

Greenkeeping in the South

(Continued from Page 16)

never cut our rye grass as close as we do Bermuda. During all your operations it is very necessary to keep your mowers razor sharp.

I have found that rye grass or other winter grasses need very little topdressing if a smooth surface is prepared before planting. Too much topdressing is likely to cause difficulty when the Bermuda grass begins coming back in the spring.

Through the winter, patch your greens and reseed the bad places every time there is a need for it.

In early spring your greens can take a good fertilizing. This will strengthen your rye and give it color. It will also start your Bermuda grass growing at the roots.

I cannot see the advisability of trying to burn the rye grass out of your greens. We have found it best to let the rye die gradually and the Bermuda come in naturally. At our spot this transition takes place about the middle of May, and is completed in approximately 3 weeks. At this time spike your greens, and then spike them some more. Keep the earth open and breathing, so the Bermuda grass will break through and start to run. If

troubled with sourness, use lime and carefully wash it in. If you are lucky enough to have Bermuda seed, this is the time to give a light planting to all your greens, thus strengthening them and perhaps getting a new strain of Bermuda grass.

In dealing with winter grasses, remember that they cannot be brow-beaten like Bermuda. You can hardly kill Bermuda grass but you can knock the daylight out of your winter grasses. In conclusion, treat your Bermuda grass tough — be tender and kind to your winter grass.

Care of the Rough

Following the lead of Tom Lundy, Greenville, Miss., most of us in the South use our fairway mowers to maintain a 3 inch height in the rough. This gives us a close matted growth of grass in our roughs and a minimum of weeds. At the Tallahassee course we use the fairway mower whenever possible, but as most of our rough areas are in the woods, we have to use a hay mower extensively. Early in the winter we clean around the trees in our woods, rake up the leaves, cut out the brush and burn as much as we can without harming the plant life that needs saving.

It is the opinion of all the pros in the Southeast that good clean roughs mean more golf on our courses. We must re-

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member that we are golfers and we should look at the needs of our golf course through the eyes of our golf players, not from a purely theoretical standpoint.

Sometimes it is a good scheme to place a 'kick box' in a convenient place at the club so that the chronic grippers can vent their spleen in a written statement, and you will sometimes get fine ideas from this box.

A sad failure of many Southern courses is the lack of a really good practice green. This one item can build more golf interest and good putters than you would imagine. Try to keep your practice green better than your playing greens and you will see more interest in it at once.

On your practice field, a number of large signs will do much toward getting the players to use that area instead of hitting shots onto regular greens and fairways. We use signs each 50 yards and maintain a good teeing surface for wood shots. Paint yardage markers on your signs and they will be doubly effective.

Tips on Sand Greens

Many of the smaller Southern golf courses use sand greens for economy and these surfaces can be made very true and fine if proper attention is given to a few details of construction and maintenance.

The best construction policy is to start with a base of cinders and crushed rock or old bricks under the greens. The surface is built up smoothly with very little slope. When the proper under surface has been laid, a smooth layer of 4 to 6 inches of heavy red clay with a little sharp sand mixed in will give a keen and true surface upon which to spread the final coating of sand.

After the clay surface has set and dried the sand is spread on about ¼" thick. In selecting the sand for the greens be sure that the texture is even and that the sand is medium coarse and not the least bit powdery.

Special care must be given to the use of oil on sand greens if this method is to be used. I have never seen really successful greens with an oiled surface. Oiling works well except in rainy weather, when it gets gummy and out of shape. How-

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ever, if oil is to be used, get the proper grade from your oil company and use it sparingly.

If your course is lucky enough to have water piped to the greens you can keep the greens in fine condition. Water them about once each week and they will remain packed and keen.

For keeping uniform coverage of the sand, use a large wooden rake made from a one by three board, 3 feet long. This tool can be home-made and can be kept smooth and even by occasional use of drawknife or plane. The daily smoothing of the greens is best accomplished by using a piece of old carpet or rug about 3 by 5 feet. On one side of this rug tack a one by two strip and attach a drag rope to this strip of board. The drag will smooth the greens quickly and with very little cost. A caddie may be employed to smooth the greens 2 or 3 times a day at a few dollars per week.

At times on sand greens, small rocks and trash accumulate and cause poor putting surfaces. The best solution for this is to pile the sand and sift it through a fine hardware cloth sifter. After this operation spread the sand back smoothly on the green and drag to a keen surface.

Many small courses in the South having low resources would do well to steer clear of too many sand traps and banks that have to be maintained by hand. Many traps can be planted to grass and the banks can be sloped so that the power fairway units can take them in stride.

Sand greens seem to be easier to keep if they are round in shape. Proper attention on the approaches will give better playing conditions and will give your players better approach work in their game. Steer clear of a trench-like joining line between your sand green and grass approach. By carefully reworking this line, a clean-cut joint can be kept that will allow the ball to be played to the green without danger of bogging down in a trench of sand and heavy grass.

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of the greens are banked to give the player more confidence in playing a bold shot to small sand greens. At this course the joining line between sand and fairway is really smooth and true. A slight rise to the grass of the fairway is kept even and free from bumps. This allows the golfers to use a pitch and run shot in approaching that is really a fine golf shot.

In southeast Alabama many sand green courses are maintained on a budget of less than \$2,000 per year. At these smaller clubs, the tees are kept smooth and soft by using a mixture of sand and clay instead of grass surfaces. Usual outlay for equipment is less than \$800 and the operations of the course are under the direction of a green-committee of local men who use a well trained colored caretaker or a farmer who has been trained in the ways of keeping fairways and sand greens.

The golf course work at your club can be no stronger than the men you have to carry out the actual operation. As the leader, you are charged with the responsibility of training them efficiently. This will take time and effort, but will pay big dividends in the end. Most golf professionals and greenkeepers are experts in human relations. They should be able then to properly train their work crews.

As the years go by, demands made on our Southern golf courses are going to be for better and better conditions. The players want an ever-improving course, and remember, they are not interested in expenses. They are interested in results only. Therefore, we must plan our work so that year by year every condition on our golf course will show continued and steady improvement.

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WHAT'S NEW

Acushnet reports that in spite of war, taxes and bad weather, June, 1940 was its biggest month on golf ball sales. Up to July 1st, June, 1939 held the record on high-priced ball sales. June, 1940 has exceeded June, 1939 by 63.5%. Fred Bommer, newly elected president of the Acushnet company, attributes this increase to two or three factors: the out-and-out quality and value of the famous Titleist (for expert use) ball; the introduction of the new

CADDIE BADGES—We have a number of designs in metal. Circular on request. The C. H. Hanson Company, 303 W. Erie St., Chicago, Ill.



Paul Runyan's statement, "Magnificent shot," was an outstanding and frequent comment during a recent friendly match at the Garden City (L. I.) GC with other Bristol-Built club enthusiasts, Morton and C. T. Treadway, Herbert Lagerblade and Tom Higgins of the Horton Manufacturing Co., Frank Belwood, Garden City professional, and E. W. and Winthrop Hoyt of Bristol's advertising agency. That the other three members of Runyan's immediate foursome were right up there seemed clear from the frequency each rated the Runyan accolade—but Herbert Lagerblade, former pro, led both Frank Belwood and E. W. Hoyt in number of "honorable mentions" from the popular Metropolis professional. As for performance with his Bristol-Built clubs, Runyan easily led the field with a par 73 over the 6,800 yard championship course—with the other members of the group counting heavily on their drawings in the "kickers" for consolation. Pictured above, left to right, are: Paul Runyan, Frank Belwood, Garden City GC pro, Tom Higgins, Morton Treadway, C. T. Treadway, and Herbert Lagerblade of The Horton Mfg. Co.

Titleist for professional use, which has won immediate and widespread popularity; the Acushnet all-pro policy, and consistent and effective national advertising.

Early Morn Golfa Products, 114 W. 27th St., New York City, for players who have experienced the woes of the early morning golfer, has created and developed a golf rubber that fits over spiked golf shoes. Now, the early morning golfer can wear his regular spiked golf shoes and ignore the wet fairways and rough caused by the early morning dew.

The Early Morn Golfa rubber is constructed with holes in the soles and heels to correspond with the

position of the spikes in the golf shoes. By simply slipping these rubbers over the golf shoes the spikes come through the holes and no water can come through to the soles or heels of the shoes.

The rubbers, when not being used, roll up and conveniently fit into the pocket of the golf bag.

Par XL Golf Playfield's first installation has been made at the Touhy Playfield, 3031 Touhy Ave., Chicago. The installation is made in connection with a well patronized practice range, and is getting a good play.

The Par XL installation consists of plainly marked fairways, rough, tees, greens and sand areas, with observers in towers calling distances



If you want to get the best possible results from your fall fertilization, and at the same time grow the strongest, finest-textured and most beautifully-colored turf you have ever grown; and also at the same time forget your fall brown patch worries; and further at the same time be ap-

plying a product that is definitely detrimental to clover; there is just one thing to do and that is to apply Super Mineralite to your greens at the rate of 1 1/3 ounces per 1,000 square feet. Make four applications two weeks apart. This will cost you approximately 9c per 1,000 square feet for each application or approximately 37c per 1,000 square feet for the four applications. And how that turf will respond! Because Super Mineralite controls both brown

patch and nutritional disease. It's chock full of rare elements that induces organic fertilizer to do a more complete job, and its blended formula requires a very low mercury content to control brown patch. Does a double job for less money; ten years in developing. Leading turf men endorse it. If you're skeptical test a small quantity and let results speak for themselves. 5 lbs., \$6.50; 25 lbs., \$32.50; 50 lbs., \$60.00; 100 lbs., \$110.00. What a fungicide!

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Fall is the *best time* to start preparing greens and fairways for your *next year's* play . . . by giving them a good square meal with Swift's Special Golf Fertilizers and Vigoro.

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made by the players' shots, and the type and distance of shot next required. Players finish the holes by putting on regulation greens.

Players pick up the knack of playing the compact layout quickly and find it interesting and helpful practice. The Par XL installation is covered by U. S. patents. Its earning probabilities in a good location are claimed to be better than those of the average well-located practice range.

Spalding releases the following: Pat Wilcox, pro at the Sunny Side CC, Waterloo, Ia., reports an unusually low score for an 18-hole round.

Using 100% Spalding equipment—woods, irons and balls—Wilcox shot a score of 30 out and 30 in, or a score of 60 for the 18 holes. This remarkable feat was accomplished by Wilcox while playing recently at the Charles City (Ia.) G&CC.

Jim Devlin, veteran pro, has been scoring notably in the order book since transferring his operations from club duties to manufacturers' representation. Jim represents Professional Golfers' Corp., and the Southern Saddlery Co. He makes his headquarters at Philadelphia.



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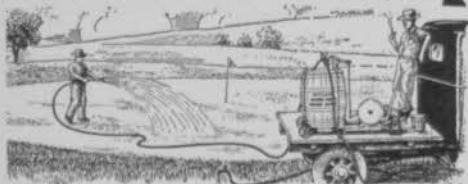
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Acushnet Process Sales Company announces that at a recent meeting of the board of directors, Fred W. Bommer, manager of the golf ball division since 1932, was elected president of the company as of July 17. Phillip E. Young remains as treasurer of the concern.

F. W. Bommer



Schenley Distillers Corp. announces that Jack Redmond, noted trick shot golfer who boasts he has played 2,800 courses in 41 countries, has started a nation-wide exhibition tour as special promotion representative for Golden Wedding rye and bourbon whiskies, made by Joseph S. Finch & Co., Inc., a subsidiary of Schenley. Appearing at public and private country club outings, Redmond plans to work westward after spending the early part of the season in the New York area. He has been specializing in trick shots for 16 years, when he left the professional tournament field.

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And if you've had an election recently, fill in the bottom of the page so GOLFDOM will reach the men at your course for which it is published.

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Mower sharpeners
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Pipe, water
Playground equipment

Pumps (capacity?)
Putting cups
Rollers green
 fairway spiked
Sand green equipment
Scythes (motor driven)
Seed fairway green
Seed treatments
Seeders
Shelters (golf course)
Sod cutters
Soil screeners
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Sprayers power engine
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Jack Redmond is shown using a niblick to 'sink' his ball over the rim of one glass placed on top of another.

in one swing. Redmond recently "played his way" around the world in 36 holes of golf, completing one hole at each stop on a tour that carried him through India, Hawaii, South America, Australia and Europe.

Conn. Supts. Have Big July Meeting—July meeting of the Connecticut Assn. of Golf Course Superintendents was held July 8 at the Wykagyl CC, New Rochelle, N. Y. Fifty greensmen attended the affair which included golf in the afternoon, inspection of putting test plots, a swell meal at the club where Ed Casey is host superintendent, and an after-dinner discussion program.

Featured speakers were Dr. O. B. Dodge, of the New York City Botanical Gardens, who spoke on fungi, illustrating his talk with lantern slides, and Gregory Clement and Chas. Sawtelle, who gave illustrated talks on plant diseases. Earlier in the afternoon Ed Casey had shown his guests the test green plots of the USGA; the greenmen, here, were asked to rate their choice of strains. Casey also showed

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a fifth wheel and tachrometer tractor attachment, used to haul a power spray rig for weed control, which attracted considerable interest.

Greenkeeper George Moquin of the Manchester (Conn.) CC, was evidently on his best game because he carried away the first prize, a new golf bag, in the golf tournament. Wm. Perkins, supt., Yale U. GC, New Haven, won second prize, and John Pelos, greenkeeper at Greenfield Hill CC, Fairfield, Conn., was third.

—GSA News Bureau.

Wisconsin Greenkeepers Having Good Year—July meeting of the Wisconsin Greenkeepers Assn. was held at the Tripoli CC, Milwaukee, where Will Nielson superintends. Forty greensmen attended the meeting, the feature of which

was a question and answers session and general discussion.

Paul Brockhouser, Blue Mound CC greenkeeper, reported that despite excessive rains, his course was in tip-top shape for the recent Women's Western Open championship, and that the contestants praised the layout highly. Ray Rolfs, superintendent at North Hills CC, spoke briefly regarding the Milwaukee Open event, which was scheduled to be played over his course Aug. 1-4. Members of the Wisconsin greenkeepers group would be admitted free to the tournament upon presentation of their 1940 membership cards, it was announced.

The monthly meetings of the Wisconsin organization have been very well attended right along, and we feel we have made real progress this year. August meeting of the group is scheduled for the Janesville CC on August 5. Orval Decker is the host greenkeeper. O. C. Williams, Secy.

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