

Chapel GC we are benefited greatly by a gentle terrain.

Economize with Power Equipment

We have been able to economize on labor by the use of power mowers and power units in the cutting of tees, tee banks, approaches, and clubhouse grounds, the latter being quite an item in the layout of many clubs. By the use of the newer type of spikers we have helped the general condition of our greens and also effected a saving in the cost of green maintenance.

In the proper care of equipment we have made a great saving by giving it longer life. While expenditures for reconditioning equipment might appear on the surface to be needless, we have found them a saving not only because of having longer use of the machinery but by always being ready to operate efficiently, so that there are no expensive breakdowns of machinery resulting in idle labor. I think anyone will agree that watching an operator spend half a day with a broken-down tractor may increase the greenkeeper's vocabulary, yet it also increases his cost of operation.

Watering a golf course has proved to be sound economy through the recent dry years, as we all know that reseeding a burned-out turf is very costly. Certain economies can be effected in watering through the type and care of hose and sprinklers used and the setting of sprinklers. Much money has been wasted through careless placing of sprinklers resulting in over-watering and run-off.

Labor Study Saves

As to labor, economic conditions brought about naturally a general reduction in labor costs which are always the largest items in the maintenance of a golf course. In this connection, a more careful study was made in the scheduling and assigning of work to be done by the men, in order that they might do the maximum amount of work without lost effort or unnecessary shifting from place to place. Closer study of the individual laborer to place him in the work for which he has been best fitted has been continually exercised and has resulted in building up an efficient organization. When each man knows his duties and performs them he eliminates waste time waiting for the foreman to assign other work.

In the case of our club, we have effected a considerable saving in the past four

years without in any way injuring the general condition of the course, but we do know of some clubs where, through no fault of the greenkeepers, forced economy has resulted in a severe setting back of the courses which will prove costly to bring back to their former conditions.

Our economic programs have been greatly aided by the constant vigilance of the manufacturers in their production of maintenance products, and by the untiring efforts of the Green Section and schools and colleges in their experimental work and research.

A Pro Best-Seller

SOME NIGHT, when GOLFDOM's editor forsakes the paths of total abstinence he has sorrowfully plod for many months, he is going to sit down and write a best seller for the pros. It will be called "The Pro's Ready Letter Writer." In simple words of one syllable, there will be form letters that the guys can copy and mail very easily and thus escape plenty of avoidable and costly trouble.

One of the damndest jams now threatening a certain phase of pro golf would not have occurred if pro correspondence had been handled as either business or social correspondence should be.

In attempting to straighten this thing out for the good of the pros, your humble servant has told the influential men who are sore on pros, that pros don't write letters much.

"Why?" ask these important parties, and then volunteer their own answers in terms that are most uncomplimentary.

Carolina Pro's League Plan Increases Golf Business

THE Starmount public club, Greensboro, N. C., George Corcoran, professional, has had in the last three years an interesting and profitable development of golf league competition. Regular customers have shown an increased interest in play and a considerable number of new ones have been attracted in each season of league play.

A side development has been the formation the past spring of a newspaper league in which six North Carolina dailies, in as many cities, have largely adopted the Starmount plan and engage in weekly competition, meeting on various courses.

The Starmount leagues were started with

little trouble. Playing members in various commercial firms were immediately attracted to the idea and they in turn interested fellow-workers and the managements in the proposal. Greensboro sports writers fell in line at the outset and have had a competing team each season. Their space allowances have been as generous as might be expected from their participation. At the opening of each league season, each team submits a list of 12, from which a team of four is chosen for any one match. Play is in individual team matches and proceeds according to a regular schedule, posted in advance of the league opening. Results are posted at the club and are announced on the sports pages. Trophies are awarded at the end of each season.

Play is confined to the summer weeks which have days long enough to permit 18-hole matches after 4 p. m. This hour has been found, by experience, to be the earliest one at which it is possible to get office workers on the course.

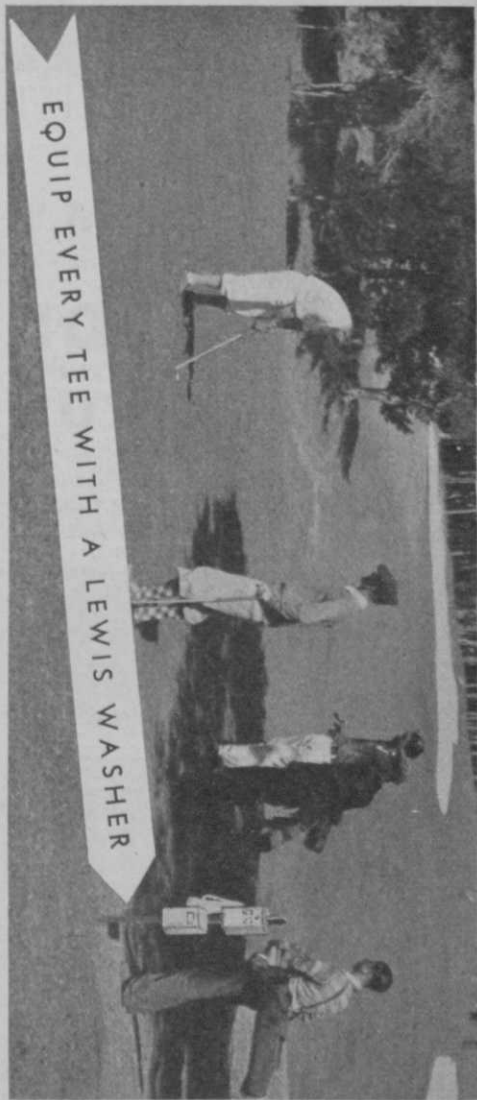
Corcoran says the leagues have brought in business in a time when business has been hard to find.

READY FOR ACTION

Emergency Budget Item Allows Prompt Handling of Needed Work

By DOUGLAS G. BURNETT
North Shore G. C. (Chicago District)

FOR THE LAST three years, the period during which I have been greenkeeper at North Shore, the budgets submitted to our committee have carried an item covering the fertilizing of fairways, but in each case was voted down. Late last summer, however, the fairways showed the effect of malnutrition to such an extent that even the members began to take notice and ask why. The exact cause was promptly supplied and a forecast given of developments to be expected if the remedy was longer withheld. We got the fertilizer. The soil analysis I made before ordering the fertilizer indicated the need of a fairly high rating, and to avoid excessive burning, the fall application was cut below the actual requirements. The balance will be applied in the spring and because of the excellent results which showed before



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