

Brains and Hard Work Bring Iowa Thru Tough Year

By H. L. LANTZ

Iowa Agricultural Experiment Station

An unique top-dressing plan of Wm. Keating, supt., Des Moines (Ia.) G&CC is as follows:

About 1½ acres of ground are seeded to rye in the fall and plowed under in the spring when about two feet high. Soybeans, inoculated, are planted and turned under about August 15. This top soil by the following spring is ready to use for top-dressing, using equal parts of soil, sand and black peat. Bill has this prepared in advance of the season. He had enough top-dressing prepared to top-dress four times and this saved the day last wet spring. Top-dressings are applied once a month and always just after mowing.

The fertilizer program is as follows: In April, Milorganite at the rate of 200 lbs. per green is applied. The same amount of Milorganite is applied in September. The greens average 7500 sq. ft. At this rate, the coverage is about 27 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. At ten day intervals during the growing season, sulfate of ammonia is sprayed on the green at the rate of 2 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft. Brown patch control has been excellent with Thiosan applied at the rate of 2 lbs. per green along with 2 lbs. of sulfate of ammonia which is sprayed on the greens at weekly intervals during the brown patch season. The procedure is to mix 6 lbs. of Thiosan into the 200 gal. spray tank, along with 6 lbs. of sulfate of ammonia. This 200 gallons of mixture is sufficient to cover three greens.

Frequent light applications of sulfate of ammonia are preferred to heavier doses at less frequent intervals. The frequent light applications tend to keep the available nitrogen on an even level, and the grass growing at an even rate—no over-feeding followed by a period of starvation.

Don't Let Subsoil Dry

Regular and systematic watering is practiced. No part of the green is neglected. "During the summer", said Bill, "if an area on the green doesn't get watered, it will soon become dry underneath, and from that time on it is next to impossible to make water penetrate the area." Every green on the Des Moines G & CC course is tile drained and is built a little higher in the center, thus giving good surface drainage. The greens are mowed and watered until the middle of November or later if needed. Keating maintains that there should be no excess grass on the green at the end of the season, and that the greens should be well watered before going into the winter.

Your reporter made the observation that weather conditions in April and May in Iowa were probably at the worst, too

much rain followed by torrential rains caused flooding which did tremendous damage to golf courses in many parts of Iowa. A tornado all but blew the Fort Dodge course apart, clubhouse, trees and all. But by hard work and long hours, C. B. Whitson, greenkeeper, and other club workers got the course back into condition and a good season of play followed.

George Veenker, who heads the Department of Athletics, Iowa State College at Ames, was the wheel horse in establishing the sporty Iowa State College golf course. The spring floods did a lot of damage to the course, and he, with the able assistance of Al Johnson, greenkeeper, did a great job in repairing the damage. Now that Al Johnson is in the army George has his hands more than full. George is a man of vision and has ideas worth listening to. Among other things he voiced the opinion that golf would have a boom following the war. He recommended that the greenkeepers were in a position to help build and maintain putting greens which could be established at the veterans' hospitals. Putting greens offer a form of light exercise which convalescing veterans would use and appreciate.

Timely Entertainment Makes Club Wartime Asset

By W. J. HENDERSON

Entertainment Chm., Davenport (Ia.) CC

★ CONSIDERING THE WHOLE SEASON, we have had our greatest turnout on Friday evenings. Originally this was a mixed golfers' dinner night due to the fact that we held our two-ball foursomes late Friday afternoons.

However, during the summers of 1944 and 1943 it has become more of a "family dinner night" due to the inability of members to drop into the club fairly early on Fridays. Furthermore, many men are out of town more, consequently it has been hard to pair up the foursomes.

However, the total members at dinner have been much greater which may be partly due to food rationing and home meal planning problems. Fortunately, our dining room has continued to operate at a very high standard considering the times.

In August, we held a two-ball foursome on Sunday and this was such a huge success that we repeated it again in September.

This Sunday affair started off with a splendid breakfast being served on the club porch at 10:30 a. m. Incidentally, this was an 18 hole, two-ball foursome affair whereas the ones held on Friday night were simply nine hole affairs.

On the Sunday affairs we had between 125 and 150 golfers playing which we feel is an unusually good turnout of a

membership of 250 plus the fact that a large majority of our women golfers are nine holer players.

This season we held two "Breakfast Parties" at the club. One was a club opening affair in May and the other one was held at the end of the season early in October. The one in May was attended by practically two-thirds of the membership. The one in October fell off in attendance partly due to a very bad break we had in the weather for several days previous to the Sunday on which it was held. However, these affairs have always been extremely popular at our Club. We usually serve champagne punch and a very complete delicious breakfast, complete for about \$1.75 per person.

This year we held two evening parties and the attendance was very good. However, guest rules had been relaxed and a large part of the attendance consisted of military personnel stationed in the vicinity to whom club privileges had been extended.

One of our most popular affairs this year was a special "Kids' Day" held on a Sunday afternoon. Each member's child was entitled to bring one other youngster as their guest. For entertainment we gave them free pony rides, contests on the lawn, swimming pool event and refreshment tickets for prizes. In the evening a special family dinner was served. This affair brought a very good turnout, as it provided a day for the whole family at the Club.

In addition to the above events, three stags were held throughout the season on Wednesday afternoons and evenings. The turnout at these affairs was very good considering the times and they were particularly well attended by professional men, who in this community have their Wednesday afternoons off.

All in all, we felt that the season was particularly successful in view of the times. The affairs that were particularly designed to attract more than one member of the family turned out to be the best "pullers" as one would expect under gasoline rationing.

Oklahoma OK. Revives Club Suspended in 1944

By JOE T. PARKINSON

Sec.-Treas., Oklahoma Golf Assn.

★ DURING 1944 there was a general increase in golfing activities in Oklahoma. In 1945 we expect the Oklahoma Golf Assn. to resume its Amateur and Open tournaments.

The public or fee courses have had a much larger increase in play, and the private clubs have held their own with possibly a slight increase in play.

Only one private club suspended activi-

ties in Oklahoma during 1944, and a group of individuals have purchased the entire facilities of that club which are now being rehabilitated and will be opened early this year under a new name and management. The golf course will be one of the fine tests of golf, and the club house facilities will make it one of the best private clubs in Oklahoma.

Everything taken into consideration, it is my opinion the year of 1945 will be the best season of golf activities Oklahoma has ever had.

Bogue Again Heads USGA

Morton G. Bogue, 1944 president of the USGA, is slated to carry on as head of the nation's ruling golf organization in 1945. The report of the nominating committee, which will be confirmed at the annual meeting, Jan. 13, in New York, presents the names of five other 1944 officers for hold-over services: Chas. W. Littlefield and Chas. V. Rainwater, Vice-presidents; Francis D. Ouimet, Secretary; Daniel A. Freeman, Treasurer, and James H. Douglas, Jr., General Counsel. Herbert Jaques, The Country Club, Brookline, Mass., was chairman of the 1945 Nominating Committee. Harold W. Pierce of the same club heads the 1946 Nominating Committee. Members selected for the Executive Committee for 1945 are:

Morton G. Bogue, Deepdale, Great Neck, N. Y.
Leslie L. Cooke, Bob O'Link G. C., Highland Pk., Ill.
C. Pardee Erdman, Annandale G. C., Pasadena, Calif.
Daniel A. Freeman, Jr., Nat'l Golf Links G. C., Southampton, N. Y.
Totton P. Heffelfinger, Minikahda Club, Minneapolis, Minn.
Wm. C. Hunt, River Oaks C. C., Houston, Texas.
Edw. B. Leisenring, Gulph Mills G. C., Bridgeport, Pa.
Chas. W. Littlefield, Montclair G. C., Montclair, N. J.
Francis D. Ouimet, Woodland G. C., Auburndale, Mass.
Chas. V. Rainwater, Atlanta Ath. Club, Atlanta, Ga.
Robt. A. Stranahan, Inverness Club, Toledo, O.
Fielding Wallace, Augusta Nat. G. C., Augusta, Ga.
A. M. Work, Portland G. C., Portland, Ore.

Chicago Industrial Golfers Report

Twenty-nine four-men teams representing twenty-nine industrial firms participated in the first annual Industrial Amateur Golf Assn. finals of Chicago held September 26 at the Northbrook Country Club. Nearly 300 similar teams from almost as many industrial concerns played against each other during the 1944 season, Claud S. Gordon, president, reports. The Johnson Motors Company won the 1944 association championship. Plans for an expanded 1945 program with similar industrial golf tournaments, to be held in other cities, is scheduled this year. Headquarters of the association are at 175 W. Adams street, Chicago, Ill.