



Well kept walks show, at first tee, true indication of thoroughness in course care.

Keller Public Course Operation Model of Big-Play Maintenance

By HAROLD STODOLA

Golf Course Superintendent, Keller G. C., St. Paul, Minn.

THE Keller Golf Course, scene of the 1931 National Public Links tournament and the 1930 St. Paul \$10,000 Open, is a county public play establishment. The course is three years old and was designed and constructed by Paul N. Coates. He also has charge of the maintenance now.

The course is 15 minutes drive from the loop of St. Paul. It is surrounded by excellent roads. The entire golfing area is surrounded by a stone wall which gives an "old English" effect. The main driveway is unusual because it winds through the course and still does not in any way detract from the natural beauty of the lay-

out. The clubhouse is well located, overlooking the course and city on one side and a chain of lakes on the other.

Two Practice Areas

There are two practice greens. One is close to the first tee so the players can hear their number when their turn is called. The other is large and some distance from the tee. Because we have so many people waiting to start off on the first tee, we try to keep them interested by plenty of area for practice putting.

We have dual tees. The purpose of this is to keep one perfect for tournaments or



Trim, substantial work like Keller's bridge on 7th hole, features course maintenance.



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to use while the other is being repaired. It is a large task to keep grass tees on a public course, and especially so on the short holes.

Our greens are Cocoos bent and have given us entire satisfaction. This, so far as I know, is the only course in the state with this grass.

Allot Labors

Our crew consists of a superintendent, a foreman, four green cutters, one tractor man and three men for watering. Each man has his specific work and in time becomes expert in that particular job. The golf course superintendent spends his time in the field where he is always available to those who need his help. He keeps the time and expense reports so he knows where the money is going. Much of his time is spent on improvements, construction, and experiments.

The foreman changes cups and tee markers every morning. From experience we found it is best to change cups every day and during tournaments we change twice a day. The foreman has charge of all equipment adjustment and repairs. He practically has charge of maintenance.

Four men cut the greens by hand in the morning. They finish their work between 11 and 12 and spend the rest of the morning weeding and filling ball marks on their greens. In the afternoon two of these men take care of the lawn, tees and approaches. One man takes care of the trees and shrubbery, and the other green-cutter spends his afternoons on the traps and in the turf nursery. These men are used for top-dressing, fertilizing and extra watering.

The tractor man cuts the fairways and rough and does all the hauling with the

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utility tractor. He is also used for miscellaneous work whenever available.

One man waters the fairways in the daytime and two men water the greens and tees in the evening. Now that our greens have developed a good root growth we feel that they will not need to be watered every night. In that case we hope to do our night watering with one man. The extra man will be used for the tennis courts, swimming pool, and tree nursery which will be put in in the near future.

Our men work straight time. We grind and mix our compost indoors and that keeps them busy during the rainy season. As we are not able to keep our crew during the winter we keep them as busy as we can for nine months.

We are getting away from the compost pile. We have a compost field about an acre in size. We fertilize it with organic fertilizers and then plow it under. Then we plant it to soy beans and plow that under. Then we use winter rye and plow that under. We expect to get results from this because the air can get to the soil and hurry decomposition.

We are firm believers in every man should be a specialist. Our course was built by a golf course architect, the landscaping was done by a landscape architect, the maintenance is taken care of by a greenkeeper, the greens are taken care of by expert greensmen, all the watering is done by certain men, the grass cutting is done by men who do nothing else, and all the mechanical work is done by a mechanic.

KROYDON ANNOUNCES MIDWEST SALES LINEUP

Chicago, Ill.—The Kroydon Company's territorial allotment for the midwest, effective this season, spots Leo Saettele, dapper and bright little guy, to lower Michigan and Indiana. H. L. ("Ole") Olsen, gent with the movie seducer brush on his upper lip, is slated for Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and the Dakotas, and big John Carnell, formerly with U. S. Rubber, to the Chicago district.



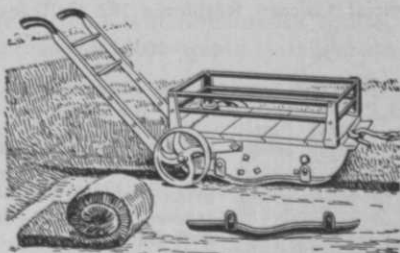
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