

whose experience and advice they found a great deal more valuable than they had thought. Today, there is little talk of cutting managers' salaries, because the clubs realize his importance in a club's well-being.

A matter of financial nature had its effect on the results of the year, this item being a general reduction in interest charges. Where bond issues and short term obligations came due, they were for the most part paid up or else re-financed at a lower interest rate. And at the same time, few clubs increased their funded debt. It is estimated that 18-hole clubs today average \$1,500 less interest charges annually than was the case in 1929, and reductions are expected to continue each year for some time to come. This had considerable to do with the showing of the year.

Under existing conditions, it is difficult to regard the future of our country clubs in anything but the most optimistic vein. They came through a difficult year in splendid fashion, due principally to intelligent application of economy measures, in spite of increased competition from daily-fee and municipal courses, and in spite of a late season's start and excess week-end rains in early summer that for a time, if they continued, threatened to cut attendance to a hitherto unexperienced minimum.

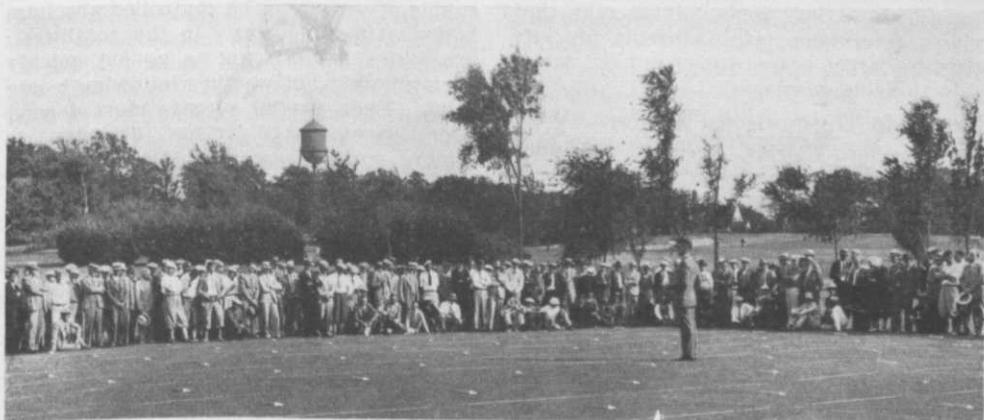
What lies ahead in 1932 will be more obvious a month or two from now, after the season ends and the annual statements are in. All that need be emphasized now is that the bell for the 1931 round finds the clubs still on their feet—and not pulling their punches.

## Green Section Meetings Have Record Attendance

**O**LD DAYS when the Green section held a single annual meeting with an attendance of 50 to 80 men paled in light of the 1931 meetings the section held at various experimental plots. More than 1,000 men attended these affairs, examined the experimental plots and exchanged notes on trials and triumphs during the tearful season.

The biggest Green section meeting ever held was that at the Mill Road farm experimental plots, August 31. More than 400 course superintendents and greenkeepers studied the work done there under the close supervision of C. A. Tregillus, superintendent for A. D. Lasker, owner of the Mill Road estate. John Monteith, Jr., and Ken Welton of the Section and Tregillus went through the details of the work and results at the outdoor meeting. Ganson Depew, chairman of the Green section, W. D. Vanderpool, former chairman; Guy Peters, chairman of the Chicago district golf association green section; Col. John Morley, president, N. A. G. A.; Alex Pirie, honorary president of the P. G. A., and Herb Graffis, editor GOLFDOM, spoke at the dinner given at Knollwood C. C., following the outdoor session.

**L**ANDSCAPING is important. The finest golf layout in the world may lack interest if the surroundings are unpleasant, while a mediocre course appeals a great deal to the majority when the backgrounds and vistas are well thought out.



John Monteith, Jr., of Green Section, explains test plot performance at Mill Road Farm station during record-sized meeting of course superintendents and green-chairmen.