

It's Better Compost

West Orange, N. J., February 29, 1929.

Dear Sirs :---

I would not be without my "Royer" for anything. In the Spring especially, one can screen compost with it that would be much too wet for any other type of screen. On different occasions I have screened enough compost on Saturday morning with two men, to Top Dress all my greens on Monday.

Stolons from the Nursery to be planted, I also put thru the Royer. They are then ready for planting, and the finer material that drops close to the machine, is ideal for covering them. Sincerely yours,

> J. Anderson, Greenkeeper, Crestmont Golf Club.

Manufactured by

ROYER FOUNDRY & MACHINE CO.

158 Pringle Street

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Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

FOR SALE BY LEADING GOLF EQUIPMENT DEALERS

Only reliable companies are allowed to advertise in GOLFDOM.

"more in a mower"

Because

A deferred payment plan on ROSEMAN MOWERS and TRACTORS makes it possible for smaller clubs to share with ALL CHAMPIONSHIP courses, the advantages of ROSEMAN equipment.

They build a dense turf produce a healthy root They multiply the number of roots prevent scalping eliminate cuppy lies 26 cause grass roots to spread and 11 cover blank spots and 20 retain the moisture in the soil cut cleaner 66 are non-breakable eliminate repair bills 66 separate rolling

- ' reduce maintenance expense
- " outlast all other mowers
- " cost more to build, but
- " are most economical, and
 - ' are the only

"TURF BUILDING MOWERS"

They reduce greenkeepers' worries "mow both fairway and rough



Makers of Roseman Hollow Roller Type Mowers for Fairway and Rough

810 Church Street EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

or

11 W. 42nd Street NEW YORK, N. Y.



Are YOUR CONGRESSMEN Mind Readers?

Y OU pay a penalty for apparently believing your U. S. senators and representative are mind-readers. That discriminatory and antiquated 10 per cent tax burden the golf clubs are staggering under exists because your men in Congress don't know that the war-time tax imposed on golf clubs and increased in 1928 is a serious back-breaking burden.

You and almost 2,000,000 other golfers cast your votes and probably feed the party campaign fund so you've as good a right as any free-born citizen to get consideration. But what's your congressman going to do about your golf club taxes if you don't tell him the facts of the situation?

Do you realize that the golf club tax means, to the average club, the total of the capital investment in 10 years; that rebuilding a clubhouse destroyed by fire involves a 10 per cent tax penalty; that small golf clubs deserving of encouragement are being forced almost hopelessly into the hole by the unjust tax; that frequently a golf club is penalized 10 per cent for paying its bills? You probably do, when you think over this golf club tax, BUT your senators and representative don't. That's why you are having to stand this penalty.

Now is the time for every golfer, every golf club, every association and every golf goods manufacturer and supply house to acquaint his representatives in Congress with the urgent need of relief.

The United States Golf Association is sending bulletins this month to every golf club official telling of the various phases of the situation. If you want relief, the next move is up to you. Write your representatives in Congress without delay and put the case for simple justice to the golf clubs up to them.

If you want to keep on "letting George do it" your congressmen may go on thinking the war is still raging around the golf clubs and that golf is only a rich man's game. You can't blame them any more than you can yourself, if you don't take your due part in a righteous bit of lobbying, done simply to acquaint Congress with the indisputable need and justice of a sharp revision downward, if not the practical elimination, of golf club national taxes. The clubs stand heavy enough local taxes, heaven knows, and have a good break coming somewhere along the line.

How about it? It's your turn to drive.

GOLFDOM

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GUIDING STARS They See Green.

By HENRY C. THOMPSON [Green-Chairman, Oriental C. C., Nashville, Tenn.

GREEN-CHAIRMAN'S major duty is keeping the players satisfied. Complete success in this is beyond human ability. though a bit of judicial lying by the greenchairman and the pro will be able to keep in a fair humor the club "grouch" who usually goes around in 100 to 120 and actually counts 90. All clubs have several such gentlemen. Next is giving the real golfer, who rarely if ever makes a complaint, the best possible putting greens and fairways and at the same time keeping within the budget allowed by the finance committee. And, brother, this committee is a "pain" to all green-chairmen, as your newly elected will soon find out.

I have been chairman of greens at the Oriental Country club for some four or five years and during that period have learned a good many valuable things, some by sad experience.

Our club is operated on a budget basis, each committee being allowed so much per month. We know what our weekly payroll will be, also what improvements we wish to make on greens and fairways, this information being gathered from players and our associate committee members. The cost of this work we ascertain, then take total pay-roll together with replacement of worn equipment, with cost of improvements, and add 20 per cent for emergency and the green-chairman has his budget. Then fight it out with Mr. Finance Chairman—and don't give up.

Has Club P. A.

Our club found that by appointing a purchasing agent, one of our board, we get the most for our money. The chairman of each committee notifies this gentleman of his needs and he does the rest. Believe me, when the purchase is not satisfactory his life is anything but pleasant for a time, though am happy to say that in our case this gentleman's hair is not entirely white. Six experienced green-chairmen give the outline of the policies and practices that have worked successfully at their clubs. New greenchairmen will find these pointers highly valuable in helping them establish effective platforms. Greenkeepers, too, get a helpful close-

The green-chairman, with a good greenkeeper, has a very pleasant job and in my opinion, by following the greenkeeper's suggestions, where he knows his business, will seldom make a mistake.

By R. D. STEVENS Green-Chairman Wildwood G. C., Middletown, O.

THE head of a committee in charge of a golf course has a thankless job. I have been chairman of the green-committee for five years and I know just about what green-chairmen are up against.

In selecting a green-chairman you should select a man who is interested and is willing to put forth a lot of effort. I visit the course every day of golf season and put in from one to five hours at each visit. Greenchairman should have full charge of the maintenance of the course and the keeper should take orders from no one other than the chairman. You should have an official meeting once a month during the season. Any changes or complaints should be taken up at these meetings and the chairman should have same executed accordingly. When you get a good chairman, keep him; do not change him each year, because it takes about two years for a green-chairman to learn a golf course. Do not put more than one on the committee with him. If he is the right kind of a man, do not put anyone on with him. After you have selected the right kind of a chairman, get a greenkeeper who is willing to work, knows how to handle men, equipment, and knows soil and what it needs. Let the greenkeeper hire the number of men it takes to keep

Tell New Men How Chairman's Job

up on the attitude and operations of good chairmen. The men who contribute to this symposium are Henry C. Thompson, R. D. Stevens, Joseph S. Young, James Baird, I. L. Graves, A. K. Bentley and an eastern greenchairman who prefers to remain anonymous.

the course in shape. (We run our 18 hole course with five men and a keeper in season, and two men and a keeper off season.)

After you have the right chairman and keeper it is their duty to work together and keep the course in the very best condition. Each course is different and some are harder to take care of than others, therefore each course governs its own conditions.

If the greenkeeper needs anything that has to be purchased, he takes it up with the chairman, who authorizes him to purchase same unless it is a major item which is presented at a regular meeting and is passed on by the board.

Of course it is hard to satisfy the entire membership, but we try. If a member has a complaint or suggestion to make he takes it up with an official and, in turn, he brings same up at a regular meeting.

Regarding finances, at our club the greenchairman has nothing to do with that at all. We make up a budget at the first of the year and we are not allowed to exceed our budget.

By JOSEPH S. YOUNG, Chairman, Green-Committee, Lehigh C. C., Allentown, Pa.

A LTHOUGH I have been interested in golf since I learned to play the game at the age of twelve, I was not faced with the responsibility of holding down a position as chairman of a green-committee until five years ago. Up to that time I had had a chance to play most of the courses in and around the New York, Philadelphia and Boston districts, and I thought that I knew, or should know, something about course maintenance. It was not until I started to organize a greens crew and began to map out the practical work on a golf course that I realized that greenkeeping and golfing are two entirely distinct professions.

Greenkeeping is a highly specialized profession. It requires at least a passing knowledge of chemistry, pathology, dendrology, horticulture and agriculture. Some of our universities are just beginning to realize that this particular field of study is of tremendous economic importance. It would be very interesting if someone could tabulate the overall percentage of investment in golf courses throughout the country as against the overall investment in certain classes of farm lands. Whatever the total capital outlay may be, certainly it is safe to assume that there are in the United States many millions of dollars tied up in the purchase of golf lands and the construction of golf courses. Such investment warrants more and more research into the infinite problems of greenkeeping.

Fortunately for those of us who cannot afford the time to attend some of the courses of instruction that are already being given at several universities, there are a few, entirely too few, manuals on the general subject of golf course maintenance. Although these books are written in such general terms as rarely to be of service in meeting a specific local problem, nevertheless they do provide the fundamentals which serve in many cases as most helpful guides. In addition, the bulletins of the U. S. G. A. Green Section usually contain invaluable information on subjects of particular interest at the moment.

My first suggestion to a newly appointed member of a green committee is, therefore, "Learn something about the general principles of course maintenance." If you once get the background you can the more readily discuss matters intelligently with your greenkeeper and you can the more effectively control your course expenditures.

Having absorbed some of the fundamentals, the next step is the application of this general information to your own specific problems. Hardly ever will identical methods of turf treatment in one locality bring about identical results in another part of the country. Even as between neighboring courses there often is a marked disparity in the results that can be obtained by the same type of treatment. The alkaline clays of eastern Pennsylvania, for instance, are quite different chemically and physically from the sandy loams of Long Island. Certain varieties of grasses of necessity grow better in one soil than in another. Some soil is too acid to encourage healthy turf; other soil far too alkaline.

My second suggestion, therefore, is "Don't think that because a certain type of treatment is successful in one district that it therefore must bring about satisfactory results elsewhere." Unless you are convinced that some new kind or method of treatment is fundamentally sound, experiment a bit with it before adopting it on your course.

My third and last suggestion is, "Work with your greenkeeper." Your greenkeeper, if you are fortunate enough to have an able one, knows infinitely more about the practical side of course maintenance than you do. In time you are bound to absorb a good deal of information merely by contact, but at the start he is the one who knows the job.

Treat your greenkeeper as you would a trusted lieutenant in your own business. He is not a gardener—he is a highly trained professional. Don't interfere too much with the work on the course. Map out some system of organization and develop a schedule of work and then stick to it. If it becomes necessary to criticize, never do so before any of your greens crew. Protect your greenkeeper from all unnecessary interference by overly zealous golfers and place him under your direct and sole jurisdiction.

For the fellows on the green-committee, at least, golf course maintenance is partly a business and partly a game. The business side of it requires sound financial judgment and considerable executive ability. The burden of administrative and financial responsibility, however, is more than outweighed by the pleasure that comes from the study of natural problems and the satisfaction that is derived from watching the gradual evolution of a golf course. I know of no more delightful occupation than greenkeeping in its professional sense and I heartily recommend the study and pursuit of it to all newly elected members of green-committees.

By I. L. GRAVES

Green-Chairman, Cherokee C. C., Knoxville, Tenn.

A FTER ten years as green chairman of the Cherokee Country Club at Knoxville, Tennessee, I feel justified in making the following observations, some of which are vain repetitions to greenchairman of experience.

First. The green-chairman of the golf club must be prepared to smilingly meet harsh criticism from his fellow club members, many of whom have not the slightest conception of what the chairman is trying to work out or the fundamentals thereof. If a fellow can't face this necessity philosophically and cheerfully he had better lay off the job.

Second. The average individual on first taking over the job of green-chairman is a "babe in the woods" as to what is expected of him and how he will accomplish it, for the very excellent reason that efficiency in this position necessitates a certain amount of technical experience, which very few lay members of a golf club possess. Consequently, a newly appointed chairman must realize at the very beginning that he has lots to learn and must set about his job with a spirit of humility in this particular.

Get a Good Greenkeeper

Third. The first move of a green-chairman should be to insist that his budget shall carry a sum sufficient to pay for a competent greenkeeper in whose selection the green-chairman should consult every experienced source of information, meaning by this, U. S. G. A. Green Section, other golf clubs to whom references are made by applicants, and any other probable source of reliable information as to the applicant's knowledge and efficiency.

Fourth. Having chosen a greenkeeper, rely largely upon his expert knowledge and advice, and interfere with his plans only where an obvious mistake is about to be made. By this latter suggestion I mean that a green-chairman, presumably being fully acquainted with the personnel of the club administration and its membership, will be able to steer the greenkeeper away from unnecessary and unprofitable arguments with "doubting Thomases" whose



This home of the Kildeer Country club (Chicago district) was built in two sections; the locker-room section at the right being the first constructed.

ignorance is in inverse ratio to their desire to be heard. A green-chairman also is supposed to be acquainted with climatic conditions in his location and may be able to warn a greenkeeper (especially one who is just taking hold against unusual conditions or climate in the locality. But in most matters relating to turf culture, employment and handling of labor, selection and maintenance of course equipment, and other technical activities, the greenkeeper should not be interfered with and should be placed upon his individual mettle.

Fifth. The green-chairman should insist that the club administration budget the golf expense and name a fixed sum for annual upkeep which he, in turn, should feel a sacred duty to observe. This will involve frequent consultations with the greenkeeper, studying course needs with respect to equipment, and carefully checking pay roll requirements to avoid waste which so easily can occur in this phase of course maintenance.

Sixth. The green-chairman should insist upon the club administration becoming a member of the Green Section of U. S. G. A. to secure benefit of the constant study of turf culture and development being made by that useful organization, and that they should subscribe to all publications carrying the results of observations by greenkeepers and green-chairmen of turf development in various parts of the country. All of these publications should come to the green-chairman as well as to the greenkeeper and should be religiously read and studied by both of these individuals—individually and jointly.

The Liason Officer

Seventh. Finally, the green-chairman, having transformed himself into a diplo-

mat, should specifically invite criticisms and suggestions from his fellow club members, reserving absolutely and without qualification his right to accept or reject all such intended aids. As indicated above, many of these criticisms and suggestions will have a sharp edge and will be difficult to bear but it is the writer's experience that out of the multitude of minds and their expression there is always some wisdom to be achieved. Furthermore, an autocrat in any walk of life rarely ever enjoys the fellowship and co-operation of his associates, and the green-chairman who expects his fellow members to replace the turf, to assist in caddy control, to report injuries to the golf course from any cause-in other words, to offer the fullest co-operationmust convince them of his own good nature. One of the best methods in this pursuit is to make real companions of his fellow members rather than a group of indifferent-if not actually resentful-"subjects."

By JAMES BAIRD

Green-Chairman, Scarsdale Golf Club, Hartsdale, N.Y.

O UR grounds-keeper, Rocco Lemonjellei, has served the club for about twentynine years, and naturally I would consider him to be an experienced greenkeeper. In the opinion of the members of our club there is no better one, though Lemonjellei never desires any publicity and is not widely known. His greens and course generally are kept in a condition, that is, in the opinion of the members of the club, not excelled elsewhere.

We set up a budget each year to finance

(Continued on page 67)

PROS Clear Path for 1930 ADVANCE

By ALEX PIRIE

President, Professional Golfers' Association of America

I have business history 1929 will go down as the year in which the business development efforts of the P. G. A. brought forth the first bumper harvest.

The closing months of 1929 saw the pro interests progress in two notable steps; the increase of the P. G. A. dues to \$50 and a new sliding scale discount arrangement with the manufacturers. In my opinion these two actions have made it definitely certain that 1930 will be the best year since pro golf in the U. S. became a real business.

Increase of the P. G. A. dues to \$50 means that sum is paid into the national professional organization by each pro, in addition to his dues to his sectional P. G. A. body. The pros are determined to finance their business advance sufficiently to provide for substantial and speedy results. One of the first uses for the amount thus raised is to finance a business administrator who will organize and execute. with a capable and active staff at his command, the various details of work we realize is necessary for our own good, that of our clubs and members and of the manufacturers with whom we do business. Who this man will be is impossible to state at this time. Due to one of the pros' greatest assets, the warm friendship and inter-

est of some of the biggest men in American affairs as well as of others highly able but less known nationally, we have a wide field of potential administrators to whom we might extend our invitation to undertake this great responsibility. It is a case of the job seeking the man. The tremendous and inviting opportunity to advance the game and the exceedingly interesting character of the work undoubtedly will be far more attractive factors to the administrator we will get than

the financial detail of this man's reward. Pro Job Calls for a Star

The appointment of a business administrator by the pros is a move unique in American business, considering the various angles of the pro situation. It is something that we consider highly important to the welfare of the game and ourselves but not because we conceive it even remotely possible for pro golf to get into a place where it requires some outsider to govern and establish confidence in the integrity of the field as was the case in baseball and in the movies. Rather do we want "one of our own" in spirit, if not in previous business alignment, to counsel us, mobilize and employ our unified strength and to represent us to our employers, the club members. We want to make known and utilize, to the fullest extent, our potentialities for greater earnings for ourselves from greater service to our members.

Dues Increase Offset Quickly

Action of the pros in agreeing upon \$50 P. G. A. of America annual dues promptly brought a return that in actual cash far exceeds the total involved in the dues increase. Representatives of the P. G. A. meeting with representatives of the club and ball manufacturers' associations early

> in December, arranged for a new discount scale on pro business. This new scale puts a very inviting reward in the pockets of the pro who pays strict attention to those vital elements of prompt payment and turnover.

> From every informed source there is ample evidence that the pro credit situation is, and has been for the past few years, in such good shape that no other industry operating one-man businesses can claim the high credit rating that is one of the pros' prized posses



Alex Pirie, for four terms the far-seeing and constructive pilot of the P. G. A.

JANUARY, 1930

sions. The P. G. A. will not be content until it has this part of the business to the extreme of human perfection. With the new factor of better discounts that has been placed in our hands the P. G. A. has a 1930 platform of still more rigid enforcement of a 100% credit rating as a prime qualification for membership. As this arrangement was effected for pros by the P. G. A. the P. G. A. very willingly undertakes the policing power that is at least our moral obligation, due the manufacturer.

Group Buying Is Out

Pro collective buying under the auspices of the P. G. A. has been eliminated from matters under consideration, due to the expensive and complicated distribution machinery involved. Abandonment of this matter after extensive investigation by our committee and after the new arrangements were made with the manufacturers leaves us free to focus important committee activities on merchandising education, employment and club relations. We have only to look into the bags in our racks to see what a huge unworked market we have right before us. For the good of our members, ourselves and the manufacturers 1930 snould see us greatly developing sales of merchandise and instruction.

So, each pro who is worthy of his profession looks forward to the New Year starting as affording him his best chance to date of making himself recognized as a major factor in advancing the game.

AN EX-PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I F I WERE accepting the presidency for the first time and was not familiar at all with the workings of a golf club organization, I would highly appreciate a written report and a letter of recommendation by the chairman of each standing committee and especially from the secretary of the club. I would follow the same policy in organizing the new administration as outlined above for the reason that it is in accordance with the by-laws of our club and also is so simplified as to be very effective and has worked out in general practice for the good of the organization. I feel that an organization should not be too complex, neither should it be too elaborate and the closer the Board of Governors or the officers work together, the better results will be reflected at the end of the year.

BETTER weed out crab grass while it is small. The longer you put it off the more difficult will be the job and the greater will be the damage done the turf.

No Joy in Championships for the Greenkeeper

HERB SHAVE, greenkeeper at the Oakland Hills C. C., Birmingham, Mich., is one of those in the business who can say that when a major championship is granted the greenkeeper's troubles begin.

Now that it's all over and those who attended the Women's National event, in any capacity, came away from Oakland Hills impressed with its excellent greens, the story of what Herb was up against can be told. The weather man kidded him along at the start of the season, and then started dealing to Shave from the bottom of the deck. Let the presiding genius of the Birmingham establishment tell the tale in his own words:

"We started the spring work under very wet conditions, and continued till June 15th with good growing weather; in fact, too good to last. We sure had our troubles from then on. From that date we had two showers of from one to two hours' duration, with one day's rain in July. After that, rain was something we did not know till September 28th, which was Saturday. It started Saturday night and stopped Sunday morning around 10 o'clock.

"Our fairways, up to that time, had been nothing but dried up grass, our water supply at that time being inadequate for fairway sprinkling. In fact, I was lucky to be able to keep my tees and greens.

"We had the Women's National from September 30 to October 5th, and, like all brother greenskeepers, I wanted to have my course in as good shape as possible to get it.

"Fairways had to go as they were, and I devoted my time and patience to greens and tees. Two weeks before the tournament I top-dressed with two yards clean sharp sand per green, and gave them a shot of sulphate to cheer them up. I was very much pleased the way they came along

"My club members had been telling me all summer that the greens were in the finest condition they had ever seen them, and when the U. S. G. A. officials and the women players passed out so many compliments about the condition of the whole course I just called it the best work I did for the season of 1929."

Green Section Annual Meet at New York, Jan. 10

NNUAL meeting of the United States A Golf Association Green Section will be held in New York City at the Hotel Biltmore on Friday, January 10, 1930. In the past few years the annual winter meeting has consisted of three sessions, two on Friday and one on Saturday morning, at each of which there have been addresses on various subjects related to golf course maintenance. This year it is planned to limit the formal program to a single session. This reduction is considered advisable chiefly because of the recent development of the summer meetings. The new experimental and demonstration turf gardens under the supervision of the Green Section have afforded a new means for presenting information of value to those interested in turf culture under widely different climatic conditions. It is felt that most turf problems can be much more effectually discussed where methods and results are available for first hand examination and comparison than is possible in assembly halls.

During the past summer the Green Section staff, through the medium of two large sectional meetings at Washington and Chicago and local meetings on its demonstration gardens, was afforded an opportunity to discuss turf problems with well over 600 individuals representing golf clubs scattered throughout the country. In addition to the large number reached in this manner the Green Section work has been carried to many hundreds during the past year through visits of interested individuals to the turf gardens at Washington and Chicago at times other than the summer meeting days; through visits to golf clubs by the Green Section staff; and by meetings of many sectional organizations at which members of the Green Section staff have been invited to discuss their work. Since this method has proved so satisfactory this year, both from the standpoint of those who attend these meetings and the Green Section staff, and since every indication points to even larger attendance at such meetings next season, it has been decided to condense the program at the indoor winter meeting.

The formal program of the Green Section meeting will begin promptly at 1 o'clock Friday afternoon. A résumé will be given of the Green Section activities for the year, together with a brief summary of the more interesting experimental results. Following the Green Section report there will be a short program by four speakers: Dr. K. F. Kellerman, associate chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, will discuss scientific agricultural developments and their application to greenkeeping; Prof. F. H. Hillman of the seed laboratory of the United States Department of Agriculture, will speak on the problem of bent seed production, identification, and adulteration; Cornelius S. Lee, Tuxedo Park, New York, who is chairman of the green committee of the Jekyl Island Club, Brunswick, Ga., and Dr. T. P. Tinman, for many years chairman of the green-committee of the Druid Hills Golf Club, Atlanta, Ga., will discuss southern golf turf problems. During Friday morning and the afternoon following the program, the Green Section will have on display in the hotel an exhibit of various golf course grass seeds, fertliizers, different types and constituents of soils. and other items pertaining to turf maintenance. As at all other meetings sponsored by the Green Section, attendance is not limited to membership in the United States Golf association.

A S a means of drawing high handicap and low handicap golfers into the same foursome and thus furthering club fellowship and spirit, the Butler County Country Club, Hamilton, O., each year holds an event known to them as the "Load and Lifter" tournament.

"This tournament," describes Homer Gard, president of the club, "is a two-ball foursome. One of the players is a good player and his partner is a poor player. One is a load and the other a lifter. One is a 4-, 6-, or 8-handicap man and the other is an 18-, 20-, or 24-handicap man.

"In using a good player and a poor player together as partners in a two-ball foursome, our club has worked up the most interesting event of the whole series. It brings together players who never play with each other at any other time, and by giving extraordinary nice prizes, it is an event that is looked forward to each year with a good deal of interest."

Preventing the development of wellentrenched cliques in a country club is most important in assuring harmonious operation, and the Load-and-Lifter tournnament, properly sponsored and ballyhooed, is recommended toward this end.