

we must maintain a fine course for the condition of the course will have a bearing on getting the membership to use the course for essential wartime recreational balance.

In our fall program we have planned to enlarge the practice tee due to more play there than ever before. Many of the men in war production do not have time to complete a round of golf. We are to close three large traps on the course. This will reduce the number of hours of labor. We will continue a program of improving our drainage system. Fertilizing of greens and tees and seeding where necessary, the storing of a compost pile, which will be much larger than in the past, due to the curtailment of high nitrate fertilizer, are other items on our program. All machinery and implements will be given a general overhauling and be in readiness for next season.

A greenkeeper's work does not end with his fall program completed, but this year especially accents the winter months when the greenkeeper must guard his greens against snow mold as this can be one of the greatest handicaps in the spring.

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## Be Ready to Change Plans If Conditions Warrant

By JOHN L. COUNSELL

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I believe that long-term planning is out for the duration. We are living in an unbalanced world today, with a pendulum swinging as uncertain as the tail of a kite. We can plan to some extent, but the picture is apt to change so rapidly that we must be open-minded enough to alter our plans quickly to meet new conditions.

New construction and extensive renovation work on the golf course will be reduced to a minimum. We do not expect to keep the course as well groomed as in the past, but we shall provide the members with good playing conditions. We have no special plans for this fall except to keep the turf as healthy as possible, with one eye on the budget. We have changed some of our operations and by cutting corners we have reduced our maintenance costs, but we must be on the watch for any cumulative effect on the turf, resulting from the curtailment.

The labor shortage has been a problem this year and it is reasonable to sup-

pose that it will be worse in 1943. We can help to solve this problem by providing as pleasant working conditions as possible and by being prudent in handling the men. I am planning to purchase as much of next year's necessary supplies as my budget will allow, providing they are obtainable. Under present conditions, shopping around for better prices is a waste of time; in many cases, we consider ourselves fortunate if we can locate and purchase the merchandise we want.

It will be necessary to discard some of the generally accepted good greenkeeping practices for the duration, and substitute other methods that will suffice, even though they may appear to be the product of a brain storm.

I believe golf clubs will continue to operate on a program of rigid economy and the vital part of golf, the golf course, will survive where the greenkeeper employs intelligent management, ingenuity, and the courage to carry on.

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## Managers' Menu: Headaches for Breakfast, Dinner, Supper

MANAGERS of country clubs not distant from residences of their members have been surprised by this season's volume of house business. Higher costs of feeding at home, domestic help shortage, inability of members to get out of town on vacations, and women's activity in Red Cross and other war organization work, account for the volume.

What has given managers plenty of trouble is the help shortage and the members' expectation of service-as-usual at the clubs. Members also yowl now and then because of increased menu prices at clubs despite the club-women's knowledge of higher food and labor costs.

Laundry also is giving the managers concern. In some cities near army camps or navy posts the government has taken over laundries and the clubs find themselves short of clean linen notwithstanding emergency laundry work done by cooks, waitresses, et al.

Strain of long hours and problems has begun to tell on some older managers who have been hospitalized.

Ingenuity in planning affairs for war service organization benefit has been outstanding in golf club managers' performances this season.