

Heat, Humidity Make 1941 Hard on Turf in Midwest

SECTIONS of central states, especially the Chicago district, are suffering some of the worst conditions for course maintenance they've experienced since 1931.

Humidity has been from 75 to 95, with the period of July 25-31 inclusive having average of 88 in the Chicago district. Poa annua going out (as usual) has been especially troublesome. Midwest greenkeepers naturally are greatly interested in turf plot tests to determine bent most resistant to poa annua.

With economy pressure on, large and small brown-patch hit so bad in some places that greens were in a condition that made superintendents sick.

Comparatively few courses have been immune to disease and poa annua miseries. Grub infestation has been bad, especially in central Michigan. Difficulty of retaining experienced labor and the job of trying to train what new labor golf courses can secure in wage competition with defense industries is making greenkeepers greyheaded and keeping their nightly sleep at a minimum.

Highly disturbing factor in the current misery is that courses normally noted for excellent condition show ravages of the troubles most plainly. The troubles have been fairly general but are not so noticeable on courses where players are accustomed to condition short of the highest and fustiest standard.

Compensating feature is that clubs

whose members get around see that the trouble is widespread, consequently have done a surprisingly small amount of beefing. Possibly the educational campaign that has endeavored to show players what greenkeepers are up against also is beginning to have effect.

Jacobus Named Business Official—George R. Jacobus, former president of the PGA and 28 years pro at Ridgewood (N. J.) CC, has been made pres. of the Par Golf Co. He will retain his Ridgewood connection. The Par organization makes the Masterpiece golf practice device and a golf ball reconditioning machine. It plans to introduce several other golf devices. Wm. H. Curley, Canton, O., is founder of the company and will continue in an active executive capacity.

Jacobus will take an energetic sales promotion part in the company's affairs and as his initial task is pushing the Masterpiece practice device thru pro-shops, stores, schools, and athletic clubs.

Neat Signs Lessen Complaints—Stock signs of $\frac{3}{4}$ x $\frac{1}{8}$ angleiron standard and having metal sheets about 14 x 8 inches for the signs are kept handy in the Denver CC shop for use on the course.

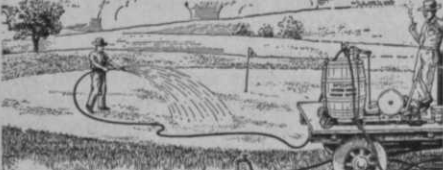
Such signs as Ground Under Repair, Play Winter Rules, etc. are made up, and a stencil outfit for neatly lettering special signs is used. These neat signs instead of the usual makeshift jobs supply a psychological factor that minimizes complaints about necessary course repair work.

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