



Two to ten inches of river silt being removed from green and fairway at Tekoa CC, Westfield, Mass.

course had balls of dirt 10 ft. in diameter hanging from them. River silt from 2 in. to 10 in. covers greens, tees and fairways of some courses, and I've found parts of clubhouses, boats, bath tubs, etc., several hundred yards from their original locations, now resting in the middle of fairways. When you see a 40 ft. boat carried  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile over a fairway inland you get a better idea of the water and wind."

Kent Bradley, Passaic County GC's greenkeeper, made a 600-mile inspection of the storm area just a week following the hurricane, and he writes:

"Trees centuries old, in full matured foliage, were down along fairways, and banks of tees and greens were left with gaping stump holes up to 40-ft. wide and 10 ft. deep. Clubhouses, shelters, bridges, pro-shops, and maintenance barns were broken and leveled by the winds. Boats, dock timbers, wreckage from buildings littered courses; sand traps were filled to the brim with mud and sea sand.

#### Will Salt Injure Turf?

"The tidal wave, which carried sea water far inland, contains about 39,000 parts per million of chlorine, and this burned turf a ghastly yellow orange. The salt laden spray also discolored shrubs and evergreen trees as far inland as 15 miles. Unless there are heavy rains and snows this winter, the sea salts will not leach from the soil, which will cause toxicity to turf for some time to come. Damage that can be repaired can be estimated in money, but intrinsic and sentimental value of landscape loss can never be counted."

Lawrence S. Dickinson, agronomy dept., Massachusetts State college, says of the storm:

"The storm was a real one, and I, for one, don't want to experience another like it. The loss of trees, I believe, is due to

the fact that the soil was very much loosened by being already saturated with water, and therefore the holding power of the roots was greatly weakened. Many more trees were blown over than were broken off. If the clubs are able to get the mud and silt off the courses immediately, I believe that permanent damage to the turf will not be so great. The experience from the '36 flood is standing the greensmen well in hand."

Members of clubs in the storm center have already started "pitching in", and there have been several instances of clubs having gathered several thousand dollars in hastily formed rehabilitation funds. Many generous members have contributed prior to official club action, and one, in



At Leicester, Mass., the hurricane demolished half the clubhouse.

particular, started off the fund with a gift of \$500. Most clubs, however, will be able to carry on in good shape, without any special money raising, and the general feeling among the clubs, even those worst hit, is "that it's just 'one of those things', and we'll try to be doing business next spring even better than before."

#### Warns Against Making Courses More Difficult to Play

**E. A. BATCHELOR**, interviewing H. G. Mooch, Detroit automobile magnate and golf enthusiast, for "Saturday Night," a local magazine, warns against golf clubs remodeling courses to make them tougher, now that money is more plentiful.

Oakland Hills during the 1937 National Open is cited as an example of how a course may be made very tough and long for a competition without defeating the par-busting attacks of the sharpshooters. The yarn brings out the fact that a great golf course is one that in normal condition gives the stars plenty of problems without breaking the back and heart of the average member. Oakland Hills, according to Mooch, is that type of course.

The story says that the real hazard of golf is the player's own mind, his inability to concentrate on making simple shots.