

plentiful, greens should be mowed daily. This is especially true for greens of dense growing, creeping bent. It is impossible to prevent mat formation on them by mowing three or four times a week, especially during the seasons when grass is growing rapidly.

Most turf nurseries have been sorely neglected. A few are in deplorable condition, beyond redemption. Some have a fair stand of good grass but are infested with clover and weeds. These can be revived by using arsenicals to kill weeds, and fertilizer to promote turf growth. The bad ones should be replaced, and planted or seeded with good strains of grass.

Tees should be fertilized generously this fall if there is any permanent grass on them. A rate of 40 to 50 pounds per 1,000 square feet is not too much provided the nitrogen is organic and mostly insoluble; otherwise the suggested rate should be halved. Some tees are in need of a good top-dressing and seeding.

Resodding with turf from a weed-free nursery is one way to restore grass on tees after the war. Another is to kill weeds and clover with arsenic acid or sodium arsenite and re-seed. This is a simpler method which is feasible on tees where play can be confined to one-half the area while the work is in progress. That is from August until play stops that fall.

Labor is going to be high priced even after the war. Courses can't be kept with present skeleton crews. By the same token a force of 20 to 30 men is equally absurd. Plans should be formulated now to make changes needed to permit the maximum use of mechanical equipment. Among other things there should be a critical survey of traps and bunkers. There are some on every course that can be eliminated without affecting play. The ones to be retained can then be put in shape for use. Tees and greens should be eyed critically. The aim should be to mow tees and the aprons around greens with fairway units. A special committee should be chosen to undertake the task. The greens chairman, the greenkeeper, the professional and several members should spend enough time to explore the problem thoroughly and make a formal report. They should enlist the services of a competent architect if many changes are needed. The plan finally approved by the membership should be started at the earliest moment labor can be obtained to do the work.

TURF DISEASE BULLETIN

The Greens Section of the USGA, Beltsville, Maryland, has a supply of a section's bulletin on turf diseases now available at \$.85 a copy. Orders for this bulletin should be addressed direct to the Greens Section, and accompanied by payment in full.

Midland Hills Meets Maintenance Emergencies

While wartime shortages and restrictions are producing varying individual problems in maintenance for each greenkeeper, generally speaking the over-all problem is being solved by the uncanny knack the upkeep experts have developed in making far less do far more. Yet, in many cases acknowledgment of the greenkeepers' loyalty, resourcefulness and substantial savings to his club has been down-right unappreciatively slow in taking the form of financial reward. However, from the way the wind is blowing, this situation is subject to sudden change without notice.

Writing of his experiences at Midland Hills (St. Paul district) CC, Emil Picha, greenkeeper, first points out that the club's grounds department has been operating the past two years on about half the money budgeted in prewar years. Considering the increase in wartime prices for material and labor, it boils down to operating on nearer one-third their prewar annual budget. And, according to Picha, they have made a fairly good go of it.

"We reduced the size of our greens to an average of 4,800 sq. ft., mowing them three or four times a week. We did no top dressing but applied chemicals as needed, keeping our watering and fertilizing at a minimum. Result: Somewhat excessive mat and more 'grain'. Our fairways were greatly enlarged, adding more area to be covered by our biggest production machine, a seven-unit fairway mower. Fairways received no watering or fertilizer. Rainfall was above normal for three years with some drought periods of short duration. Result: Loss of all poa annua which weeds replaced, but bluegrass also increased.

"Players are permitted to improve poor lies through the fairway. Traps weeded once but not raked by crew. Regardless, playing conditions and scoring have been good. While many things have been neglected it will not be difficult to bring the course back to first class condition when labor and money again are more plentiful."

GI Pro in Iceland

Robert O. Waara, Mich. PGA member, formerly at Meadowbrook and Western clubs, Detroit, is a staff sergeant with the Base Command at Reykjavik, Iceland. He reports that golf is comparatively new up there being introduced only ten years ago, but he finds an avid interest in it by the Icelanders. The army boys have built a 9-hole "golf course," cow-pasture style, on the outskirts of the city and it is enjoyed by civilians as well as GIs. Bob is keeping his game in tune, having shot four "30's" and has even made a hole-in-one.