



New South Wales greenkeepers are shown taking examination for certificates of competency, with A. J. Mollineaux and R. J. Withycombe, of the N.S.W. Greenkeepers' Assn., in charge. Aspirants for greens jobs at U. S. clubs may soon be taking similar fitness tests. (Photo Courtesy Golf In Australia.)

## G. S. A. Studies Greenkeepers' Fitness

**E**ACH member of the Greenkeeping Superintendents Ass'n was asked early in August to submit to Secy.-Treas. A. L. Brandon a list of 15 questions which might be used by officials of golf clubs in determining the knowledge and qualifications of applicants for greenkeeping positions. Prizes are to be awarded to the three best lists.

The GSA feels that too many glib-tongued outsiders, inexperienced and thoroughly unfitted to be in charge of course maintenance, have fast-talked themselves into greenkeeping jobs with clubs. After one of these gents has had time to spoil the layout he was hired to maintain, the club fires him, perhaps learns its lesson and next time hires an experienced GSA

man, or perhaps repeats its mistake.

But if, in the first place, the club had available a set of questions or its choice of several sets that would accurately measure an applicant's fitness for the superintendent's post, most of the gamble of hiring a greenkeeper would be removed. And the GSA can use a series of questions to determine if a man is qualified to be admitted to membership in the association.

According to Brandon, the question contest drew a desk-load of entries, and the judges—John Morley, Fred Burkhardt and John MacGregor, all ex-presidents of the ass'n.—are finding it a bigger job than they had contemplated selecting the prize winning lists. At press time, winners' names had not been announced.

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so that next season's golfers will have less difficulty finding off-line shots. But wherever practical, leave the underbrush as a bird refuge.

**29** Winter is the time to put the shop bench in complete working order. Take an inventory of your small shop tools. Have you enough wrenches, screwdrivers, drills, hammers, files and saws? How's your supply of nails, screws, bolts, washers, cotters and emery cloth? How about shellac, glue, turpentine, oil, kerosene, grease and alcohol?

**30** In any discussion you have with your chairman concerning the need for new machinery, keep constantly in your mind and in his the fact that worn-out or

outmoded equipment takes its toll in added upkeep costs.

**31** It is far easier to convince the green-committee that the putting greens need improvement than to sell it on the fact that your fairways need attention. If a general fairway feeding program is simply not in the cards, get an OK to make a test feeding on a limited fairway area. A year from now, the results will do the rest of the selling.

**32** What is it costing you to pump water? Your pumps may be woefully inefficient compared with late improved models. You can obtain operating cost-figures from pump manufacturers to compare with your own equipment's drag and soon determine how much of a new pump's purchase price can be saved the first year.