

Supts. Must Teach Players

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Golf course maintenance is such a complex and varied subject and any one of the several phases of such operation is, in my opinion, as important as the other in that they are interdependent one on the other in order to have the most efficient operation, which we all individually strive for.

In my judgment, one of the most important problems facing golf clubs today is that the general golfing public is not familiar enough with what is actually entailed in the maintenance of a good golf course, and that some sort of educational program with this end in view should be inaugurated. That is, a program wherein the member would become more acutely conscious of a course operation.

A superintendent who spends all of his time on a course and observes various groups knows a lot more about what is going on than an individual who observes only his group. By the same token, a good superintendent can not tell a member what he can or can not do, but merely suggest what the club rules are.

It does very little good, apparently, to put up the "Please Replace Divots", "Repair Foot Marks in Sand Traps", "Please Use Waste Paper Receptables", "Please put empty bottles in case" and "Repair Ball Marks on Greens" signs. Golf courses are full of such signs, many of which have become an offensive eyesore to their golfers. The idea is good, but the method is not sufficient. We need another approach. What is it?

I believe that were the club membership "sold" on the idea that it is their golf course and that it is to their individual advantage to treat it as such, they would eventually come to respect their rights and the rights of others, and enjoy playing their golf course more.

Labor continues to become a more serious problem. Labor rates in my district are not high enough to compete with industry — especially government projects and labor unions. In the past 6½ years hourly rates of my men have jumped 40%, which is still under the above mentioned employers, and still is not enough to get and keep the best help. My course is one of the oldest in this city, therefore, the city has completely surrounded us. Some of the courses in the outlying districts are not having the same troubles that I have as city laborers for the most

part are not as good as the men who were reared in the country for golf course labor.

Much has been said and written about Green chairmen. I believe a superintendent who has a relatively permanent, understanding chairman with whom he can work, has a most invaluable asset. Clubs which have the ruling that a chairman has to be a member of the Board of Directors are possibly overlooking many well qualified members, and spending much needless time and money. It is very true that the Green-chairman has a thankless job, yet every club will have some one in its membership who would be highly honored to serve and help do a good job.

RECOGNITION FOR SUPTS.



Supt. William H. Stupple, Exmoor CC (Chicago dist.) (R) receives "Citation of Merit" Award in recognition of his outstanding achievement in the care and maintenance of the Exmoor course in preparation for tournament play of the 50th Western Amateur Championship. Stupple is the eighth to receive the award presented by the GCSA in 1952. Agar Brown, secy. of the GCSA, who made the presentation reports the awards will continue to be made in the coming years to further the recognition of the golf course supt. and the part he plays in providing properly maintained courses for today's golfers. Others receiving the award are: Herman R. Borchardt, Northwood Club, Dallas; Ernest Felton, Miami (Fla.) CC; Albert Linkogel, Westwood CC, St. Louis; Herman Senneseth, Univ. of Minn. GC, Minneapolis; Robert Finlay, Seattle (Wash.) GC; Harry Meusel, Yale GC, New Haven, Conn.; and Alvaro Alanso, Monterey Peninsula CC, Pebble Beach, Calif.