

paid as it went along. The club has a big directorate—fifteen—and an official personnel experienced in golf club affairs. The directors meet as often as 21 times a year. It is 18 years old and close-in. A sinking fund, formerly \$2.00 per month per member, is now raised to \$4.00. In July, 1931, the club had all its property, including a swimming pool, paid for, no bank obligations, and kept on discounting its bills. It bought ground for a new clubhouse at the end of 1931 and during the past 6 months has retired \$10,000 of that ground's purchase price.

Because Mission Hills is in sound physical and financial shape, the loss of members by removal, death and depression is fairly well balanced by new members who want to join a strong club.

Olympia Fields C. C. (Chicago district) has been doing a husky job of retiring its obligations this year, and a recent circular letter sent out by President William Wise detailing this reduction of indebtedness shows vividly how smart operation and close watch of expenses can put clubs in good shape without depreciating the plant. Payroll reductions at this mammoth club have amounted to better than 30 per cent this season as compared with last.

One item standing out in reports from clubs in various parts is that many records for golf play and entertainment attendance have been broken this year. Livelier programs at the clubs and bargains in entertainment have brought folks to the clubs, probably at the expense of road-houses. Some of the gold coast clubs report unusually heavy play because members who formerly left town on vacations are staying home this summer.

Generally epitomizing the situation, it is plain that the fears of the bottom dropping out of golf this year, which were strong in some quarters this spring, have not been warranted. Estimates from private, daily-fee and public courses indicate that play is off possibly less than 10% from 1931, but a lot more people are using the ball washers at the first tee than ever did before. At that, pro shop sales of balls and clubs are better than the average retailing picture. A drop of 25 per cent under last year's total dollar volume of pro shop business looks to be a good guess after talking to manufacturers and pros. This isn't at all bad when the sharp reduction in retail prices of golf goods is considered.

Two things stand out in the present situation, both of which GOLFDOM has been pounding for a couple of years. One is that special rates and special attention given to development of women's play is creating big interest and business in the golf field. The other thing is that the clubs with accounting systems that really tell the score promptly and fully have weathered the storm in grand condition.

New Tree Culture Manual is Valuable to Greensmen

"Insects and Diseases of Ornamental Trees and Shrubs." By E. P. Felt & W. H. Rankin. 507 pages, profusely illustrated. Rural Science Series, The MacMillan Co., New York City. \$5.00.

IN VIEW OF THE increased emphasis being placed today upon preservation of golf course trees by golf club members, the latest addition to the MacMillan Co.'s "Rural Science Series," entitled *Insects and Diseases of Ornamental Trees and Shrubs*, by Ephriam Porter Felt, director and chief entomologist of the Bartlett Tree Research laboratories, and W. Howard Rankin, research associate in plant pathology at N. Y. State agricultural experiment station, is a volume which should be on hand for study and reference by green-chairman and greenkeeper of every golf club.

The book is divided in two parts, the first section dealing in a general way with injuries due to insects and fungi and the latest accepted means of eradicating damage, with particular emphasis on the advantages of annual preventive measures in forestalling the depredations almost sure to occur if trees are neglected.

In the second half of the book, trees and shrubs are alphabetically arranged, with detailed descriptions of the particular diseases to which each tree or shrub is subject and complete directions for identifying the source of the trouble and remedying it. Over 250 photographs and diagrams are included.

Golf clubs of the U. S. spend thousands of dollars annually protecting the trees which beautify and improve their properties. A volume as authoritative, up-to-date and useful as this belongs in the club library where it is quickly available for reference.