

Are Your Records in Shape?

By JOE GRAFFIS

AN ABLE greenkeeper and I were discussing how golf could be maintained on a basis to provide physical and mental conditioning required in wartime. This greenkeeper made a remark that gets to the roots of the problem. He said:

"Many clubs are handicapped just as this country was when it started into the war. They don't know where they stand. They have depended on what the greenkeeper and the chairman happened to know about the course. If the greenkeeper goes elsewhere and the chairman resigns or hasn't got the time he used to give to his job, the maintenance problem is far worse than it should be. Every club ought to have complete information about its course in writing and in accurate maps; otherwise it's going to be further out of luck as the wartime shortages increase."

Check This List

In the opinion of many other greenkeepers and pros with whom we've talked about wartime planning the greenkeeper who pointed out the lack of collected data on a golf course as a serious handicap to wartime operation was right. But what should data include? Much of it is available, but scattered. Here's a check list of the items that should be assembled, indexed and carefully preserved:

Map of course, to scale. Show boundary of land, topography, layout of course showing all holes complete with traps, etc. Locate buildings, bridges, shelters. Show springs, streams, ponds, wells. Locate tile drainage, and surface drainage ditches, dry wells, drainage outlets, give lengths of lines, sizes of tile, depth of trench, etc. Show irrigation lines. Show size, length and kind of pipe. Whether on surface or buried. Show outlets, shut-off valves, drain valves, air vents, trestled braces, hose valves, pump, water source, pressure and flow at outlets.

Give areas of greens, tees, fairways, rough, traps, waterways as known and measured.

Tie in with above map, details on areas devoted to golf, tennis, swimming pool, parking space, caddie yard, clubhouse grounds, roads, walks. Indicate location and outline of practice green, driving

range. If possible, include plan of landscaping.

Check up on buildings, clubhouse, maintenance buildings and section sheds, course shelters, pro shop, caddie house, garages. List location, size, construction, condition, obvious repairs needed.

Inventory of golf course items. Greens, tees, fairways, rough, nursery, traps. List hole number, give areas, location as hillside, hollow etc. Give data as to native trees, weeds, shrubs, wildflowers, stones.

Soils analysis.

Variety of grass on greens, fairways, tees.

Inventories, Too

Inventory machinery and equipment, stating name of (use), make (mfr.), when bought, price, bought new, used, factory reconditioned, present condition, apparent care as to servicing, adjustment operation, painting, storage. Present value. Dealer who sold the item.

Small tools and equipment, shop tools, supplies, repair parts on hand. Inquire if sinking fund is covered each year to amortise all large infrequent outlays for machinery, etc.

Greenkeeping logs.

Purchase records.

Budgets and annual reports.

Cost accounting records.

Fuel and oil consumption records.

Fertilizing and disease treatment records.

Record of number of rounds played by months.

Data on water supply and electricity contracts.

Information on tennis court, swimming pool and other such facilities and equipment.

Data on winter sports equipment and previous use.

Landscaping data.

Inventory of fertilizer, fungicides, compost, etc.

Data on turf nursery, if nursery is maintained.

Inventory of hose, and condition of same.

Some other items will occur to the greenkeeper and chairman as being necessary to file that will contain all needed information about the course and the equipment and supplies for maintenance.

If this information is complete and properly filed for quick reference the job of running the course through the war will be greatly simplified. If such data is not compiled, or isn't readily available, time and money will be wasted, and course operation will suffer needlessly.

Davis Replaces Monteith As Green Section Head

F. F. DAVIS has been appointed acting director of the USGA Green Section in the absence of Dr. John Monteith, jr., who is now with the U. S. Army Engineer Corps working on development of a turf unit in the Construction branch of the corps.

Dr. McCall, asst. chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture and a member of the Green Section committee, and Dr. Aamodt, in charge of the Forage Crops division, with which the Green Section has been collaborating since its beginning, are working with Davis on a cooperative program.

Fielding Wallace, chairman of the Green Section committee of the USGA, in a recent bulletin on Green Section plans wrote:

"The Green Section must carry on. These are times when our member clubs are faced with the unprecedented problems of attempting to maintain turf at as near pre-war standards as possible in many cases with seriously reduced personnel and equipment. Added to this is the fact that many of the materials taken for granted in turf maintenance programs for use as fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides are no longer available because of their vital role in the war effort. Substitutes must be used. The questions in the mind of every club official are, where shall we turn and what shall we use when present supplies are exhausted?

"This year the Green Section has been handicapped not only by the fact that there have been unavoidable reductions in personnel due to the urgent need for experienced turf men in the war effort but also by the removal to Beltsville, Maryland, of the Arlington Experiment Farm, where our turf investigations were conducted for many years. Consequently, tests this year have not been practicable. However, suggestions have been made of war-time substitutes and the results of the experiments of others have been cited to point the way for clubs to test

possible substitutes for themselves. Suggestions have been given as to how to apply materials on test plots and clubs have been urged to report any interesting results in favor of or against any of the war-time substitutes they may have tried. If our member clubs will cooperate with us the Green Section may in this way act as a clearing house for the experiences and the results from use of various possible substitutes in many sections of the country.

"At present the Green Section is planning to devote a large share of its effort during the coming year to the problems connected with the development of war time substitutes for generally accepted materials used in the maintenance of turf. Plans are being formulated now for comprehensive tests of many possible materials. These tests are to be made in collaboration with the Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, as has been the case heretofore when we had the Turf Garden at the Arlington Experiment Farm. It is hoped that the tests made in Washington by the Green Section staff may be supplemented by carefully planned and executed tests in other sections of the country."

Missouri Club Wins Dawson Event With 43 Ringer Score

HICKORY HILLS CC, Springfield, Mo., is 1942 winner of the Peter Dawson National Ringer Golf Tournament with a ringer score of 43.

The 350 oz. Peter Dawson Trophy is awarded annually to that club putting together the lowest individual hole scores made by members from July 1st through Labor Day. Hickory Hills led the field of 286 clubs scattered throughout the United States. Last year's champion, Glen Oaks CC, Farmington, Mich., with 42 was second this year with 44. Eight clubs tied for 3rd with 45.

Last year, 132 holes-in-one were reported; this year there were 126. Last year found 58 clubs reporting composite scores of 48; this year there were 54.

These Tools Are Out—Many turf tools no longer are to be made. WPB board has banned grass shears, hose reels, weed cutters and pullers, grass whips, lawn brooms, lawn rakes, lawn rollers, lawn seeders, sod lifters, turf edgers, and many other items made of iron or steel and used in golf course maintenance.