby we can grind and mix the material and chemicals without touching the compost with a shovel from the time that it enters the mill until it is applied on the green.

The next thing we did was to move the U. S. G. A. plots from another course to ours and make a beautiful turf garden out of it. This was done when club interest in the garden was low. Then we built thirty-six more traps, which completes the construction on the course.

The course was groomed for the National P. G. A. in September. After the tournament we enlarged our nursery and built a new tee. We are propagating a beautiful strain of velvet bent and also started a tree nursery and a new compost pile eighty feet by twenty. Now we are enlarging and adding alternate tees so this public course will have grass to drive from all the time. We are making enough compost for the spring dressing which we can store in a part of our toolhouse.

This fall Mr. Coates is going to use his golf course crew to put in 101,000 square feet of Seaside bent for the City parks. After the weather permits no other work, we will take out dead trees on the course. So it has been a busy, pleasant year and we are proud to have a progressive man like Mr. Coates to work for.

## Moundsville Pulls Through

By CHAS. S. KESSELRING, *Greenkeeper*  
Moundsville Country Club, Moundsville, West Virginia

I HAVE been very busy and have neglected sending in my letter to regard to my trials and triumphs since the depression hit. Well, I guess I have had my day as well as all greenkeepers.

On January 3rd of this year our club house, in which I lived, burned to the ground. Not a thing was saved and without insurance on my goods, but the club stood by me and didn't give me a wage cut until September. They were only carrying a small insurance. We rebuilt a small but very comfortable clubhouse.

We made our old machinery tide us over and I had no help, only my son, sixteen years old, but we got through.

I read an article in the GREENKEEPER written by J. H. Evans of Toronto, which I wish to reply to regarding a way to rid greens of ants without injuring the grass. I had them on four of my greens, but Number 6 was the worst and I used Merck's carbon disulphite on them twice and I haven't had any more trouble with them and it didn't hurt the grass.

Select a long slender iron rod and pierce holes in the green from 6 to 12 inches deep. Take a small spouted oil can and drop a few drops in each hole. Close up the holes to hold gas in the ground. Pierce hole near or in the same place where the ants work.

Hope these few thoughts may help some greenkeeper who is troubled with ants.

## Scioto Has Good Year

By ARTHUR HUGHES, *Greenkeeper*  
Scioto Country Club, Columbus, Ohio

I WILL take time to write a short note about the Scioto club this summer. This has been my first year in charge at this club, but we have had a pretty good year. Have been very fortunate this summer as I have had all the help and material to keep the course in good condition.

We have not had as much brown patch this summer as we had in 1931. I water the greens early in the morning, not later than nine o'clock, and top-dress light once a month.