

# FITNESS <sup>in</sup> the FURNISHING

By S. B. McDONALD

*of S. Karpen and Brothers*

CLUB officials who would like to obtain Mr. McDonald's comments on their own club's interior decorations are invited to send him, in care of GOLFDOM, photographs of the rooms. He will also advise club committees planning to redecorate club-rooms, or faced with the task of furnishing newly-erected clubhouses.

THE club president and his committees often pass lightly over the importance of interior decorations, yet the duty of these gentlemen—besides keeping a cautious eye on the exchequer—is to harmonize, co-ordinate and make enjoyable the facilities of the club's properties whether it be sports, social activities or environment. It is the environment of club quarters that this writer is calling to urgent

attention, prompted by the appalling lack of fitness in the decorative schemes of many club homes, particularly golf and country clubs.

Committees are seemingly unmindful of the fact that almost every art and craft enters into the composite art of interior decorations and that it is a subject worthy of a great deal of attention. They are too ready to go about the task of equipping the social building with a reckless abandon which they may think is gay and informal and appropriate to the cause, but which is more likely to be a complex mass with no semblance of unity to purpose, nor beauty of composition. The selections are sometimes of personal tastes rather than the collective satisfaction of their membership's design and color sensibilities. No member should project his individual preference into a club's furnishings program, nor should he establish its



Figure 1. Furnished with a knowledge of Colonial design but a little too homelike and lacking in masculine sense of scale



Figure 2. Symmetry, balance and grouping are well illustrated in this lounge

decorative scheme unless he is specially qualified by training to do so.

The undertaking of clubhouse decorations should be, when completed, an environment which bespeaks of the joys of the entire membership consistent with the outdoor play and indoor social contacts, and so that it is obviously a creation in consideration of all and not a monument to individual glorification or—chagrin.

If the committee does not feel qualified to analyze and provide for the cultural status of their membership, they should seek advice lest they make unwise purchases regretted by present and succeeding patronage, for once a club is decorated it is difficult to have it changed.

It is not a simple task to be truly helpful in an article on interior decorations, and concrete rules shall not be given, for such rules could not remain constant in any case. A few observations are noted which are meant only as buoys marking the navigable channel in a sea of artistic interior developments.

A long tale could be written on the types and actions of decoration committees—the stern, unrelenting type with preconceived notions; the weak, vacillating, easily-swayed members; the fussing, fretting, fearful providers; or the committee who thinks a clubhouse merely a place to go into out of the rain and that anything would be good enough. For golf courses common to men and women an all-women committee might lose sight of masculinity's sense of scale, as apparently occurred in the clubhouse illustrated by photograph No. 1 where the treatment was of a living room. This setting has the characteristics of decorators or individuals accustomed more to thoughts of a home. It has been done by people with a knowledge of Colonial design but they stretched a point when they used rocking chairs in a lounge room. Or, the all-women committee will sometimes go to the other extreme of severity and austerity in their belief that the male of the species has little aesthetic sense. The mixed committees may as well be in most cases composed of only the ladies for the gentlemen



Figure 3. Better balance and a few heavier furnishings would improve this room greatly. And do away with the rocking-chairs

favor chivalry to argumentative discussion unless they happen to be related by marriage.

Large committees are unwieldy and small committees have too great a temptation to individualize. Committees in relays are an extravagant waste of time. The ideal committee is one with good taste but rather selected for its business ability and composed of from three to five people. They should first set about to fix the approximate expenditures based upon a careful study of the plans and the requirements from actual estimates or from other sources they may elect. They will thoroughly understand the club's activities and predict its future; they will grade and mentally catalog their roster to define the plan of artistic appreciation, regardless of their own attainments; they will insist upon practicability and usefulness; and they should know pretty well the idiosyncracies and traits or behavior of most of their members, for certainly this ideal committee would not treat a club for hilarious huskies in the manner of the effeminate Louis XVI.

This committee, after ascertaining all the facts and with an outline of the different use of each room, would be prepared to make specifications from which a supplier could work. These members would not be so imbued with the idea of their own ability that they would not give attention to suggestions from people in the decorative field.

Such a committee no doubt was in charge of the decorations of the club as illustrated in photograph No. 2. There is symmetry and balance, usefulness and good color, groupings and area of circulation.

If the house committee or management of the club illustrated in photograph No. 3 were to rearrange their room in a more balanced composition, dispense with some of the angles that are so confusing, cut the rockers off the chairs, and add a little more weight of effect by color and heavy objects, they would have a better looking lounge room.

Photograph No. 4 is basically well arranged except the wing chairs should be pushed back nearer to the wall. The elimination of some of the spindle effect of the tables would be desirable.

Photograph No. 5 shows a room that is comfortable, practical and well-arranged. It at once shows usefulness as well as interest.



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

Photograph No. 6 is of a lounge room that was no doubt planned on paper before any purchases were contracted; each piece has a duty to perform, and with the addition of a table ornament and a wing

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# MAINTENANCE POLICIES that make GOOD at Blackhawk

By JOHN S. BONE

Blackhawk Country Club, Madison, Wis.

**A**S every greenkeeper has learned, it is impossible to follow entirely any hard and fast rules, for I can think of no business that is so governed by weather conditions as is ours. Each morning, we might say, presents its particular problems of adjusting plans to conditions.

To go into every detail of Blackhawk's methods of maintenance would not prove profitable, as we follow in a general way the accepted methods of present day practice.

Labor management we all recognize at once as one essential that if properly handled will go a long way in the solution of many of our other problems. We recognize that the quality and quantity of available workmen varies somewhat in different sections, and we find ourselves particularly fortunate at Blackhawk Country Club in being able to secure exceptionally good, reliable men, most of whom have been with us four, five, and six years. Each man has his own work for which he is trained and held responsible. In order to stay on our force a man must do his work as directed, in a workmanly fashion, in a reasonable length of time, and show an interest in his work.

## Report System Employed

Each man understands that he is expected to report to me anything that he may see on the course that is out of order or calls for my special attention. All our men are hired by the hour and receive pay for overtime whenever it is necessary to call on them for special work. Our rule is to treat our workmen as we would wish to be treated if we were in their places, and we have the respect and friendship of the entire force. One faultfinder can spoil a whole crew and the sooner we get rid of him the better.

## Assaying Purchasing

Every greenkeeper should keep himself informed as to labor-saving machinery. The test of whether a club should purchase such machinery is: will it do the work as well or better than we are able to do it by any other method at a real sav-

ing of time and labor, and: do we require the services of such a machine for a sufficient number of hours each year to justify the investment. If it meets these requirements we should purchase it by all means.

It is poor economy to try to make the old tractors or mowers or any other machine do after they have reached the stage when they are sure to give trouble instead of service. We believe it pays to give men good tools to work with and insist that they take proper care of them, which they are much more likely to do than if they are given poor ones.

Watering very properly suggests itself to us as of major importance, and I believe the only rule to govern this is the condition of the green itself. All greens on the same course do not require the same amount of water. Experience should teach us to tell immediately by the feel of the turf under our feet just what the water requirements of each green are.

As the edges of greens always dry out the most, especially on raised or banked greens, we make it a rule to sprinkle well outside the green itself.

## Compost Practice

In regard to fertilizing greens I expect to be accused of being old-fashioned. We still believe in the good old compost pile, and when I say old, I mean at least three years old, and right here is, in my opinion, why it has been so condemned lately. We might well expect to get all kinds of weeds and disease from compost only a year or less old. We make a pile each year, with the top wide and sloping to the center to hold water better, sufficiently large to meet the requirements of a year. This is made of horse manure and good top-soil in layers about a foot thick each, to a height of about six feet. If we expect to have good compost we must put good material into it. This is allowed to lie for a year, then turned under and mixed, taking care to leave the top wide and sloping toward the center each time it is turned, until the last be-

fore using when it is left with a crowning top to shed water. When we are ready to use this material it is screened and mixed in a common cement mixer ten parts compost with five of sand and from two to four pounds ammonium sulphate per 1,000 square feet of surface varied according to the season of the year. The screen and mixed are so placed that they run at the same time from one engine, and the compost is shoveled from the screen directly into the mixer. In this way we think we have reduced the labor cost about to the minimum. The first top dressing is applied just as soon as it is fit in the spring, then again in from four to six weeks and so on according to the requirements of the greens.

I like to give the greens a late top-dressing which is rather heavy, as I think it sends them into the cold weather with lots of vitality and also makes a covering or mulch for the roots. For these same reasons and also because it has a decided tendency to produce that erectness of blade which is every greenkeeper's aim, I am strong for this system of fertilization.

### Mowing Methods

Poor methods in mowing have been the very point where otherwise good work has brought disappointment to many a greenkeeper. After the first few cuttings in the spring, or just as soon as the grass begins to grow well, we set the mowers to cut three-sixteenths of an inch in height and keep them there until late fall. If one does not start cutting short early, the greens get grainy and matted or, in other words, the blades do not stand erect. When once we have this condition it is very hard to overcome it.

Every greenkeeper rejoices in the marked improvement in greens mowers that have come in recent years. I have no doubt that there are a number of makes of nearly equal merit now on the market. The same applies to power green mowers, also. What I have said in regard to cutting greens refers entirely to creeping bent greens with which I am concerned.

### Make a Complete Job

Ask any greenkeeper what his chief concern is and I suppose he would say his greens; and yet in order to make the thing complete and keep everyone happy we must maintain the same standards for fairways, tees, traps, bunkers, and rough. Just as a slight blemish may destroy an

otherwise beautiful picture so to neglect anyone of these may have the same effect.

All greenkeepers are still looking for some modern Moses to lead them out of the wilderness in which they find themselves in dealing with brown-patch.

We have had no trouble in controlling brown-patch by using ten pounds of bichloride of mercury and three pounds of ammonium chloride dissolved in 50 gallons of water. Mix one-half gallons of this stock solution with 50 gallons of water. Fifty gallons to 500 square feet may be safely applied. This has not failed to stop each attack, although we had to use it two and, in a few cases, three times on the same green during the season.

We hope some of our scientific men to whom we owe so much may soon discover a real cure for this menace to our pet greens.

### Make Changes Deliberately

No doubt Mr. Noer is correct in his suggestion that there is need for a revision of methods in greenkeeping, and the same thing is true in many other lines of business. I have sufficient confidence in the alertness and ability of the men engaged in this line to believe that every exigency will be met and each problem solved in time, and I prefer to make changes deliberately rather than rush from methods that are giving reasonably good results to new and untried methods, but I am always trying to maintain an open mind toward forward movements.

Our program for the coming season will follow much the same lines as that of the previous season except that, in view of the reports that are coming to us relative to the use of arsenate of lead, we plan to give it a thorough test on some of our greens. We also plan to do some experimental work in forestalling attacks of brown-patch by using light applications of the solution mentioned in this article.

In closing I would like to stress the importance of tidiness, a place for everything and everything in its place, each detail attended to just when it should be, always just a little ahead of our work instead of the work ahead of us.

**B**OWLING-ON-THE-GREEN is a good pastime for your members' evening and idle-hour amusement, and the equipment costs very little. A few special bowling balls and a well-turfed lawn are about all.

# "We'll Help" Says chairman who advises greenkeepers on plans for future

By J. H. GREENBAUM

Chairman, Green Committee, Jumping Brook Country Club  
[Greenkeepers' Convention Address]

THIS is my second trip to a convention of your association. I was fortunate in having the opportunity to be present at your last gathering in Detroit, and I was so much impressed with what you are doing, that I decided to make every effort to attend your convention this year. So here I am, and with me, our greenkeeper, Mr. Moffett, who is a member of your organization. I have been very much interested in your work, and in your efforts to arrive at the point where you can be of tremendous value to your employers, the golf clubs whom you represent. I have made frequent trips with Mr. Moffett to Washington; to our State Agricultural headquarters at New Brunswick; and to the various golf and green section meetings. I always manage, at these meetings, to find something of value for the club I represent; but I feel today in the light of what I have learned at this gathering, that your men and your organization furnish the inspiration and the knowledge that our golf clubs need. I consider that more can be learned for the benefit of the golf courses of this country at one of your conventions, than in a dozen trips to the various experimental stations and golf shows.

We laymen must look to you as the individual looks to his physician, or the business-man to his lawyer. We need your advice and assistance, not only for the proper preservation of our valuable properties, but also for your co-operation in overcoming the many troubles that golf courses are subject to. I regret that so few green-committee chairmen have attended your conventions thus far, and I sincerely hope that next year, when you meet, you will have a very large number of green-committee chairmen present. I believe it is the duty of every man who accepts the post of chairman of the green-committee, to make an honest effort to attend your conventions, or to send a representative. And I believe the principal reason for the non-attendance, lies in your failure to properly acquaint them with the excellent work that you are doing.

I trust you will pardon me if I, as an

outsider, make bold to give you a few words of friendly advice:

## Counsels Greenkeepers.

*First:* Make it your business, in the very near future, to strengthen your organization. See to it that you add to your numerical strength, but in doing so, be sure to keep a high standard of your individual members.

*Second:* Make the membership in this organization worth while. See that your standards are sufficiently high so that it will not be easy to acquire membership in your organization.

*Third:* Take advantage of every opportunity (and there are many) to study and to attend the numerous lectures that are being provided by the agricultural schools, the U. S. G. A. Green Section and your own district organization.

*Fourth:* Bear in mind that you are members of a profession and not mere laborers for hire. The sooner you realize this, and take advantage of the many opportunities to increase your knowledge and improve your standard, the sooner you will be able to command the compensation that your work merits. Many of you are receiving the pay of laborers, while you are doing valuable work as trained experts. You are the ones to control your future, and the maintaining of your compensation at the proper level.

*Fifth:* It is imperative that you make a friend and fellow-workers of your green-committee chairman. He is the man that must first appreciate your value, and pass it along to his fellow-members on his committee, and then on to the membership at large. And I want to tell you most emphatically, that it is up to you to cultivate the cooperation and assistance of your chairmen. I believe that in most every instance, you will find the green-committee chairman only too willing to help you in every way possible. It is their duty to do so, since they have the same ends to accomplish that you have. Don't hesitate any longer. Don't hide your light under a bushel, but come out in



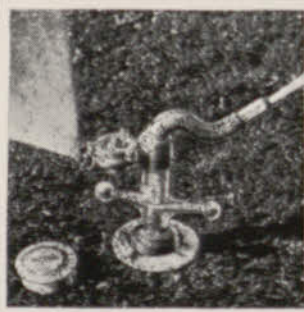


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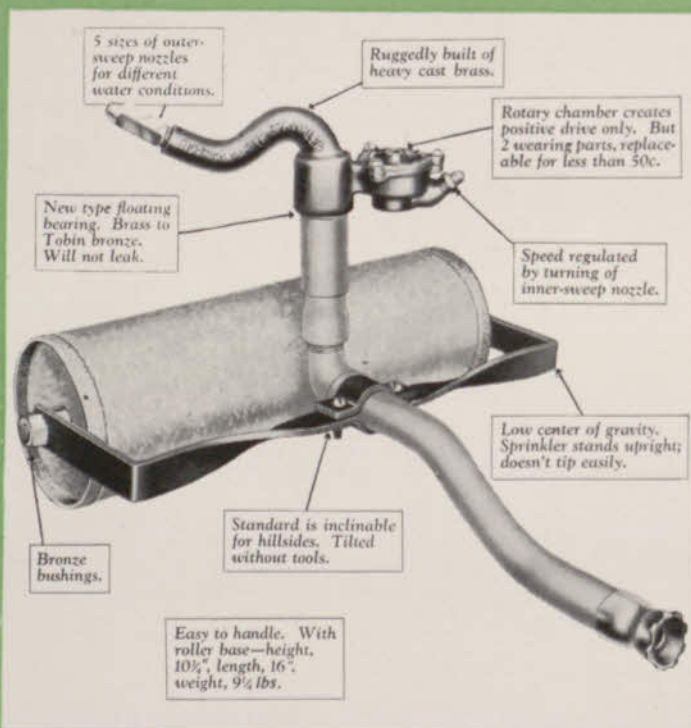
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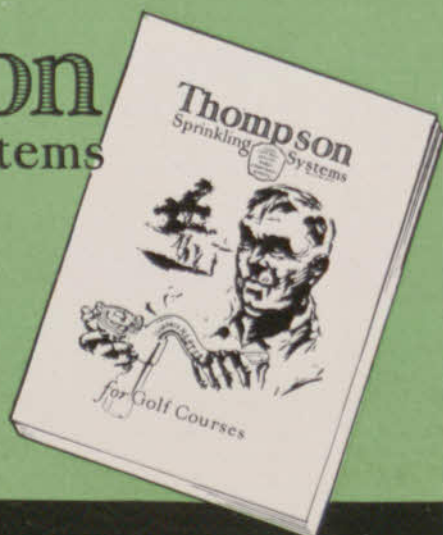
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the open, and get the recognition you are entitled to.

*Sixth:* It is absolutely essential, if your organization is to prosper, that you look forward to the up-building of your cash reserves. I say this, because the time is coming when you will find it necessary to provide many things for your members that will be beneficial for your mental and physical welfare. It is going to take money to do this. My suggestion to you on this point, is to make a substantial increase in your own dues, and to institute a campaign of education, to interest your clubs to become partners with you, in this enterprise, by some sort of associate membership, and the payment of annual dues into your treasury.

### Get Club Help

I believe it will be an excellent investment for every golf club, to back up its greenkeeper to the extent of annual dues in the neighborhood of \$75 to \$100 per year. I honestly believe it would be the best investment that they could make. It would only amount to an expense of one or two dollars per week, in return for which, the clubs would get much valuable information.

Here again, it will take the initiative of the greenkeeper and the chairman to commit the club to a program of this kind. I am sure however, that it can be done, and I am perfectly willing to volunteer to be one of a committee of three, to be made up of green-committee chairmen, who will act as an auxiliary executive committee in your organization for the purpose of assisting in the carrying out of such plans as may be adopted for your future welfare and growth. As I look into the future, I visualize the greenkeeper ten years hence, not only as a practical expert, but a man educated in the sciences that pertain to his work. He will either be a college man, or he will have taken such college courses as will be available to the practical man already in the profession. He will have to be somewhat of a chemist in order to understand the many new features in connection with golf club work that are dependent on this science. He will have to be a soil expert because more and more this is becoming essential in greenkeeping work. He will have to be somewhat of an accountant, since clubs are demanding that their greenkeepers analyse their costs, purchases, and finances in general, along the lines of scientific

bookkeeping. He will have to be somewhat of a mechanic, since the tendency seems to be more and more toward the use of complicated mechanical devices and machines in the maintenance of our golf courses. He will have to be expert in handling men, since it becomes more and more important to retain labor units happy and contented.

*Finally, and most important,* he will have to be a diplomat. There is no man connected with a golf club who has more to contend with in the way of unjust criticism from impatient and unreasonable men, than the greenkeeper. It will be his job to learn how to accept these unfair criticisms with a smile, or to be able at the right time, to stand up and defend himself. In this respect, he will have to join hands with his green-committee chairman, who is often put in the same position. They both receive very little reward for their just efforts and they both are in the same boat when it comes to criticism.

### Plan for Future

With regard to your future organization, there will undoubtedly be decided changes in your membership which now numbers possibly four to five hundred. With five thousand golf clubs in the country today, and possibly several thousand more within the next ten or fifteen years, it is easy to foresee your future membership numbering several thousands. Membership as large as this is necessarily unwieldy. It will therefore become imperative to subdivide your national organization into various district groups, from which representatives will have to be selected to constitute your central or national body. This central body will be charged with the work of organizing your educational courses, planning into your experimental work throughout the country, providing the necessary tests and qualifications for membership in the organization and the planning and executing of your welfare work. To do all this, you will have to select your executives with great care. They will be chosen for their knowledge, experience, broad-mindedness, and self-sacrifice. They will be men of vision, courage and sympathy, and they will welcome to their councils with open mind the representatives of the green committee chairmen, who will be ready and willing to give their assistance toward working out the many problems of the golf clubs and the uplift of your organization.

# Avoid Monotony in Your Season's Golf Schedule

SO MANY requests have come in to GOLFDOM for copies of our February, 1928 issue, in which appeared a complete classification of the more popular types of golf events, that the issue is entirely exhausted. The requests, however, continue to pour in.

Accordingly we are reprinting the article herewith. Several entirely new events have been added.

ABOUT this time every year the sports and pastimes committees of the clubs throughout the country are busily at work planning their schedules of golf events for the coming season. There are certain standard events that will appear in all these schedules, but the committees are always on the lookout for a little variety through the year and welcome knowledge of events that are a trifle different from the usual run.

## ONE-DAY EVENTS

### Individual Play.

(A)—*Medal play* (generally full handicap). On 18 holes; on odd numbered holes; on even numbered holes; on even holes first-9, odd holes second-9; on 3-par holes; on 4-par holes.

(B)—*Match play vs. par* ( $\frac{3}{4}$  handicap or full handicap). On full 18-holes; on odd holes; on even holes; on even holes first-9, odd holes second-9, or vice versa; on 3-par holes; on 4-par holes.

(C)—*Blind bogey event*. Players estimate their own net scores before leaving first tee. Player closest to "blind" bogey figure selected by committee is winner.

(D)—*Kickers' tournament*. Contestants may re-play one shot on each hole, putts excepted.

(E)—*One-club event*. Players carry only one club (a midiron, mashie, or the like) and must use it for all shots on the round.

(F)—*Tombstone event* (sometimes known as a flag event). Each player is given a small marker at the first tee and continues to play until he has taken as many strokes as the par of the course, plus his handicap. The player leaves his marker wherever his ball lies after this last stroke and contestant going the farthest around the course is the winner.

(G)—*Fewest putts*. On this event shots

from outside the clipped surface of the putting greens are not considered putts.

(H)—*Most 3's, 4's or 5's on the round*.

(I)—*Sweepstakes*. Players entering the event sign up for one golf ball each. Player with best score takes three-quarters of the balls. Player with second best score takes balance.

(J)—*Point Tourney*. Players are awarded 3 points for each birdie scored, 2 points for each par, 1 point for each hole played in one stroke over par. Player under full handicap; winner is player with most points at end of round.

(K)—*Miniature Tourney*. Contestants, playing under  $\frac{3}{4}$  handicap, play nine holes in morning to qualify. Are then divided into flights of 8 players each; three match-play rounds of nine holes each determine winner and runner-up of each flight.

(L)—*Obstacle Tourney*. Played with or without handicap. Each hole presents some obstacle, (such as a stake to one side of fairway that must be played around, or a barrel just short of the green that must be played through).

### Twosome Play.

Many of the events listed above, under *Individual Play*, will apply equally well to twosomes and therefore will not be listed here. In addition there are the following special events for twosomes:

(A)—*Choice score*. On 18 holes, odd numbered holes, even numbered holes, or blind holes (generally half the holes of the course, but unknown to the players). In a twosome best-ball contest the score of the player taking the fewer shots, handicap considered, on a given hole, is used.

(B)—More interesting twosome events are where one ball is used, the two players stroking alternately. In such one-ball events all of the contests listed under