

down, a green can be put in play much sooner than if the roller is left off and the green filled with topdressing.

When the green is about 30 days old, I put on a light topdressing and follow up with another topdressing in about 10 days;

and if everything has gone well the green is ready for play with a fair putting surface. A green seeded in August generally gets fairly well covered before the fall rains set in and this reduces the damage done by washing.

Repairing A Water System Storehouse

By ROBERT J. CRONIN

Greenkeeper, Glens Falls (N. Y.) CC

DURING the season of 1940, we found that the pipes that supply our water to the golf course contained a great amount of corrosion and small particles of rust. We decided that during the winter we would have to renovate our storage tank. Many other greenkeepers are confronted with this same problem.

Our water system has two mains. One, which goes to our clubhouse, is in use continually. It is 500 ft. from the tank. The other one is used only during the golf season. The former is a 2-in. main, the latter, a 3-in. Our clubhouse being open all year 'round, necessitates a hookup that would supply our needs at that station although our storage tank was out of use temporarily.

The obstacle was overcome by removing the check valve from the club line directly ahead of the pump and connecting a line to the safety valve under the tank. This allowed us to pump directly into our lines. In order to do this we also had to set up an overflow line to take away all the surplus not needed at the club. We ran a 1-in. pipe out the wall of the building and placed on a 1-in. elbow and a small piece of 1-in. pipe, which we completely covered with a 2-in. pipe 44 ft. long, that would carry the overflow into the lake. The former 1-in. pipe was tapped to a safety valve at the pump. We throttled our Gould pump (the smaller of two reciprocal pumps used, the other a triplex Kewanee) to push water at 90-lb. pressure. This pump remained running hourly until late in the evening when the

socials at the club were over. Then the pump was at rest for the remaining night hours.

To get down to the actual tank renovation, our first chore was to open the tank and flush out the corrosion that was settled in the floor of it. After a series of flushings, we clarified the situation with the use of scrapers made from mowing machine sections ground down to an edge on not only two sides but also on the third, drilled and screwed to ½-in. bolts on which we placed 4-in. wooden handles. We also used files that were sharpened on the ends to scrape around the rivets in the tank. Three men worked six hours with these instruments and removed all the hard scales from the walls. The next day two men were employed in the tank, alternating with an electric brush that completely removed all the remaining rust. Work on the tank covered a period of eight working hours. The following morning a coat of Socony tank paint was applied and allowed to dry for six hours. That evening the three men employed in painting returned and applied the second coat of the same material. The fourth day the third and final coat was applied, this being a covering of aluminum tank paint which was allowed to dry overnight. Our final day of work on the project was to recap the tank and repipe our connections as they previously had been.

Perhaps I have neglected to tell our method of getting air into the tank. We had an electric blower into which we connected 4-in. stove pipes. We ran these pipes to the inside edge of the tank with the use of a 4-inch elbow, and 4 braces ran the pipe to the ceiling of the tank along the top of the far end of the 30-ft. container onto which we placed two el-

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bows, which allowed the fresh air to move on to the front and supply the men with fresh air at all times. At first we placed the blower outside the building but found that the outside temperature, about 4 to 10 degrees above zero, chilled the pipes to the extent that moisture was dropping from them into the tank and we feared this would harm the surface after paint was applied. We then placed the apparatus in the building and found it to be a much better place for it. We kept our blower in use after each coat was applied and found it aided greatly.

We firmly believe that this method of tank renovation is the safest, and we know it to be very economical.

We allowed the blower to run continually after the coats of paint were applied and found it aided greatly in drying the surface.

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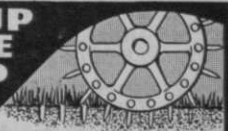


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