

Postwar Maintenance

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change in maintenance conditions that might be governed by the synthetic ball. At this time very few of the balls have reached the public. The uniformed men are getting what balls are being made. Now there is a lively revival of discussion about the standard ball, with some possibility of the USGA and the R&A getting together on a worldwide standard. Against a worldwide standard are the factors of cost of new ball-making equipment and different atmospheric conditions in the U. S. and in the British isles.

Greenkeepers have said that in cases of alarm at the prospect of the stars in competition getting too much distance, courses can be made to play much longer by longer cutting and heavier watering. This, some greenkeepers declare, would handle the length factor easier than reducing further the length of the ball that 90 per cent of the golfers can't hit well enough to get any impressive distance. Greenkeepers who are pretty fair golfers when they have time to play, doubt the capacity of equipment legislation to control scoring to provide tests of ability. They say the job could be done easier by conditioning of courses to exacting tournament standards. These greenkeepers say that failure of the legislation is disclosed by the illegal marking of iron club faces used by numerous tournament players during the war.

The interesting thought has been advanced that variation in course conditions could be quite easily provided and would supply exacting tests of the mas-

tery of the competing golfers.

Variation in speed of greens, fairway lengths, rough close to the greens, trapping and texture of sand, and other items, would appraise the golfing judgment and shot-making versatility of the competing golfers and would most certainly determine the true champion, so these greenkeepers say.

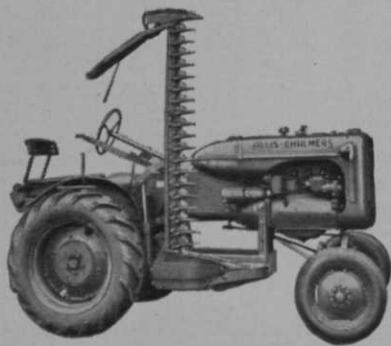
But what has been the policy of the past 15 years, according to these greenkeepers, is to have the entire course groomed to the complete satisfaction of the tournament stars. And the tournament stars, being human beings, are going to insist on conditions that make play easier for them rather than severely testing. The stars stampede the greenchairmen and get what they (the stars) want.

Otherwise, the tournament players will say the course is in poor condition, and the chairmen will be heart-broken. These greenkeepers say the tournament courses are the same for one player as for another, and anyone who can't make shots required has no license for complaint. Placement of the cups alone will do as much to control tournament scoring as expensive experiments with the ball, these greenkeepers stoutly aver.

But, again, it's doubtful that you'll see the experiment of deliberate course control of tournament scoring made to its fullest extent after the war. Now that's only one of the many subjects greenkeepers and club officials are discussing when they manage to get a little time for talking about how the golf course is going to be a few years after the war ends.

All Purpose Mower

★ This is the new heavy duty, general purpose mower for golf maintenance and similar service recently announced by the Tractor Division of Allis-Chalmers Mfg.



Allis-Chalmers' Model B Tractor

Co., Milwaukee, Wis. Mounted as a unit on a Model "B" Allis-Chalmers tractor, the mower has a variety of travel speeds for all conditions, and possesses unusual stability for operations on extreme slopes and difficult angles.

Its five foot heavy duty cutter bar, within full view of the operator, smoothly and easily raises and lowers by a power hydraulic lift. The inner shoe is located outside the rear wheels and can be raised a distance of twelve inches by a conveniently located hand lever. The sickle performs in a range of positions from 45 degrees below horizontal to 60 degrees above, tailoring it for cutting slopes and banks, hedges and shoulders. To insure protection for the sickle when obstructions are accidentally encountered, the belt drive slippage provides a safety relief and eliminates any possible damage. The mower design leaves the drawbar open enabling the tractor to pull gang-mowers or other equipment.