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● "Always Ahead" is more than just a slogan... it's the story of Kroydon Clubs. For Kroydon has been first again and again in golf club design and development... first and *only* manufacturer today making complete golf clubs... first to create individually registered *matched sets*... first to harden soles of irons — *nick-proof* irons are exclusive with Kroydon.

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● **RHYTHMIC HY-POWER & HY-TEST SHAFTS...** *Hy-Power* steel shaft for irons... duplicates the shape, feel and action of a hickory shaft.



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● **MUSCLE-BACK IRONS...** The Kroydon Muscle-Back shape concentrates the greatest thickness and weight directly behind the hitting area... gives more power and distance with least effort. Write for 1949 catalogue and prices.



SURVEY SHOWS PHILA. AREA GETS BETTER TURF BY AERIFYING

By Charles K. Hallowell

Better fairway turf is coming for Philadelphia golfers, according to the statements of the Golf Course Superintendents who are members of the Philadelphia Association. They reported, at a recent meeting held to discuss how and when to use the Aerifier, that this implement was making it possible to do the right maintenance practice at the correct season of the year.

It is the opinion of Joe Tagnon of Ashbourne CC, that the Aerifier is the one machine that has been manufactured in the last thirty years that will do most to help the superintendent produce better turf on fairways, tees, and greens.

Agreement among the Philadelphia group was that fall is the time when Aerifying will give the greatest returns. Lime-stone, fertilizer, and insecticides to control grub, can be worked into the soil at the place desired with the Aerifier, which heretofore has been impossible.

September and October are the months when the Aerifier is used on all turf on all courses, but a number of

the superintendents reported using the Aerifier in the early spring when turf was below par. Reports were given that April aerifying had encouraged better root growth, resulting in a denser turf throughout the summer. May 15th to August 15th is the period during the growing season when the Aerifier is seldom used. For a compact soil or areas where there is a layer of undecomposed organic matter, several operations of the Aerifier corrects the trouble. After aerifying such areas, both the plants and soil use rainfall and artificial water more efficiently.

When renovating fairways to change the species of grass such as Blue Grass to Bent, or when increasing the Bent population, 12% of the Superintendents reported Aerifying to be a must. After using it at least twice, and several reported three times, there was sufficient loose soil to enable the seed to get a good start.

The summary showed all agree the breaking up cores of soil either immediately or within a few hours after aerifying, is essential. The opportunity of getting the fine soil mixed with existing grass plants is lost if the cores become hardened. In that unbroken condition, the cores are ob-

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Chicago 5

jectionable to the golfers. Steel mats and pieces of cyclone fence are mostly used after the Aerifier. There were reports that the chain harrow was an ideal core breaking-up tool.

Any complete renovation program is concluded by mowing and rolling. A few of the men reported watering as the final procedure in the renovation program.

The rate of speed to pull the Aerifier was agreed by all to be five to seven miles per hour.

A number of greens have been aerified to loosen the soil and increase the moisture-holding capacity of the soil. When using the Aerifier on a green, all agreed it was important to complete the operations in one day. Two or three men can aerify, fertilize, topdress, and produce a finished putting surface on one green, within five to six hours.

The men in the Philadelphia area enjoyed trading their experiences with this new tool. They asked Charles K. Hallowell, their county agent, to summarize their different findings. Copies of the summary are now available from Robert F. Pollock, Secretary, 39 Columbus Avenue, Haverstown, Pa.

HOW TO BEAT THE BUDGET

Since 1939 there has been a steady increase in production costs which goes something like this:

Labor up 156%. Fertilizer up 15%. Supplies up 29%. Equipment up 30%.

From 50 to 80% of every golf course maintenance budget goes for labor so the big problem is to reduce the man hours of labor without lowering the standards of maintenance. Here are some suggestions that will help:

1. Substitute (profitably) mechanical power for man power wherever possible.

2. Minimize time used for moving from place to place. Schedule work assignments for each man so second job starts where first one ends.

3. Replace old obsolete equipment with new modern more efficient equipment. Keep machinery in first class working condition.

4. Train men to accomplish the greatest amount of work with the least amount of energy.