

directly opposite holdings during this year on the construction of the aforesaid section. I might say that Section 609, providing for a tax on sporting goods, under the Act of 1932, has been repealed and does not apply to any sales made after 1938. However, the question may well come up with reference to sales made prior to that time.

There has been little so-called golf law or law having reference to happenings on golf courses during the past year. However, a judge in Omaha, Neb., decided that where a player stepped in a gopher hole just after making an approach shot and suffered an injury to his spine, the club was not in any way responsible.

Midwest GA Plans

Turf Meet at U. of C.

MIDWEST GREENKEEPERS' ASSN. held a spirited and well attended annual meeting Jan. 6 at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, to elect 1941 officers and discuss plans for attending the GSA show in Detroit.

Graham Gardiner (Park Ridge CC) was re-elected to the presidency as a token of the grand job he did in that office during 1940. Other officers are: John Darrah (Beverly CC), vice-pres.; Andy Gillett (Forest Hills, Rockford), 2nd vice-pres.; Bill Stupple (Exmoor), sec'y-treas.; directors: Al Purvey (McHenry CC), Harold Clemens (Sunset Ridge), Ray Didier (Tam O'Shanter), Fred Ingwerson (Shore Acres) and John Boettger (Olympia Fields).

At the dinner preceding the meeting, no program was planned, but the MGA men found plenty to talk about. In addition to comparing notes on the season just past, major subjects for informal discussions included winter sports maintenance problems and forecasts on the effect the National Defense program will have on course labor payrolls and maintenance supply costs.

Considerable discussion took place regarding the greenkeepers short course conference the Midwest group, in cooperation with the Wisconsin greenkeepers, is sponsoring at the University of Chicago, February 27-March 1.

Dr. E. J. Kraus of the U. of Chicago is general chairman of the conference. Speakers at the educational sessions will include Dr. John Monteith, USGA Green Section; H. B. Musser, Penn State College; James G. Moore, U. of Wisconsin;

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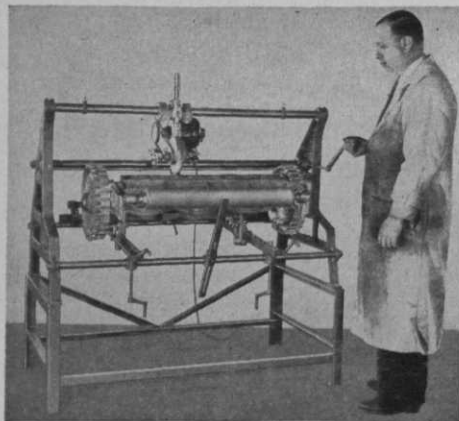
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O. J. Noer, Sewerage Commission; and Prof. Maylor, U. of Chicago. Further information on this conference may be obtained by writing either Gerald Dearie, Edgewater GC, Chicago; Ray Didier, Tam O'Shanter CC, Norwood Park, Ill.; or Harold Clemens, Sunset Ridge CC, Northbrook, Ill.

Course Labor Likely to Be 1941 Headache

By C. K. BRADLEY

LABOR turnover of course crews has been as high as 70% during the past 12 months at clubs where the general revival of business has renewed factory employment. This spring, with activity in war material manufacturing and the draft reducing available labor supply, golf clubs may expect a fairly serious labor problem.

Younger greensmen who went into new fields of work when they were laid off by their clubs last fall won't be back. Whether they'll ever come back to golf course work after learning a more profitable trade is questionable. The seasonal character of golf club work doesn't make it especially attractive.

Maintenance methods and conditions have changed since the first World War and course upkeep standards have been raised. Immigrant labor of the type accustomed to hard manual labor outdoors no longer can be secured. That's offset by the mechanization of much maintenance work.

Prevailing methods and requirements in golf course work necessitate more than merely a man who can rake or push a mower. Incidentally, very few club members appreciate that good greens mowing is one of the humbler fine arts and can't be mastered by everyone with brawn enough to shove a mower. Course work in 1941 more than ever before will call for intelligence, aptitude, physical fitness and versatility.

Training New Men

In considering the problem of training new men, most course superintendents indicate a preference of group training to general maintenance routine, instead of the old method "watch, learn, and pick up" for the first season. Superintendents plan to demonstrate each work method before the entire crew. Each man is to be

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