



Dr. C. Wernham is shown explaining tests conducted at the Penn State College experimental gardens, to greensmen who attended the annual Penn State field day program, held September 30.

to count the steps per minute of a man over 45 years of age while cutting a putting green and then count the steps of a young man whose age was between 20 and 30 years, the result would be illuminating, and I venture to say that a wise greenkeeper would retain the services of the younger man for pushing mowers and give the older man something more in line with his age and experience. Because, after all, it takes speed and strength to secure the necessary velocity of cutting blades to make a perfect putting surface, and when a greenkeeper has too many older men without a sufficient balance of younger men, that greenkeeper is riding for a fall.

One of the most difficult things a greenkeeper has to face is to determine past values in old employees in relation to what younger men can accomplish; after working side by side with men for over 20 years one hates to think his old standbys are slipping and will eventually have to give way to younger men. Perhaps sometime golf officials will look into this important problem and help the superintendent do something about it.

Where Older Men Fit

In the meantime, the law of age creeps in, which age stiffens muscles, hardens cartilage and arteries and slows up physical endeavor and by a cruel irony of fate breaks the back of the hardest worker first. But older men have their place in the scheme of things, usually they are steady and reliable and help to raise the morale of a younger group.

So when we look carefully into the management of a golf course, first and

foremost comes the devising of labor to obtain a maximum amount of work for a minimum of effort. It is secured only by planning and a knowledge of human nature. Without this thought in mind all our scientific knowledge of force and growth will avail but little.

To paraphrase an old saying, "A greenkeeper is known by the greens he keeps." For good or evil he is so judged. All through the year in Southern California the man in charge must never relax from the utmost vigilance.

Some Beefs on Bent

Some few years ago someone discovered bent grass for greens and while it is the best grass we greenkeepers know about at the present moment, it certainly is not a grass for those who love ease, comfort and relaxation.

Bent grass seems to have an affinity for every bug, germ, weed and other undesirable neighbors, especially *Poa annua*, crabgrass, Bermuda and brown-patch. Constant care is required to subdue these rapacious enemies. Our fairway problems in the southwest are simplified by the encroachment of Bermuda grass and the uncontrollable crabgrass in summer. In the winter there is a sprinkling of the finer grasses combined with *Poa annua* and the various varieties of clover which colors the whole surface a nice green; but no one would be so foolish as to attempt to rid the fairways of everything but the finer grasses. It would be too costly and useless. We let the power mowers level the surface twice a week, which gives the golfers a good surface to shoot from.