

do you trust to memory? If you trust to memory you are a poor greenkeeper for two reasons; first, because you are sooner or later going to badly burn some green; second, if you are taken sick nobody can carry on your job properly.

Tenth, neatness. Be a good housekeeper, and your house is your golf course. Nothing adds more to the pleasure of golf than a good course well kept. No course is well kept if it is untidy. Even the rough should be tidy and free from tall rank-growing weeds, refuse piles, and the like. Traps must be neatly trimmed and weeded. Banks must be kept mowed and reasonably smooth. Paper and other litter must be gathered up daily.

#### Cooperate With Other Department Heads

Eleventh, there are few clubs today where golf is the only activity, yet many are called golf clubs. If the golf department of a club fails to cooperate with other departments, there is friction, and where there is friction there is trouble. The greenkeeper must cooperate with the pro, and with the caddiemaster, and they with him. These are his principal contacts, and it is only through cheerful cooperation that the machine runs smoothly; the man who causes the friction is soon found out and let out.

Twelfth, a great many greenkeepers make serious mistakes in their dealings with their chairman. Some look upon a chairman as a necessary evil, a man to listen to while he is talking and then forget all that was said and proceed as before. Then there is the greenkeeper who feels that he must agree with every whim of his chairman and follow his suggestions or orders even when he knows them to be wrong. Both types of greenkeepers are headed for trouble. Listen to everything your chairman has to say. If his suggestions have merit, say so and go ahead. If they have no merit, try to explain why, and unless he is most unreasonable he will see the error. Good ideas can sometimes come from even a chairman.

I have been enumerating the qualities that the chairman has a right to expect in a greenkeeper. How about the other way around? What qualities has the greenkeeper the right to expect in a chairman? After all, the members are the boss and the ones to be pleased and satisfied, yet the greenkeeper only contacts the members, his real boss, through his chairman.

No man should undertake the job of

green-chairman unless he has time enough to give to the job to really know the problems of the greenkeeper. Most men in business reach executive positions by climbing the ladder from the first rung. The chairman occupies an executive position in a club organization by starting at the top without any experience down below. A situation such as this calls for extreme caution on the chairman's part and he must study carefully the greenkeeper's ideas and reasons for the things he does. I have had members come to me with all kinds of complaints, some reasonable from their point of view and from mine, too, until I talked it over with our greenkeeper and found that for some very simple reason the thing complained of had to be done the way it was being done. Being the go-between from member to greenkeeper takes time, but it is only fair to both to give the necessary time.

#### Chairman Should Weigh Greenkeeper's Advice

Then, too, the chairman is on the mailing list and calling list of all the purveyors of golf course equipment and supplies. To him I say too, "Stop, Look, and Listen to your greenkeeper." He probably knows all about it, has read about it, been told about it, and seen it in operation. Maybe he likes it, maybe he doesn't. Give him the credit of having an honest opinion before committing yourself.

A chairman should be a buffer between the greenkeeper and the members. A greenkeeper often has to do things the members don't like. Order winter golf rules, close a green, or even close the course. How the members howl when this happens! Yet a few words of explanation by the chairman to the howlers smooths matters out and the members think more of their greenkeeper than ever.

In final analysis, the relationship between greenkeeper and green-chairman must be ruled by common sense and the principle that two heads are better than one, even if one is on the shoulders of a chairman and the other on the shoulders of a greenkeeper.

#### Shackamaxon's Roller Skating Party Is Big Drawing Feature

**G**OOD idea for maintaining club interest at a time when most members' thoughts are farthest from golf is a roller skating party of the type Shackamaxon CC, Westfield, N.J., put on for their mem-

bers and guests during January. Good publicity for the event and clever invitations made the affair a big success. The invitation read:

1. Admission Fee—\$1.50 per Person
2. Skates, Sandwiches and Beer Included in Admission Fee
3. Come in Your Old Clothes
4. Do Not B Y O L
5. The Main Bars Will Open at 10:30 P.M.
6. All Other Bars Will Be Down
7. Bring Your Friends
8. See How They Act with a Skate On
9. Get Your Best Laughs of the New Year
10. Music by Herb Taylor (We Hope)  
(Signed) Wm. L. Murray, Chairman

### Greens Show

(Continued from page 28)

in February than this year's gathering in order to avoid conflict with the many college short courses for greenkeepers, traditionally held in late February and early March. Many delegates this year wanted to attend one or another of these courses but felt that after spending a week at the convention and away from their jobs

that they could not afford to spend another week at a short course. By holding the 1939 convention somewhat earlier, greensmen will be able to take in the annual meeting of the GSA, return to their jobs for a week or so, and then hit out again for a short course.

Total attendance at the convention exceeded 450, with the Educational Conference attracting not only the delegates and



Candid camera snaps John Monteith (left) and W. H. Johnson addressing the greensmen.

interested greenkeepers, but also many green-chairmen, club presidents, professionals and others interested in fine turf.

First session of the Educational Conference, held Feb. 16, brought up as lead-off man Ralph King, director of the Roosevelt Wildlife Forest Experiment Station, Syracuse univ. King's talk, one of the



## "Nothing Less Than Perfect" will satisfy country club women

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