

have thoroughly disced all the greens every two weeks and watered in the morning.

I must say that I think I had a fair share of sod webworm and it sure kept me busy for a while, but after applying kerosene emulsion on some greens and arsenate of lead on others I gave them a shock at least for this year.

I cannot close without sympathizing with the greenkeeper who has had to struggle along with a shortage of everything. I trust this reply complies with our worthy president's request.

How I Beat the Budget in 1932

By JOHN DAVIDSON, *Greenkeeper*

Wanango Country Club, Reno, Pennsylvania

THE greatest expense in maintaining a golf course is the labor and the most successful greenkeepers are those who can manage the handling of their men, as well as understand the condition of their turf and know how to improve it without making any false moves.

I am on an 18-hole golf course on the side hills of Western Pennsylvania, where the soil is very thin, about a half inch to grow the needed grass on both greens and fairways. In spite of this the greens and fairways have improved wonderfully this year owing to a new watering system which enables us to water the approaches and landing places.

If a more extensive watering system had been provided the fairways would be in much better condition. But not so with our greens; we have to use the most uncommon thing in the world, common sense when watering them. I have had very little trouble with any pests or diseases during my experience as a greenkeeper, not even in 1928 when I was on another course or in 1931 on this course; two years which proved disastrous to many course maintenance men.

This year the Green committee allowed me the munificent budget of six thousand dollars on which to run the golf course. This meant that I had to cut the number of men employed to the minimum, so I hired five men, all good workers, and all willing to pull for the course.

One man mows the fairways, cuts the rough, and keeps two tennis courts in excellent condition. The

other four men cut five greens each day and rake the traps around them. When that is completed these four men report where we left off the day before and working in gang formation the rest of the eight hours we cut the slopes of greens, the tees, do what topdressing is necessary and other odd jobs.

This gives each man a chance to see the other fellows' greens and to jest over the straight or crooked lines of the mowers or other things which come to their attention. We always have a little fun and plenty of work.

I worked with my men and then found time to grind mowers, keep the equipment in shape, run the gas engine for the water supply, and put on the sprinklers at night with two boys to fill in where necessary.

Before I took up the work here sixteen men were employed on the course at a cost of about \$12,000 a year. Most of the members tell me the course was never in better condition.

Berkshire In Good Shape

By THOMAS NOCKER

Berkshire Hills Country Club, Hartford, Connecticut

IN REPLY to Col. Morley's letter of September 7th, I want to make a short statement.

Starting the season of 1932 at the Berkshire Hills Country Club, the officials of the club cut all help from ten to twenty per cent—greenkeeper taking the lion's share in the cut, also cut the amount of men from six to four. But, seeing that I was the construction superintendent of the course and therefore had always a personal interest in the course I had to resort to every trick gained in my twenty years' experience in this country.

Despite all this we have had excellent comments from guests as well as from players in the New England P. G. Q., also the Berkshire Open.

I think that both workmen and greenkeepers should be entitled at the end of a successful season for the club to something more than just a lot of salvaged and empty promises.

Regarding the outlook for the season of 1933, we cannot see much improvement so far, but live in hopes of early prosperity for everybody.