

and bunkers, and large trap areas, all of which require much hand work. Even what is considered routine work on one course may be handled in simpler and entirely different manner on another.

In analyzing the weekly schedule one finds about $\frac{2}{3}$ of the time spent by the men is in cutting, trimming or mowing, weeding, fertilizing and topdressing and $\frac{1}{3}$ of the time is spent in repairing and improving. It is this particular operation that will be neglected if the budget is reduced to any extent.

As I have just mentioned, the golfer wants the general appearance the same as ever; but little does he realize the time spent in keeping the irrigation system in first class working order. What about the tractors and mowers that have to be checked over and resharpened 2 or 3 times a season? There also is the course equipment that needs repairing during the season. These are some items that enter into reduced maintenance budgets which are not so visible yet if neglected, cost the club much more money when they are not taken care of promptly during the season play.

Save Clubs, Men's Jobs

By CHARLES ERICKSON
Supt., Minikahda C. C., Minneapolis

FELLOW superintendents, we are pushing into another season which has looked good to me in one way because we have been getting some good rains. However, we need more badly. Early this season it looked as though we couldn't see anything of it. It runs away and the sun comes out and dries it up. So we have started the old battle with the water hose.

I hope we won't experience the same trouble we had last year. It surely was a hard one to contend with, and it would be worse now in these hard times when we have to keep smaller crews, but we will all just have to put our shoulder to the wheel and work, and fight, and make the best of it for our good clubs.

I do not believe that our section, the Twin Cities, up at the North Pole, has suffered as much as many other clubs in the east, but I am sure we all feel it.

We have lost quite a number of mem-



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bers in the greenkeepers association who could not stand the strain, but we fellow greenkeepers have cut down wages a little and also have been working on an eight-hour basis. Some of us have smaller crews to work with but still so far we have given them a good golf course of which the members are proud, and I hope we can continue if the "pest" isn't too hard.

I know our little group in the Twin Cities is fighting for our good clubs and we figure this way; if we lose a club we lose a greenkeeper and we cannot afford that. We have to give everyone a chance to make a living, but I have found that an eight-hour basis will help considerably and there isn't much difference in the work, I still seem to find enough work to keep up with the help.

Cut Greens, Not Greenkeepers

(Continued from page 56)

ticed on the maintenance of tees, for a good tee is essential. About the only economy I know of would be the reduction of watering and fertilizing.

As for greens there is practically no economy to be practiced, as they are the most essential parts of a golf course and should be kept in the best of condition at all times. If you have good greens your players will always be happy. They will overlook the bad fairways, the rough that is high and the traps which haven't been raked in a week, for a good green stands out in making and holding the reputation of a course. Perhaps a greenkeeper could use a little discretion in watering and fertilizing, as I believe some greens are watered and fertilized too heavily,

especially in severe hot weather. A general economy can be practiced on the greens by taking each green as a separate project and treating it for its needs individually, instead of doctoring all when only one is in need of extra care. This also may apply to tees or fairways.

The best economy of equipment is good care and operation by experienced men.

A general economy may be practiced on a course in regard to purchases and labor. Such requirements as fertilizer and seed possibly may be purchased at certain times of the year at a saving. The larger clubs can save by having their own mechanic to keep the equipment in the best condition, rather than have it deteriorate beyond use. Economy may be practiced where experienced men are not needed; for instance, with a little careful instruction anyone can remove weeds from greens or rake traps.

In my opinion any further economy practiced on a course, as a whole, would be injurious.

There is one economy, which is being practiced generally throughout the country, which I do not approve of, and that is the cutting, severely, of the greenkeeper's salary. The president of each club, also the players, know that the backbone of a golf course is the greenkeeper. Show me a course without a good greenkeeper and I'll show you one that isn't fit to play on. A great extravagance is occurring on a large majority of the golf courses by members of a committee who all have different ideas as to the requirements of a course and because of this many things are purchased which are not needed, which may not be used at the time and which may never be used. For instance, I know

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