

Equipment and Supplies Small in Maintenance Budget

I NTERESTING evidence of the exceedingly small part of the maintenance budget taken by equipment and supplies comes from the notes of a veteran green-chairman of a well-known 27-hole eastern course. His comments on labor distribution also will be of help to those who are making serious studies of mechanization of course maintenance as a means of reducing the labor bill.

The 27-hole course has been under expert management for years and on that account undoubtedly shows an unusually good cost record for the last two years. Frequently the factor of excellent previous treatment over a long period of years is overlooked in accounting for a course annual upkeep cost that now is below the average. In this particular case there is emphasized the culminative value of a persistent and thoughtfully planned campaign of course maintenance.

In detailing the labor management and costs at this course, the chairman begins by itemizing the labor allotment worked out by the able greenkeeper at the establishment. This division (says the chairman) runs:

Labor for 27 holes and grounds:

January	1 man	\$ 100.00
February	2 men	200.00
March	2 men	200.00
March, April	1600 hrs.	800.00
April, May, June, July, Aug., Sept., and Oct.	14 men	9,800.00
November	10 men	1,000.00
December	2 men	200.00
Allowance for watering.		400.00
Allowance for weeding		200.00

\$12,900.00

During the active season, commencing April 1st, we employ 14 regular men on our payroll and they are distributed as follows:

Six men care for the greens, tees, and traps around greens.

One man operates fairway tractor, cutting 27 holes twice in a week.

One man operates a small tractor, cutting the rough.

One man is employed caring for bunkers and traps through the fairways.

One man is a general utility man, looking after the equipment, cutting holes for cups and ready to go out anywhere on the course to assist. This particular man should be a man of experience. In our case the man who does this work has been with us close to 20 years.

Three men are on 9-hole course.

One man cares for grounds around clubhouse and approaches to club, as well as practice putting green.

Men Are Versatile.

Of course, this does not mean that these men do not do any other work except as indicated above. When greens are top-dressed or treated, the green men as well as any others available are used. At certain times of the year when the work is not heavy, as many men as are available will be used to do some particular piece of work. Also, in case of a heavy storm doing damage to a parking space through washing, the whole "gang" of men will be taken out the first thing in the morning before they start on their regular work. Last year we did not spend a cent for extra labor in weeding, which was all done with our regular force.

In November we reduce our force to 10 men; these 10 are able to do considerable work on compost and other odd jobs needing attention.

In December, when the playing season is practically over, we cut down to two men. These men devote their time to going over all equipment, making a record of new parts needed.

In January we have only one man, who gives practically his entire time to repairs on equipment, and in February we put on another man to assist.

The exact date for starting spring work is uncertain; hence, for March, in addition to the two men, we usually make an allowance for so many hours, which also may include the extra labor running into the month of April. We find this the most satisfactory way as there are often many days, especially in March, when no work can be done.

Explains Expense Record.

We keep our green-committee expense record in the following manner:

1. Salaries and Wages.....\$	
Professional	\$
Greenkeeper	
Labor	
2. Maintenance of Equipment\$	
New Parts	\$
Repairs	
Gas, Oil and Grease....	
3. Maintenance of Water System...\$	
Cost of Water.....	\$
Repairs	
4. Upkeep Supplies	\$
Grass Seed	\$
Mushroom Soil	
Other Materials	
5. Sundry Supplies.....	\$
Small Tools and Hard-ware	\$
Flags, Cups, Poles, etc...	
Other Materials	
6. Replacements	\$
Sand for Traps	\$
7. Miscellaneous	\$
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Total Maintenance	\$
8. New Equipment	\$
<hr/>	
Total Maintenance and Equipment	\$
9. Construction	\$
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$

1. **Salaries and Wages.**—Under this heading is charged the salary of the professional, and greenkeeper and all labor in connection with maintenance of golf courses and grounds. Cost of labor for improvements should be charged to Construction. While salary of professional is charged to the Green-Committee, I do not believe this should be part of green-committee expenses unless the "pro" actually has charge or something to do with the care of the golf course.

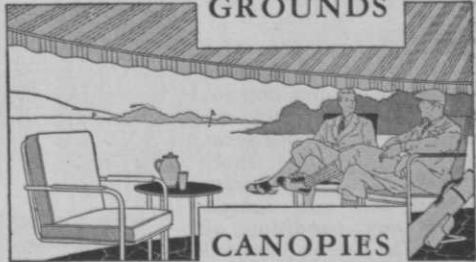
2. **Maintenance of Equipment.**—Under this heading is charged all new parts purchased for tractors, mowers, etc., labor in connection with repairs and cost of gas, oil and grease for equipment.

3. **Maintenance Water System.**—Under this heading is entered charges for water supplied by a water company, or if own plant is operated actual cost of maintaining same. In our case we keep an item of repairs, which consists of repairs to pipes, replacement of worn hydrants, etc., under a separate sub-heading.

4. **Upkeep Supplies.**—Under this head-

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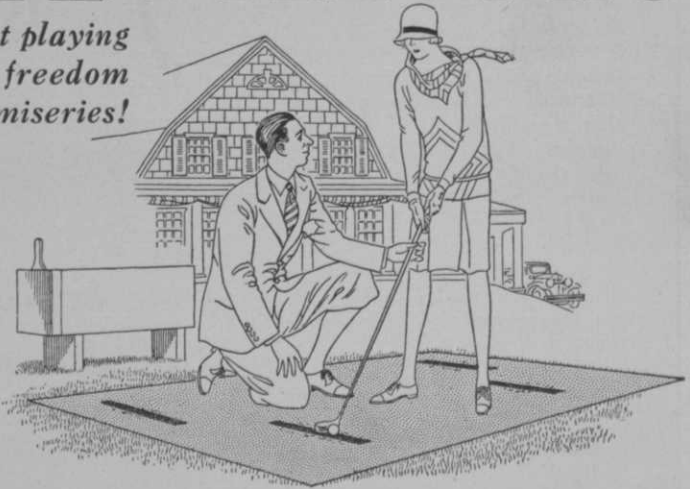
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ing is charged all supplies used in connection with maintenance, such as grass seed, mushroom soil and other materials, like sulphate of ammonia, semesan, bi-sulphide of carbon, worm killer, and sand and manure for compost. We keep a separate heading for mushroom soil on account of it being a large item, but as this is gradually being reduced each year it will soon become a comparatively small item and will not be necessary to keep separately.

5. **Sundry Supplies.**—Under this heading is charged cost of small tools, such as rakes, shovels, poles for sweeping greens, wrenches, pliers, etc., and miscellaneous hardware, flags and poles for greens, hole cups, tee markers, pails, towels, brushes, etc., and other materials, such as paint, lumber, cement, tile in small quantities, etc.

6. **Replacements.**—Under this heading is charged cost of sand for traps.

7. **Miscellaneous.**—Under this heading is charged any small item not chargeable to other headings and as a rule amounts to very little, but not over \$50.00 or \$60.00.

8. **New Equipment.**—Under this heading is charged all new equipment, including new mowers, tractors, sprinkler equipment, hose, etc.

9. **Construction.**—Under this heading is charged cost of material and labor for new work on the golf courses only. Any new planting, or other improvements on grounds, would be charged to improvement on land.

All freight and express charges, or cost of hauling, should be charged as an expense under proper heading.

While entries for expenses are only kept under 11 headings, the sub-heading expense is made up from month to month and to date as a means of watching expenses in comparison with estimate.

Percentages Are Given.

Green-committee maintenance costs (exclusive of professional's salary) make the following showing for the last two seasons:

	1927 %	1928 %
Salaries and Wages:		
Greenkeeper	13.36	12.65
Labor	57.41	54.54
Maintenance of Equipment:		
New Parts and Repairs ..	4.71	4.8
Gas, Oil, Grease	3.3	3.14
Maintenance Water System:		
Charge for use	3.26	3.9
Repairs, etc.	0.36	1.23

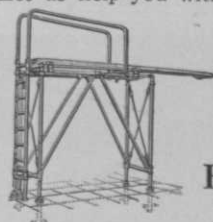
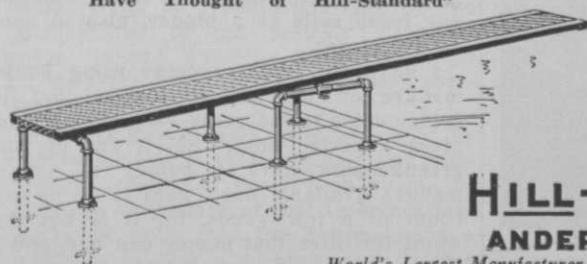
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Mushroom Soil	10.7	6.32
Other Materials	1.66	7.8
Sundry Supplies:		
Small tools and hardware, Flags, Cups, Poles, etc.		
Paint, Lumber, etc.	1.56	1.15
Replacements:		
Sand for Traps	2.08	2.90
Miscellaneous:	0.28	0.57
	<hr/> 100.0	<hr/> 100.0

Asks Pros to Report Phoney Ball Claims for Action

PEDDLERS of golf balls that are marked with the buyer's name on both poles of the ball are working the sucker trade, claiming the ball is the same as the U. S. Royal, according to statements of professionals and E. C. Conlin, manager, Golf Ball dept., United States Rubber Co. The ball positively is not of U. S. Rubber manufacture, Conlin states. The rubber company's legal department is acting to protect pros, players and the company's own interests against the flagrant misrepresentation and will appreciate pro co-operation.

Stable Manure Not Always Too Weedy to Use

By HUGH C. MOORE, Greenkeeper
Sea Island (Ga.) Golf Club

THERE HAS been a considerable lot said against using stable manure as a fertilizer. The main complaint is the large number of weed seeds liable to be present, unless the manure is well aged. I will admit that manure contains weed seeds, but I do not think there are any where near as many as some people would have you think.

In building my practice fairway, which is about three acres in size, I used stable manure with great success. I broadcast it about two inches thick over the entire area and disc-harrowed it in both directions. Then I planted Bermuda stolons, which matted quickly and permitted play in a very few weeks. The best feature of all was the fine root system; they are deeper in the ground and



Hugh Moore.