

That list of questions gives you a scant outline of the technical problems with which the greenkeeper must contend. If you can answer any 15 of those 31 questions you are beyond most chairmen in technical knowledge of greenkeeping. But the greenkeeper has to know the answers to all of them . . . and to many more.

It is certain that the green-chairman, if a businessman, would hire a lawyer to defend himself against a law suit, but too often the same businessman as a green-chairman will over-rule the professional status of the competent greenkeeper, and insist on being boss of the case.

Consider the performances of the most successful green-chairmen. They are frank to admit that their policy is to make sure that they have engaged the most competent and dependable greenkeeper they can find and have allowed this qualified man to conduct operations with the minimum of interference and the maximum of co-operation.

The average greenkeeper has to fight:

1. A green-chairman who generally has no real knowledge of greenkeeping but thinks he does. There are exceptions.
2. The criticisms of the club members and these are numerous.
3. The elements.
4. Turf diseases.
5. Insects.
6. Poor soil conditions.
7. Many other problems of a smaller nature.

You can see that the greenkeeper has his hands full. He must be a diplomat, an agronomist, a soil expert, an entomologist, a good handler of men, the possessor of a good quantity of horse-sense, and a sense of humor. Quite a lot of qualifications for one man, don't you think?

If you have a good greenkeeper, advise and back him up; but as he knows his business, let him run the greenkeeping department as you would allow a department manager to run his department.

HOW GOLF RETURNED TO BEDFORD

By DOUG. SMILEY

BACK in early spring of 1935, when around town, those who were in radical would have to be done quick was to continue to enjoy such a thing as a golf course. The Bedford CC, long the mecca for those who could afford a \$200 membership fee, as well as \$66 per year dues, was already in the hands of a receiver, and Hillcrest, a privately owned public course could not open in the face of the ever-remaining depression.

A few of the dyed-in-the-wools had managed to stage a membership campaign, at \$15 per person, to keep the Country club open under receivership during the '34 season. A similar campaign was staged in 1935, but there were no prospects for 1936, because everyone knew the Country club property would have to be sold in the fall of '35.

We had taken up the game in 1931, not to become a great golfer, but merely as a pastime. During that period between 1931 and 1935 we did a column "In Par" for our paper and we started an annual

the "golf bug" started biting the boys the "know" realized that something if the "Home Of Indiana Limestone"

city tournament. We hated to see golf leave Bedford. On days when we had nothing else to write about we jumped on the city for not purchasing the Country Club property and making a municipal golf course out of it. But all our writing was in vain, as far as the city was concerned, because the City Dads had the idea that those who played golf were sissies.

"It would make a beautiful city park," we wrote from day to day. And while we wrote about it we started dreaming what a wonderful playground it would make for the eastsiders, better known as "Dutchtowners" around Bedford.

Finally we appealed to Fred B. Otis, editor and owner of the Daily Mail and painted a vivid word picture of the place. "I'm not interested in going into the golf business," he flatly told us. But we continued to persist and one Sunday afternoon convinced him that he should see the



Since Bedford is the "Stone City," the attractive entrance pillars to Otis Park are appropriate of native limestone.

place. One look and he was satisfied. It would make a wonderful city park, and it would be something to leave to those old neighbors in "Dutchtown." Within three days the deal was completed and the city became the owner of a new park—Otis Park.

The property, consisting of approximately 145 acres, is located one mile east of Bedford on United States Highway No. 50. A fine nine-hole golf course lay around the old colonial mansion and above the mansion was a dandy \$15,000 swimming pool. City officials were elated over the gift. They would make many improvements.

Mayor Henry S. Murray, Indiana's youngest mayor, lost no time in applying for a Federal grant. To his surprise and satisfaction, Uncle Sam placed an okay on the project and sent along the staggering sum of \$179,000.

Things look promising this spring. Nine new holes have been added to the Otis Park CC, making it one of the finest eighteen-hole layouts in the Hoosierland. Already over 200 are members. The layout will be run by Bedford's Golf Board, which is composed of Arch O. Carter, Chairman, Fred Wampler, Arch C. Voris, John A. Rowe and the writer. A new clubhouse for golfers has been erected out of fieldstone, the swimming pool has been enlarged and a fine bent grass nursery installed. Modern maintenance machinery has been pur-

chased and golfers are looking forward to one of the greatest seasons in the history of the Stone City.

Aside from the golf improvements, the city, thanks to the WPA, has remodeled the old mansion and plans to make a museum out of it. A beautiful rock garden has been constructed; a lookout tower has been built on the highest part of the hill property; and a fine \$25,000 band shell is under construction near the park entrance.

One of these days, unless the WPA catches cold, Bedford is going to have one of the finest parks and one of the finest golf courses in the middle west. If you happen to be passing through, Pro Lester Smith will be glad to show you around, and if you can't find him, just give us a ring and we'll take the day off and show you the new Otis Park.

OFFICIAL PGA sanction has been given dates and prizes of the Greenbrier \$3,000 Open to be held November 8-10 at the Greenbrier Hotel Golf Club, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Much interest has been displayed locally in the idea of a Greenbrier Open because the sponsoring club is the home of Slamming Sam Snead.

It is, of course, too early to have received entries, but with Snead acting as official host, it is expected a large and representative group of pros will be on hand for the 72-hole medal event.