

decided to reduce the watering to three or four times a week as soon as the grass was up.

During the period between planting and maturing of the greens they were sprayed with Tersan to eliminate fungus growth and fertilized with Milorganite and sulphate of ammonia. They were also topdressed with sand, silt, and mulch. Fertilizer used up to the start of the 1951 summer season was sulphate of ammonia and 16-20.

Brownpatch first showed up on May 28, but it responded to treatment with Tersan and there was little fungus trouble all summer. The greens went through their first summer with flying colors, and there were congratulations aplenty for all concerned with the experiment.

Change Fertilization Formula

By December, 1951, however, several of the greens were in poor condition. So Woodward applied one lb. of iron sulphate and 2 lbs. of calcium nitrate in a mixture and repeating the application at two-week intervals. He continued the procedure for two months with good results and at the end of the period the grass seemed much tougher and more able to withstand constant play.

One of the continuing maintenance problems is that of Bermudagrass getting a start on the bent greens. Seed from the fairways blows onto the greens and is carried there on the feet of golfers. Once it gets a toehold, it spreads rapidly. The surest solution to the problem at Arizona CC has been the three-times-a-day inspection of greens, during which maintenance personnel dig out Bermuda runners by hand.

Woodward maintains a nursery near his maintenance shop and he believes it has helped keep his greens problems to a minimum. Whenever an inspection reveals loss of even a few square inches of grass, the bare section is removed with a cupping device and replaced with healthy bent sod.

Now, almost three years since the greens were changed over to Seaside bent, Woodward, Wansa, and the club membership in general are convinced that it's the answer. It requires exacting care, and it may require some experimentation to find the best maintenance procedures at each course with its particular climate, soil conditions, and water. Arizona CC has done its experimentation now, and Woodward thinks they have most of the answers for that course, at least.

Must Readjust to New Conditions

By CHARLES BASKIN
Country Club of Waterbury, Conn.

The vital affair of making golf course work more attractive is not altogether a matter of money, although we can't hope to get men who are much good in course maintenance unless we come a lot closer to meeting factory wages. We also have to provide year-around employment for the men's good and our own. It is a common experience at golf courses to have to lay off good men in the fall. Then they get factory jobs at more than the golf course pays and never return.

One way of making course work more attractive is by mechanizing and making the work as light as possible. I find that the average worker doesn't mind riding a tractor or following a power mower but he's not happy doing manual work.

About a third of the man-hours necessary in golf course labor can be supplied by boys on vacation from high schools and colleges. There is need for more discussion among superintendents and chairmen about enlisting, training and supervising the most desirable type of lads for this work. It's going to figure more and more in course maintenance and we are going to have to make it a routine matter to be thoughtfully handled instead of considering them an emergency supply of labor from which only the minimum of simple and essential work can be expected.

In our work program now chemical treatment and aerification are just about as much standard practice as mowing and watering. This has made obsolete the old platform of budgeting. It certainly has affected our entire work program and I believe that we will see developments in aerification that will have far-reaching effect on maintenance work and results.

The superintendent always is exploring something that may bring him closer to the perhaps unattainable goal of perfection in every detail of the course. He says he is compelled to strive toward this goal by the insistent demands of his players. But frankly I believe that it is the demands superintendents make upon themselves to get the perfect course that has been the main force accounting for the great improvement in golf course condition. The players wouldn't have known what a perfect course might be if the superintendents hadn't been striving day and night for the ideal.