

Organize Their Upkeep Routine

WALTER C. REED

Westwood Country Club

St. Louis, Mo.

—divides up his staff into crews with specific tasks for each, while a roving foreman supervises their activities.

WESTWOOD Country Club is located on a tract of 240 acres. We have 29 bent greens, 40 tees, 166 bunkers, a large nursery, a flower garden, 6 tennis courts, a swimming pool, a horse barn containing 40 horses, and a very large lawn around the clubhouse. There is also a Green Section experimental garden and various other appurtenances incident to golf course operations.

The best way to explain our labor management policy is to outline the greens staff during the height of the season. It is as follows:

- 6 men cut the greens, tees and approaches and also keep the greens weeded.
- 1 man with Toro "Park Special" mower cuts all grass around back of greens and tees and similar places hard to get at with fairway mowers.
- 2 tractor men cut all fairways and rough around fairways.
- 1 Fordson tractor man cuts all outside rough; sprays all greens and tees for brown-patch once a week, and also helps to topdress greens, fertilize greens, tees and fairways; and whatever is to be done in that line.
- 2 truck drivers do all hauling and cleaning up on golf course and haul manure from the horse barn. We have 40 head of horses and there is quite a lot of manure to haul. They also haul coal for the clubhouse (and at this time of the year we use 100 tons per month), ashes, rubbish and various other jobs.
- 2 scythe men cut the banks of our 166 bunkers, and also rake the sand in them.
- 1 man looks after cups and flags on the greens, also changes the tee markers, tee benches. In his spare time he rakes grass after the scythe man and also rakes footprints out of the sand in bunkers.

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CHESTER MENDENHALL

Wichita Country Club

Wichita, Kansas

—obtains cooperation of men by always explaining in detail the "whys" and "wherefores" of each job.

THE large per cent of golf course maintenance budget being spent for labor is becoming a nightmare to most greenkeepers. As soon as a greenkeeper begins modernizing his methods of work and keeps records of the time spent on each job during the day, he cannot help realizing how much lost labor motion is costing his club. And the greenkeeper is directly responsible for this lost motion.

If he sends a man to mow the greens at a time when the man is sure to interfere with the players' steady progress the greenkeeper is at fault, not the man doing the work. Similarly, if two or three men are allowed to work together when the greenkeeper is not around, there is sure to be time wasted in idle talk. Men who can talk and work at the same time are few and far between.

The greenkeeper who keeps books on the total hours of labor paid for will soon see that many important jobs are being slighted, and that many hours of work are being charged to other work of very little importance.

I think the first move in cutting down labor costs is adopting a good bookkeeping system, one that does not take too much of the greenkeeper's time and at the same time gives him a record of where the total hours of labor paid for are spent.

Then, have good equipment and keep it in good repair. See to it that each man understands the machine he is using and that he takes pride in taking good care of it.

No Relatives on Crew

In selecting your crew, always select men who are fairly intelligent, clean, neat appearing, and willing to learn; as a rule they can be taught to do most any work around a golf course. Generally it is bad policy to hire a man who is related either to you or to any man who is working for

Westwood's Work Keeps Greensmen Stepping

By WALTER C. REED

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- 1 mechanic is kept busy keeping all tools in first-class working condition, including tractors, trucks, lawn mowers, and all other tools and implements. It is his job to maintain in good condition the club's drainage and water systems.
- 4 men water greens, tees and approaches; care for the flower garden, the trees, nursery, etc.
- 4 men keep six tennis courts, the Green Section experimental garden and the swimming pool, drained and scrubbed every Monday, in good condition. These men have three acres of bent lawn around the clubhouse to be kept cut and watered; shrubbery to be watered when needed and spaded over once each month; walks to be kept clean of weeds and in good shape.
- 1 foreman checks the assignments of the men and sees that every man is doing his work properly. My foreman and I sit down one-half hour each day and plan our work for the following day.

In this way we have our work running smoothly at all times. Everybody works here; this is no old soldiers' home. We have twenty-five men in busy season, only four during the winter.

Michigan Holds Greens Short Course, Feb. 16-19

MICHIGAN State College of Agriculture will hold a short course for greenkeepers Feb. 16-19.

John Dustin, president of Western Michigan Greenkeepers' Association, will serve as chairman. Profs. Millar, Grantham, Harmer, Robey, Halligan, Musselman, Muncie, Megee and Pettit of the college faculty will be on the program. Others who will figure in the short course are C. A. Stahl, Michigan state seed analyst; Herb Shave, president of Michigan and Border Cities' Greenkeepers' Association, and representatives of the Green Section.

Complete details of the course may be secured from Prof. C. E. Millar of Michigan State College, East Lansing, Mich.

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