

our compost pile. We keep discing it and seasoning it for more than a year before we use it.

We watch our greens carefully to see that no nap or mat develops. When there are signs of a mat we rake the greens vigorously and cut short. We also are great believers in using a spiking and renovating machine along with our topdressing operations.

Our general practice is to mow the fairways twice a week and the greens 3 times a week. Two other men and I do the work on the course.

Untold benefits may be received by the small course whose greenkeepers take advantage of the experience and advice of greenkeepers in the nearest metropolitan centers. Carl Bretzlaff and other top-ranking Indianapolis greenkeepers have been most generous and helpful in guiding me and in steering me into solutions of my problems. The short courses in greenkeeping at Purdue have been of tremendous assistance too. I came onto the Martinsville course as a caddy and grew up with it, so the greenkeeping I had to learn would have been the long, hard and probably unsatisfactory way had it not been for making use of the practical, authoritative advice of veteran large-club greenkeepers, Purdue, the USGA green section and the supply men.

Live With the Greens

One thing they've all impressed on me is that one has to live with greens to make sure that the greens are good. By constantly and closely watching them you learn when they need water and how much, instead of having a set watering schedule. The result of living with your greens is that you minimize risks of disease. Of course at the smaller town courses one doesn't have to high-pressure greens and make them as susceptible to disease as greens are at some of the larger city district courses due to members' demands of conditions that are not healthy for grass.

Tees always are a problem at the smaller course. Ours are in pretty fair condition but they could be better as they are hard-worn by mid-summer. One has to watch to make frequent changes of tee markers. Probably larger tees are one of the answers and maybe some other grass such as zoysia may be tough enough to stand the wear and hacking, especially on the short holes.

Several years ago we got sewage sludge which we used for fairway fertilizer, but now are back on a Milorganite and lime program. In the case of small town clubs where the budget is very tight I'd suggest fertilizing the fairway shot areas. After the members note the contrast chances are the budget will be increased.

Very important, and not costing much money to the smaller town clubs is the conditioning of tee benches, walks, shelters, bridges and stiles where players or caddies may have to go over fences to get balls out-of-bounds. By keeping these features in repair, and having the ball-markers and flags and flagpoles smart-looking the small town course can be given a classy look without much expense.

And that classy look, after the necessities of good turf and sound, interesting design, is going to be more important to the smaller town club than ever before. Now golfers travel around and will compare standards of courses. In very few cases will they continue to be content with the pre-war idea of the cow-pasture course.

I think that the Martinsville CC is a quite pleasant and impressive exhibit of the maintenance standards that eventually will prevail at most of the smaller town courses. The cost of our operations isn't out of line for what we really believe is far, far above average playing conditions on 9-hole courses. Last year we spent \$6500 as our complete maintenance budget and the income attracted by good playing condition made the course upkeep cost a very wise investment.

SEES MORE WORKER'S GOLF

Joe Green, veteran Jersey golf pro, is confident golf play in 1947 will far exceed capacity of public and fee courses in metropolitan districts. Green bases his conviction on possibility of strike wave receding and many thousands of workers again having security of income to spend more money on greens fees and equipment. During World War II Green worked in the Mathis shipyards at Camden, N. J. and in free time conducted golf tournaments for the shipbuilders. He says workers' golf still has to see the combination of income and leisure time that will set the stage for a tremendous growth of golf among middle-

aged as well as younger workers. Joe started in golf at the old Hyewood GC, North Plainfield, N. J., and caddied for Johnny McDermott and Alex Findlay as a kid. After World War I he was active in the Salesmen's GA of Philadelphia. During 1946 he was with Bruce Coltart at Seaview, Atlantic City.



Joe Green