

above its separate entrance, adjacent to the driveway. There are contained in this women's wing, complete shower and wash-room facilities and space for coats and maid service, both on the first and second floor levels. These quarters are also directly connected with the main lounge and the telephone service.

The dining room and lounge, with their high-trussed ceilings, are arranged for dancing; and their connection with the music room and the main foyer, makes it possible to open these rooms into one large suite for club functions requiring the maximum area. Ceilings of these rooms are of insulating material which is also sound-deadening, and will be finished in neutral blue, offset by antiqued wood beams and trusses.

Situated between the dining room and lounge is a music room with vaulted ceiling, from which music may be heard in all main club rooms for either dancing or dining.

#### Grill Is Well Placed

Opening from the main foyer is a passage which leads to the men's and women's grill. This room is of medium size and contains a large brick and oak fireplace and is directly connected with the service from the kitchen. It will prove a very popular spot in the club's activities for cocktail parties or informal gatherings after golf.

The bar opens into the grill and into the men's locker-room. Equipment of the bar will be complete in every respect to take care of the needs and customs of the former clubs.

The men's and women's locker-rooms, both with high ceilings, will contain steel lockers set on closed enamel bases, with seven-foot aisles and wide benches between. They will have the most up to date and efficient equipment obtainable.

A unit heating system in the men's locker-room will furnish heat in cold weather and re-circulation of air during the summer months. Shower rooms will be of marble and tile and there will be forced ventilation.

The swimming pool is of regulation championship size, 35'x75', with a wide concrete walk around, and terraces and steps leading to it from the clubhouse. At each side of the pool are locker, toilet, and shower facilities for boys and girls.

## Finds Drives of 1,000 Yards Are Easy —If You're in Mexico!

**PAUL HARGRAVE**, representative of the L. A. Young Golf Co. in Georgia and the Carolinas, took \$50 and a Texas friend and ventured into Mexico in early January for a 7-day vacation. In reporting on his trip, Paul says:

"They laughed when we departed from the United States with two sets of golf clubs, because it seems that tourists who enter Mexico seldom have time for golf. We decided that as exceptions we were



Hargrave starting one of his 1,000-yard "power" drives.

going to prove no rules when notice was given us that the green-fee at the Mexico City CC was \$10. Although this represents only \$2.80 in American currency, it is still a startling figure.

"On one occasion, however, we paused long enough on the road between Mexico City and Monterrey to line out a few practice shots. Although we could not avail ourselves of the exact distances involved, our calculations aided by an elevation graph revealed that our drives came to rest after traveling 1,000 yards!

"Now, we are not claiming any records for these long distance clouts, because they were not entirely examples of skill, although I think my low, diving hook possessed more distance gaining qualities than a straight shot due to the possibility of the former getting in more carom shots off protruding rocks, etc., during the course of its trajectory. Moreover, it is only fair that some credit be given to the law of gravity. After all, this element did play some small part in the collection of such a large quantity of yardage."

# NAGA CONVENTION READY

**P**LANS are virtually completed for the twelfth annual convention and show of the National Association of Greenkeepers at the Hotel Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, on Feb. 15-18. Space in the exhibition hall, where the latest in turf maintenance equipment and supplies will be on display, is going fast, with only a few booths remaining unsold, according to Frank Ermer, chairman of the show committee. Educational Conference program has been released and indicates a well-rounded and interesting set of papers on schedule for the afternoons of Feb. 16 and 17.

The exhibits and the delegates' meeting of the convention are planned for Feb. 15, with the first membership meeting scheduled for the morning of the following day. That afternoon, the first conference will be opened by Ralph King, director of the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station at Syracuse, N. Y., who will speak on "Golf Courses as Wild Life Sanctuaries."

## Program Promises Valuable Talks

He will be followed by James Morrison, green-chairman, Cincinnati CC, whose topic is "A Chairman's Viewpoint," and by Dr. R. J. Garber, pasture land research director, Penn State college, who will discuss "The Selection of Grasses." Final paper of the session, to be presented by Fred V. Grau of Penn State and illustrated with slides, is on the International Grasslands congress, held last July in Great Britain.

J. S. Houser, head of the department of Entomology, Ohio State experiment station, opens the second conference, on the 17th, with a talk on "Turf Pests," to be followed by W. A. Natorp, Cincinnati landscape architect, with a paper on "Beautifying the Golf Course." John Monteith, Jr., Green Section head, will then discuss "Development of New Types of Grasses." Fourth paper of the session will be "Methods of Golf Course Construction and Maintenance in Southern California," by William H. Johnson, Griffith Park, Los Angeles. The educational program will end after the delegates are shown movies of construction of the Ohio State U. golf course; John S. McCoy, green-

keeper of the OSU layout, will act as commentator.

The annual banquet will be held on the evening of Feb. 16 and the final business meeting and annual election will take place on Feb. 18.

Exhibitors booked for the Cincinnati convention:

All-Purpose Spreader Co.; American Agricultural Chemical Co.; American Hydrolyzer Co.; Bayer-Semesan Co.; John Bean Mfg. Co.; Buckner Mfg. Co.; Carpenter Tool Co.; C. B. Dolge Co.; S. L. Dryfoos; Friend Mfg. Co.; General Chemical Co.; Golfdom; Goulard & Olena; Hardie Mfg. Co.; Ideal Power Lawn Mower Co.; Indianapolis Toro Co.; Chas. Ingersoll Co.; International Harvester Co.; Jacobsen Mfg. Co.; Johns-Manville; Malinckrodt Chemical Works; McClain Bros. Co.; Milwaukee Sewerage Commission; L. R. Nelson Mfg. Co.; Pennsylvania Lawn Mower Co.; Chas. Pfizer & Co., Inc.; Perfection Sprinkler Co.; Root Mfg. Co.; Roseman Tractor Mower Co.; O. M. Scott & Sons Co.; Sherwin Williams Co.; Skinner Irrigation Co.; Standard Mfg. Co.; Stump & Walter Co.; S. W. Thompson Co.; Toro Mfg. Corp.; D. R. Van Atta Seed Co.; J. R. Wood Supply Co.; Worthington Mower Co.

**O**FFICERS of the Midwest Greenkeepers' Assn. for 1938 were chosen at a meeting of the organization Jan. 5. Approximately 35 attended the affair. O. J. Noer, Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, was the principal speaker at the business meeting which followed the election of officers.

John McGregor, Chicago GC, was re-elected president; Harold Clemons, Sunset Ridge CC, 1st v.p.; Graham Gardner, Park Ridge CC, 2nd v.p.; A. A. Germann, Naperville CC, secy.-treas. New directors chosen were Al Lesperance, Westmoreland CC; C. A. Tregillus, Lasker's Mill Road Farm Cse.; Frank Dinelli, Northmoor CC.

# MANAGERS SEEK DATA EXCHANGE

By HERB GRAFFIS

**T**HERE is bright promise that the 10% tax on club initiation fees and dues will be repealed this year, according to the report made by Darwin Meisnest at the twelfth annual convention of the Club Managers Association of America, held Jan. 18-20, at Hotel Peabody, Memphis, Tenn.

Meisnest, head of the managers' committee engaged in seeking relief from the nuisance tax, said that the tax had accounted for about \$6,000,000 paid annually during 1935, 1936 and 1937 by approximately 750,000 members of country and city clubs. This tiny splash in the \$3,500,000,000 annual internal national government taxes costs more to collect and handle than its gross represents. It has not proved to be a luxury tax; instead, brought before club members monthly, the tax merely serves as a reminder of political mismanagement and extravagance.

The national association's first convention visit to the south achieved the desired effect of stirring up lively cooperative interest of the southern managers. In addition to increased association activity of southern managers, new chapters of the National organization were formed in Denver, New Jersey and in western New York during the year.

Routine reports revealed the association is in substantial condition.

## Crawford Elected President

Fred Crawford, manager of the Penden club, Louisville, was elected president of the CMAA; Wayne Miller, manager of the Cincinnati (O.) CC was elected sec. and Wm. Roulo, manager of the University Club of Detroit, treas. New directors elected were: Elmer Ries, Colonial CC, Memphis; Wm. Norcross, Essex County CC, West Orange, N. J.; Charles Bangs, Oak Park (Ill.) CC; and Darwin Meisnest, Washington AC, Seattle.

The new administration received two assignments at the Memphis convention. One was to arrange for 100% membership in the national organization by members of local chapters. The other was to pattern general activities of the organization somewhat on the order of the work done by the Washington State Federation of City and Country Clubs. The Washington organi-

zation, among other performances, publishes a loose-leaf notebook which is supplied to managers, officers and directors of member clubs. Among the data supplied is information concerning liquor legislation, industrial insurance, unionization of employees, minutes of managers' meeting, and other material of educational and operating value. During 1937 the Washington association sent 28 form letters to member clubs posting them on matters of importance to club officials.

## To Serve as Clearing House

The national managers' group was urged to supply its member managers with data, statistics and information that would make each member more efficient in his job. It also was asked to function more actively as a clearing house for "inside" information concerning club operations, market trends, unionizing effects, financial data, etc., which now must be secured by individual effort.

Chief advocate of speedily adopting a policy to make the association more active in the collection, coordination and proper dissemination of operating data was the same Darwin Meisnest who has been doing the association's research and leg work on the tax subject.

Informal discussions between the association members at Memphis echoed the plea for setting up data-collecting machinery. At present the country and city clubs both suffer from an almost complete inability to secure comparative operating data, as progress in this direction seems to have been stubbornly blocked by the traditional suspicion that "all clubs are different."

Chapter reports received by President MacGoogan, who presided at the Memphis meeting, indicated a strong development in the educational phases of chapter activities. The Chicago, Boston, Detroit, Ohio, Val-

ley, and Philadelphia chapters reported educational sessions were main features of their meetings.

#### Club Pays 36 Different Taxes

The Meisnest address on taxes was the high spot of the educational program. He pointed out that at his clubs there were 11 different kinds of federal taxes, 21 different taxes to the state of Washington, 2 to the county government and 2 to the city of Seattle. In addition the club had to pay several license fees. He expressed grave alarm not only at the club peril from excessive taxation, but in the national danger. He recommended that clubs engage tax experts capable of interpreting tax laws, and that managers pass along taxes in their charges rather than try to absorb the taxes and end up in trouble.

Dr. L. M. Graves, supt. of the Memphis Health Dept., talked on the cleanliness and health of club employees, a subject of concern to club managers because of the lack of proper accommodations for employees at many clubs, and because of the high turnover in clubhouse labor during recent years. Dr. Graves passed out impressive bacteriological data that recommended steam dishwashing. He stressed the personal equation rather than inspection formalities in maintaining first class sanitary conditions in food preparation and service.

Tom Jones, veteran manager of the Harvard Club, Boston, spoke on the practical value of inspiration and cited specific instances where managers' hunches had been profitable to clubs and their employees.

"What does the club member get for his dues?" was outlined by Charles Bangs of the Oak Park (Ill.) CC. Bangs named anticipation of each detail of the members' desire for excellent personal service, as the basic value of club membership so far as the managers' responsibility is concerned. This subject brought forth brisk discussion. Fred Wood, manager of the Denver AC, remarked that one thing the new member ought to get, but generally doesn't, is more personal attention in making him acquainted with the facilities of the club. Wood also chipped in an answer to critics who ask what they get out of association membership by telling how prompt responses from fellow members of the Managers' association had helped him and his board with a problem of menu charges.

The boys all reported having trouble

with members who complain that club prices are higher than they are charged at the Acropolis No. 1 restaurant. Bill Norcross, Essex County manager takes such complainants through a tour of the stockroom and kitchen and explains comparative costs and qualities of foods. The complainers become missionaries for the club after he has given them their education. Jack Febel, manager of Northmoor CC, brought out that the wholesome contacts and supervision children are given around a top-grade country club makes membership in such a club a profitable investment for the member.

Norman Ready of the Denver Club detailed why there is no first class club that has all departments that can break even or operate profitably. This subject was argued smartly, the consensus being that no effort should be spared to make departments operate at individual profits, although the job was virtually hopeless. Repeatedly it was brought out that the bar has been the life-saver for club financial operation.

#### Let Contractor Build Pool

Frank Murray, Ravisloe CC, spoke on swimming pools and strongly advised any club building a new pool to begin with total drainage, or construction work probably would be seriously delayed because of the hole filling up with seepage water. He also advised that the club not build the pool itself but pay a competent, responsible contractor his profit and save expensive headaches. Murray gave considerable information on operating pools. Among other things he said to serve drinks at pools in paper or composition cups because breakage of glass is dangerous and expensive in the vicinity of pools. Murray said the Ravisloe pool brought increased restaurant and buffet business to an extent that justified its expense.

Frank G. Laird, membership chairman of the Columbia Club, Indianapolis, spoke on the value of a permanent membership committee and on selling memberships. Laird pointed out the success of employing a permanent membership chairman who was virtually sales manager on memberships at larger clubs where extent of operations would permit such hiring. Laird said that most clubs are negligent in welcoming possible new members to town. He also remarked that clubs have a serious flaw in membership solicitations in their failure to keep after former members who had resigned for various reasons.

A prospect list that is worked steadily and with dignity is the basis of any good campaign for members, Laird mentioned.

Considerable discussion followed the Laird address, inasmuch as the duties of managers in numerous instances have been expanded to take in membership chairman work. F. E. Burton, St. Louis, club membership campaign director, commented on the dangers of high-pressure solicitation. Burton said he wouldn't handle a membership campaign that didn't have an initiation fee. It's better to have the hard selling on desirable prospects who will stick, he remarked.

Dr. Frank Shipman of Brown-Forman distilleries presented an educational movie on whisky, a talkie that was followed by questioning about whisky price prospects. Shipman forecast that there would be more lower-proof whisky consumed in the U.S., with the domestic production coming closer to the Scotch proof.

Harry Fawcett, Lake Shore CC, Glencoe, Ill., gave an intensely interesting address on food. He set forth policies and practices for restoring the old top reputation to club food service. Fawcett, a genius in food preparation and service, gave pointers on how to present distinguished cuisine without running the club deeply into the red. He stressed the importance of food education and maintained that a lapse in the managers' study of foods during the depression, when they had a million other worries, was accountable partially for the decline in club food standards. Fawcett strongly urged managers who recognized the need of dusting off their food education to attend the Cornell university hotel course, if possible, and named Cornell as the source of many great club managers of the future.

#### Says Best Foods Are Cheapest

The Lake Shore master of cuisine said that the cardinal principle in food cost accounting is to buy only the best for club service. He went into considerable detail to explain how the best in foods was cheapest in dollars and cents.

Fawcett admitted that a manager was stymied in trying to educate members to better food than they are accustomed to, but said that the objective should be to give the member absolutely the best according to the members' standards. Fawcett discussed the educational problem at length, from the days when he and other veterans got their education at the range and behind the bar. He says that the

#### CLUB OFFICERS!

Charge up as a legitimate course maintenance expense the cost of sending your greenkeeper to the annual convention of the NAGA, to be held Feb. 15-18 at the Hotel Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati.

The information your men can pick up at this important event will enable him to return to the club better equipped to maintain your course in the latest and most economical fashion.

unions will have to establish educational courses for food service employees or the immigration bars should be let down to admit culinary experts. One of the two, or the country will pay by its belly, so said the sage of Glencoe.

#### Clubs Begin Where Hotels Leave Off

Phil Cannon of the Tulsa Club, in commenting on the outstanding differences between clubs and hotels, remarked that the club started where the hotel left off. The value of the club social contacts, Cannon commented, usually is overlooked as a club advantage over hotel service. The personal service of the club manager also is something that has no parallel in hotel operation.

Peter Hausen, Edgewater GC, Chicago, stirred the convention with a plea for more team-work between association members in handling problems of general importance to clubs and which now have no organized attention from any of the golf or amateur athletic organizations.

Fred Wood, in speaking on cooperation between town and country club managers, counseled the boys to discuss their competitive problems locally or they would fall into battles that would cost both types of clubs plenty of money and trouble. Wm. Norcross, on the same topic, referred to discretion in extension of reciprocal privileges as a happy means of cooperation.

Miss Landrey Hill, manager of the Women's City Club, Detroit, told of ingenuity in club programs and the unbeatable element of steady hard work in making the public more club-conscious. Fred Crawford went on a shopping and interior decorating expedition in describing to the convention "furnishing a club from roof to cellar." The theme of his remarks was a judicious combination of utility with "class" and low depreciation and maintenance charges.

### Three Recent Books Deserve Places in Club Libraries

**J**OHNNY MANION, veteran St. Louis pro, has written "Golf in 10 Lessons," and in this well illustrated book does a grand job of getting across the fundamentals in a way that will have the approval of his pro colleagues.

Manion has gone into this instruction effort with the idea of furnishing a text book for golfers to be used along with pro instruction, in the same manner that text books and personal instruction are coordinated in scholastic operation. He does especially well in his analysis of the instruction pictures, helping the reader to a clear, visual understanding of the fundamentals and not bewildering him by lengthy printed directions.

In the back of the book are spaces for instruction, practice and playing records, which encourage the reader to keep a definite check on progress.

Associated with Johnny in the book is Reuben Kreatz, who has done a first class job of editing the copy and presenting a clear idea of golf's elements.

The book sells for \$1, and is published by Golf Publications Co., 105 S. 9th St., St. Louis, Mo.

**"GOLF Course Architecture,"** by Robert Trent Jones, is a decidedly interesting, attractive and helpful booklet for the club official with problems of course construction or alteration before him. Jones is a member of the golf architectural firm of Thompson and Jones, 45 W. 45th St., New York City. A copy of the booklet will be sent free on request to those who indicate their club official capacities in their letters asking for the booklet.

Progressive photographs and sketches showing how golf architectural problems have been handled in Thompson and Jones' jobs, and details of some case histories, are presented in a way that explains much to the inquiring club official, professional and greenkeeper.

**"THE A B C of Turf Culture,"** as printed serially in the Sewerage Commission of Milwaukee advertisements appearing in GOLFDOM during 1937, has been reprinted and bound for free distribution by the Milorganite manufacturers.

This publication presents concisely and

clearly fundamentals of golf turf culture and is an excellent text book for the greenkeeper who is reviewing his technical knowledge, as well as for the chairmen and the ambitious members of the greens' staff who want to get a good close-up of turf growing and maintenance principles.

The book, when originally published, had a wide sale and the first edition now is out of print. Consequently the action of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission in reprinting the book, revised by its author, O. J. Noer, is of definite service to the golf field. A copy may be obtained by writing the Sewerage Commission at Milwaukee, or any of the Milorganite distributors, and advising the name and club position of the one who requests the book.

### Chicago Club Managers Pick Otto Guenther as Prexy

**A**NNUAL dinner meeting of the Chicago District Club Managers Assn. was held January 10 at the Palmer House, at which time officers were selected and plans were laid for regularly scheduled meetings during the coming year.

Officers for 1938 are: president, Otto H. Guenther, Medinah CC; 1st v. pres., T. M. Esser, Casino Club; 2nd v. pres., Chas. Bangs, Oak Park CC; secretary, Frank H. Murray, Ravisloe CC; treasurer, Jack Febel, Northmoor CC. New directors chosen are Fred Bergeron, Chas. McKeown, and E. C. Straub. Other directors are Harry Doherty, Ernest Kuhn, Barney O'Grady, and Max Pauch.

A traveling bag was given O'Grady in appreciation of his years of service and courtesy to the association in his position at the Hamilton Club.

### Mrs. Joe Davis, Wife of Noted Golf Writer, Dead After Long Illness

**M**RS. JOE DAVIS, wife of the veteran secretary of the Chicago District GA, died at her home in Chicago, January 19, following a 3½ year illness. Mrs. Davis was widely known to golfers in the mid-west, having been at many of the tournaments her husband had covered during his long service as a golf writer.

She was very active in charitable enterprises for the blind and on one occasion conducted a golf tournament for contestants with impaired eyesight.

# BACK TO GOLF

By GENE HAMPSON

Gene Hampson, sports editor of a New Jersey newspaper, reports in unbiased manner on a situation he has observed in his locality, but which also prevails in other parts of the country.

Repeatedly it has been pointed out that golf clubs for golf, on the order of the majority of British clubs, rather than golf clubs for general social activity, would have in the U. S. a broader membership appeal and less financial burden. However, since many clubs that depend on average memberships already have clubhouse facilities and investments that involve a financial strain on the majority of members, the problem obviously requires solution by resourceful and active house management.

Hampson points out to thoughtful club officials the necessity of restoring balance between course and clubhouse by giving competent managers leeway and incentive to increase house revenue without making the per-member expense a handicap to membership solicitation.

**A**FTER talking with golf club officials and listening to locker-room conversations, one gets the impression that golf at present is experiencing a "Back to the Golf Course" movement. Just what does this mean? It appears to be a general inclination to put more stress on the advantages of a well-conditioned and interesting golf course than on the delights of a beautiful cocktail bar, a spacious ballroom and an expensive dining-room.

There can be no doubt that during the pre-depression years, when money was plentiful and none thought too much of tomorrow, that social activities of a club meant as much to many members as did the nature of the golf course. Those clubs, staging interesting social entertainments, regardless of expense, were crowded with members; and a few clubs neglected their courses to meet the demand for more up-to-date clubhouse facilities.

Some clubs with more secure and stable memberships haven't felt or cared much about the gradual change that one senses in traveling about the East, but other clubs have not been so fortunate. Talking with officials, one notes that some clubs are cutting down the number of social affairs simply because their membership is showing less interest in them.

Other organizations keep their clubhouses operating profitably by renting the ballroom for special parties. Such events produce excellent revenue, but on the other hand there is reason to believe that these "outsider" parties may figure in keeping prospective members on the outside.

Fact that a club boasts a big clubhouse and goes in for the social end of the game has proved a drawback rather than a con-

tributing factor to memberships to some organizations. There are many of the younger golfers, now playing public courses, who feel that they can afford to join a golf club but that they couldn't afford to keep up their end socially.

If you do not believe this to be true, scout around some of your own public and municipal layouts and talk to the younger business men. Managers of these courses likely can point out a dozen men at each layout who would be worthwhile members if assured that participation in the golfing end would fulfill their duty to the club.

### Younger Men Must Hold Down Costs

It is pointed out that a member need not participate in social activities unless he desires, but it is hard to get this point across to a younger man. He feels that the opportunity to take part in parties and entertainments may prove too alluring once he becomes a member.

These younger men, once weaned from the fee course, usually find their way to a private club which offers a good course but where the clubhouse is not too large or doesn't figure too prominently in the general scheme of things. Such clubs appear to be prospering.

If you are a member of a country club where the members as a whole are not drawn from the higher income brackets, look around your locker-room and see how

## GREEN-CHAIRMEN

Invest in your greenkeeper. Pay his expenses to the annual NAGA convention at the Hotel Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, Feb. 15-18.

He'll return better posted on the problems of course maintenance and better able to give your members for less money the sort of golf course they want.

many younger players you have whose dues are not paid or guaranteed by a father of some means. Your club may be doing all right, but such an investigation in many clubs will surprise you.

Don't get the idea that golf is going downhill or that all clubs are suffering. Golf is progressing and drawing more recruits day by day, but some clubs aren't getting their share of newcomers for some of the reasons advanced above.

Members of one Eastern club are still talking about a bombshell thrown into their midst by an active member. He suggested that the club would be far better off financially if they would tear down the clubhouse and would build a small grill and women's locker-room above the present men's headquarters.

He added that while he was a supporter of the club's social events because he felt it his duty, he would be satisfied with a much smaller clubhouse. There were those in the audience who echoed his statements.

One cannot help but feel proud of the manner in which American golf has grown and of the fine, beautiful clubhouses which have been erected on them. But, nevertheless, it is a shame to see some fine organizations teetering because the clubhouse has been allowed to outgrow the golf course.

### Pro Points to Need of More Mid-Week Golf Play

**JIM DANTE**, able pro at the Braidburn CC, Madison, N. J., tosses in a thought well worthy of serious consideration by pros who are planning a prosperous New Year for themselves and their clubs instead of just wishing. Dante's advice:

"A study of day-by-day play last season shows that in most cases whatever gains were made were due to increases in week-end play. Mid-week play did not show appreciable gains. The golf season is short enough without the pro permitting it to be confined to week-ends and holidays. If we have week-ends with bad weather we

are ruined and, needless to say, the club financial position is badly affected.

"Consequently, the wise pro will try to get together with the men and women officials of his club on a plan to encourage mid-week play. Minor prizes awarded even for scores on the first nine holes of week-day afternoons may be part of the answer. There will be those who will play 18, or even 27 holes an afternoon because of the attraction of such prizes.

"The mid-week business problem is one that concerns the club managers, too, so close co-operation between pros and managers on golf, luncheon, dinner and evening entertainment features is worth while.

"Unless pros collectively and individually pay serious attention to this matter we may find ourselves limited in our business to a season of 20-or-so weekends, instead of a six months' season, which in itself is all too short for making a profitable operation of a pro department at a golf club."

## NEWS FLASHES

Stockton, Calif.—Municipal golf course 1937 play approximately 25% more than 1936.

Miami, Fla.—Construction begun on 18-hole \$125,000 municipal course at Miami Shores. WPA grants \$67,000 to project.

Sturgis, Mich.—Klinger Lake CC clubhouse, replacing one burned last year, will be completed March 31.

Linton, Ind.—New \$30,000 munny golf course clubhouse expected to be ready for occupancy early in May.

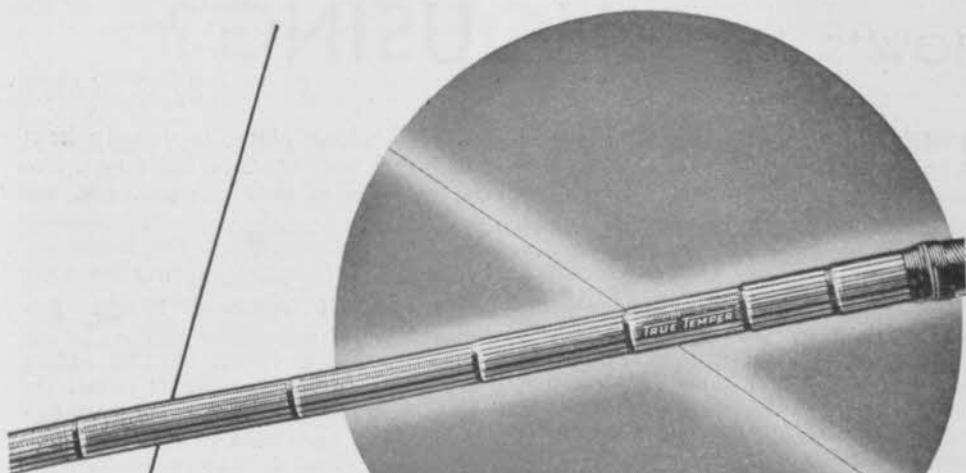
Richmond, Va.—Farmington CC adding \$25,000 wing containing guest rooms and women's locker-rooms.

Ticonderoga, N. Y.—New clubhouse of Ticonderoga CC under construction.

High Point, N. C.—New Blair Park clubhouse formally opened.

West Orange, N. J.—Essex County CC governors approve plans for new \$200,000 brick clubhouse. Construction awaits approval of membership.





*hair-line*

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it gives balance and adds strength where strength is required. It makes a powerful shaft which will take all you can give it.

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# HOW'S YOUR HOUSING?

By C. KAIBY

**T**HE clubhouse, as a golf play and social meeting place, is usually kept in good order and repair. On the other hand, maintenance buildings, employee residences and course shelters, the nucleus of golf course work, are too often unsightly, unsound, unfit for their requirements, and detract from the club appearance.

Some reasons for neglect are: The buildings are rarely entered by golfers, except to get in out of a sudden rain. They were on the property when converted from farm land. When the superintendent calls attention to needed building work, it is often postponed, funds being diverted for work on the course. Changing committees each year pass the problem to the next set of officers, assuming these structures can get by another season.

When damage occurs due to accumulated neglect, there is a hue and cry about the negligence of the superintendent. His copies of past memos on the subject mean little. He should have seen to it, they say, even though no money to cover the cost was allotted him. Consider a few instances and the results of dilapidated structures.

## Cites Examples of Neglect

Club A, after neglecting course and housing for some time, appropriated funds for turf revamping. Material was delivered to a rickety building for storage. High winds blew down the shed and heavy rains that followed that night ruined costly seed and fertilizer.

Club B. Gallery following a match. Several persons were injured, and sued the club, due to the collapse of a bridge crossing a water hole. The greenkeeper took the rap, in spite of his past requests for money to repair bridges.

Club C was losing members due to hard greens. The golf committee finally took the greenkeeper's counsel and bought granulated charcoal and peat moss to soften the ground. During a week-end wind and rain storm, shingles blew off an old roof and rain leaked in. The charcoal got wet, and started a fire due to spontaneous combustion. Loss included the barn, several hundred dollars worth of material, and most of the equipment, which had been recently overhauled.

Club D. As a revival and membership drive, monied members bought new equipment to groom the course for an exhibition match. It was felt that gallery fees and new members would enable the club to write off the costs. Shortly before the match a high wind twisted the equipment shed. Obsolete "knob-and-tube" electric wiring short circuited, and the barn was soon a roaring blaze, and all equipment destroyed. Since the course could not be mowed, the match was cancelled. Dealers could not extend further credit to club, as it had been slow pay. Fungicides stored in a nearby barn were spoiled by the firemen confining flames. A severe attack of turf disease that followed could not be checked in time, due to lack of needs. As a result, the turf was in poor shape all summer.

As most golf buildings are listed as unprotected property, the insurance cost is high, and often the sheds and their contents are not covered. Fairway mowers and other equipment are left exposed to the elements on many courses, simply because there are no shelter facilities, or those available are not designed to accommodate the equipment.

## Some Clubs Are Poor Landlords

In regards to employees' residences, clubs gain by having workers living on the property so they are quickly available; housing is part of their remuneration.

Is it not fair that those who devote their attention to your club have a place where they can live and discuss their maintenance matters with other greensmen? Too many of these "homes" are hovels, and old farm residences, that at the most were "fixed up" with a little paint—some time ago. If you have not, as yet, better consider now, the appropriation of funds in your budget solely for building upkeep, so the buildings keep up!