

# HOW MUCH NEW EQUIPMENT?

By CLINTON K. BRADLEY

**T**URF upkeepers are wondering what effect war material production will have on future design and availability of course mechanical equipment?

Some months ago President Roosevelt mentioned lawnmowers as an item on which production would be cut. Not only the material that goes into them, but also the high speed precision machines that produce them are needed in armament work.

There are other firms producing certain chemicals which are diverted into defense use by priority order, who can allocate barely enough to make deliveries that are used up nearly as fast as shipments can be made.

Manufacturers say: "We are doing the best we can to meet market demands, and appreciate the tolerance of our customers in this emergency. When present stocks are exhausted and production limited or even stopped, the consumer more than the supplier will be forced to do the best he can with what he has or can get, or apply the old New England saying, "Use it up. Wear it out. Make it do—or do without."

In the terrible '30's, the manufacturers' problem was to get buyers for an over-supply of goods. Now in the frantic '40's the situation is reversed—in trying to serve buyers with an under-supply. To get the consumer reaction various superintendents were contacted, most of these being men in charge of small 9-hole or modest 18-hole clubs where golf is the main feature. These men whose club finances permit equipment replacement only when the

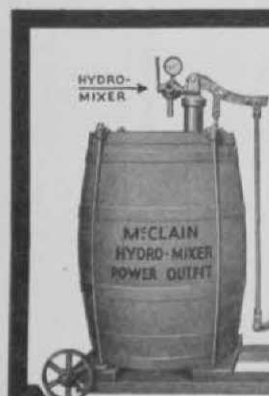
old machines have run beyond repair, will feel the shortage pinch greater when they cannot get what they want when it's wanted.

Their viewpoint goes like this: "When this war is over I would rather patronize a firm that knew the golf machine business before the emergency, than one that got its start making tin hats or mess kits, and then turns to making stamped steel mowers to keep in business."

The old established manufacturers aware of this agree with, "we are underwriting the future needs of our old customers and new ones that develop. We desire to retain confidence and good will by showing our faith in your business. Our business has and will depend on it. We are doing this regardless of defense restrictions, priorities and present shortages that delay shipments. We are retaining our designers and laboratory workers who, by creative engineering and experiments will continue to improve present products to meet future needs."

Right now commercial researchers are hard at work to make tomorrow's turf up-keep easier and less costly. Course research work is developing new grass strains and care methods continue toward the much-desired objective of scientific grass growing and mechanical maintenance of courses.

Maintenance superintendents must protect their employers' and their own interests by keeping posted and apace with what is going on. Reading advertising matter, greenkeeping articles, and attend-



A vintage advertisement for the McClain Hydro-Mixer. The image shows a large, cylindrical metal tank on wheels, labeled 'McCLAIN HYDRO-MIXER POWER OUTFIT'. A pump mechanism is mounted on top of the tank, with a hose leading to a spray nozzle. The tank has a large wheel on the left and a smaller one on the right. The background is dark, and the text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

**"WATCH THE PAYROLL GO DOWN!"**  
**ONE MAN WILL TREAT AND FERTILIZE**  
**YOUR PUTTING GREENS THIS YEAR -**  
**With a McCLAIN HYDRO-MIXER**

The great labor saver for Golf Courses everywhere. Why pay good money for extra help when one man will do the job?  
Get this complete low cost Power Outfit; or add the Power Unit to your present Hand Hydro-Mixer. Don't wait. Do it today, and really start to cut down expenses.  
Nothing like the McClain Power Hydro-Mixer for speed and efficiency. Treats entire Green in 10 to 15 minutes. Labor practically eliminated. Works on any pressure. Displaces obsolete and high priced spraying rigs everywhere. Runs whole day on few cents worth of gasoline. Perfect control and operation.  
Low price will amaze you. Write for literature.  
**McCLAIN BROTHERS COMPANY, CANTON, OHIO**

ing greenkeeping meetings is more important now than in peace-time. It is imperative to think ahead, to think, study, observe and learn to better cope with changes to come.

The first change will be financial. This factor must be met in golf by still keener, knowing minds, more productive and efficient ability in maintenance business management. Changes in equipment design will be governed by lessons of war material production. "Liquid forging", electric welding, metal stamping, moulding, die casting and assembly of new or more available materials, are some items that enter the next picture.

American turf machinery leads the world market, and is used in all countries that maintain sports fields. This industry is bound to grow when men lay down their guns and take up golf. The aftermath of World War I was an example. Armaments used then were based on peace-time machines of those days. Army tanks grew from the continuous tread tractors. Explosives contained basic materials used in nitrogenous fertilizers. These led to improved peace-time tractors and fertilizers.

#### Compares 'Jeeps' to Tractors

The present U. S. Army "quad car" or "jeep" is more like our sturdy, fast-stepping mower tractors than a passenger car. The "jeeps" even have a pintel hook at the rear end for anti-tank gun towing, not far removed from turf tractor mower draw-bars as we know them. When the battle smoke clears, we may expect to see golf course tractors of the jeep type drawing gang mowers and in other course maintenance work.

Our power driven or tractor drawn mowers now in use differ little from the hand lawnmower, and sickle bar rough mowers are like the grainfield cutter. The early automobiles were rightly named horseless carriages. They resembled their buggy ancestors. Who knows but that we may see the bed knife eliminated from future power mowers, and high speed, electric motor-driven knives—like electric razors, silently scything the grass behind a four wheel drive tractor, power generator equipped? Or cutting the higher grass—a chain-linked horizontal knived mower as now used by army engineers in power cross-cut saws?

Currently, one maker of brass hose couplings and nozzles has resorted to moulded plastics claiming these are thor-

## BE SURE OF YOUR GOLF SUPPLIES

STUMPP & WALTER COMPANY can probably quickly supply most of your wants from materials on hand—tried and true formulas for every turf problem. Grass Seed of "Known Quality" saves labor costs.

We will gladly quote prices on *Grass Seeds, Fertilizers and Golf Course Equipment.*

WRITE NOW FOR SPRING PRICES

*Stumpp & Walter Co.*

SPECIALISTS IN GOLF GRASS SEEDS,  
FERTILIZERS AND EQUIPMENT

132-138 Church St. (Cor. Warren St.) New York

The Perfect Solution to a  
Troublesome Greens Problem!

### The "GREENS DOCTOR"

#### Piston Type Turf Plugger

The "Greens Doctor" cuts a 1 3/4" diam. plug of turf 2" deep, and its plunger pushes out the plug. Ideal for removing ball bruises, ant hills, worm casts and such weeds as poa annua. Holes can be replaced same way, by lifting turf from edge of green.

#### Efficient—Easy on the Back

The "Greens Doctor" is 3 ft. high, permitting work without bending. Its sturdy steel construction will wear forever; nothing to get out of order. Lift handle, insert tool in damaged spot and plug lifts out easily. Push handle and piston ejects plug. Rubber handle and grip protect hands. Order a "Greens Doctor" today and your greens repair problem will be solved!

Only  
**\$3.50**

Postpaid

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DETROIT, MICH.

DEALERS: Write for Proposition

oughly adequate for the purpose intended, and release many thousands of pounds of brass needed for defense use. The synthetic "rubber" now being used for gasoline pump, and military fuel pipe lines, re-

inforced with rayon, may in later days go into lighter, tougher, weather and rot-proof irrigation hose. Just now, no red or green hose is allowed to be made, only black and brown.

## CHICAGO, DETROIT DISTRICTS TELL '41 HIGHLIGHTS; '42 RECOMMENDATIONS

**T**WENTY-EIGHTH annual meeting of the Chicago District Golf Assn. on Dec. 16 played to a full house of over 450 golf officials and committeemen. The turnout included presidents from 42 member clubs of the 65 in the association. The new president of the CDGA is Thomas G. McMahon (Skokie CC), succeeding Maynard G. Fessenden (Bob O' Link GC).

Highlights of the annual report:

**Caddie Committee:** Organization of club caddies throughout the district was most satisfactory during '41 and an adequate supply of boys are available for next season. But the war effort will bring smaller boys into the picture and it is up to clubs to recommend and golfers to use lighter bags and fewer clubs.

**Green Section Committee:** Urged a budget of \$250 in place of the \$25 budget heretofore available, in order that the chairman might have the funds to organize and hold several meetings each season with interested officials and greensmen.

**Handicap Committee:** Found that the CDGA handicapping system is sound and practicable. Ratings of course difficulty are equitable and district handicaps of individual players are working out well for all classes of golfers.

**Open Tournament Committee:** Chicago Open, held at Elmhurst CC on July 18-20, brought a profit to the association of \$4,741.09.

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Highlights from the 1941 annual report of the Detroit District Golf Assn.:  
Empire Day tournament .....\$2,000  
British War Relief .....no record of amount  
USO Ryder Cup-Jones team event.....18,000  
United China Relief ..... 2,500

**Publicity committee** put in scrap book about 8,500 column inches, representing at display advertising rates about \$70,000.

Income of \$1,882 from sale of handicap cards.

**Caddie Welfare committee** recommended that organizations playing at DDGA clubs be required to give a written guarantee as to number of caddies required and to pay on that basis. Michigan Dept. of Labor enforcing caddie minimum age of 14 years and require working permits for boys between 14 and 18. Employment of caddies 14 to 16 years old approved by Labor Dept. for twilight golf. Due to caddie shortage the DDGA is trying to get Labor Dept. to lower caddie age limit to 13 years. Lighter bags recommended. DDGA and Women's District Assn. to hold major events when caddies are not in school.

**Green Committee** reported rainfall 4 inches under normal for season; much brown-patch, dollar-spot and insect pest trouble. Hour rate paid workmen by reporting clubs varied from 60 to 75c. Entire maintenance cost (exclusive of clubhouse grounds, tennis courts, swimming pools, etc.) ranged from \$12,812.59 to \$19,887.

Slight falling off in private and public course play reported.

**A**N advertisement in the leading German golf publication, which has continued surprisingly strong through the war, offers lifetime playing privileges on all German golf courses to the inventor of an ersatz golf ball.

Chief specifications of the ball are: "Diameter of at least 41 mm., maximum weight 46 grms., high elasticity and resilience, and an even, high resistance to hits."

President of the German Golf Assn., who signed the advertisement, conceded that it was unlikely that any substitute material would possess all desired characteristics but said "even a partial solution can be of decisive use and pave the way for later, surprising results."