

Firestone Courses In Good Shape

By HENRY PROVENCE, *Greenkeeper*

Firestone Country Club and Public Course of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio

IN REFERENCE to your letter of September 7, as to how we managed to overcome the depression we kept both of our courses in fairly good shape. We have both a public and a private course, thirty-six holes in all.

We centered most of our work on our greens and tees. Every golfer seemed to be well pleased with them. We cut down on our labor but not on our fertilizer, as well as seed and minor equipment.

We had a few sod webworms on our public course that marred the greens a bit so I used forty pounds of arsenate and six pounds of sulphate with sand and they came along fine.

Summing it all up I did more figuring, thinking and harder work, as well as my men and I do not believe my two courses will be affected for 1933 along these lines as they weren't deprived of anything they required. I cannot see much better conditions for 1933 under these modern times.

Hall Uses Nitrate of Soda

By G. W. HALL, *Greenkeeper*

Cowansville Golf Club, Cowansville, Canada, Quebec

TO EXPLAIN my troubles for the year 1932, I must say my Directors have been for cutting expenses since we first began the season. But I think they have looked on the dark side a little too much, as we shall not come out so badly.

The first thing they did was to cut my wages ten per cent and asked me to manage with one man and that I have done. I have been doing the work this season by myself with the aid of one man and kept expenses down.

The first thing I did was to get compost for my greens. I got it from a spare part on the course and got one hundred and fifty pounds of nitrate of soda to mix with it and derived great results from it and a saving of one hundred dollars of buying.

In July, because I had no time to make my own, I bought ten tons at five dollars delivered, and dressed

my greens again and they have kept in great shape. Never had them better.

I have not had a complaint from the members or guests. There have been a great number from the States playing, and they told me the course was in wonderful shape.

For the fall dressing I have taken earth from the same place again instead of buying and that will be a saving of about one hundred and fifty dollars. I am mixing one hundred pounds of nitrate of soda with it again. I gave my bad fairways twenty tons of lime at two dollars a ton delivered. Of course what keeps my expenses down, I have a tractor with three-section mowers, also Worthington power mower for greens. My greens are a good size, 9-hole course, 2565 yards.

Slack Has Been Fortunate

By WM. SLACK, *Greenkeeper*

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan

IN REPLY to your questionnaire on, How I Overcame the Depression of 1932—Well, I think that I can truthfully say that I am one of the most fortunate greenkeepers in the state with regards to expense as I have had all the men and material necessary to keep the University of Michigan golf course in first-class condition.

Not being in the habit of blowing my own horn as the saying goes, I base my statement on the condition of the course from the compliments paid to me by the many visitors who have played here from the different states.

Of course, I am well aware that if I had not had a crew of loyal men and plenty of material, I would have been in the same boat as some of the unfortunate men all around me who have not been blessed with all the facilities that I have had to work with, and I take this opportunity of congratulating them all for the condition that they have kept their courses in, as I have visited quite a lot of them and have marveled on the work they have done.

I further consider myself very fortunate in that I have had only a very slight attack of small brown patch on one green which is not worth mentioning, while some of my brother greenkeepers all around me have had lots of trouble. I think I can attribute my good fortune to this reason that since May I