

Full  
of action  
for preventing  
Brown  
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INVESTIGATE  
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**THE GREATEST LOW COST BROWN PATCH  
PREVENTATIVE AND CONTROL EVER SOLD**

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Fungol has been greatly improved. Covering capacity increased. Vermicidal value doubled.

This chemical combination for Large and Small Brown Patch is unequalled when it comes to prolonged activity in soil. Altogether different from ordinary fungicides.



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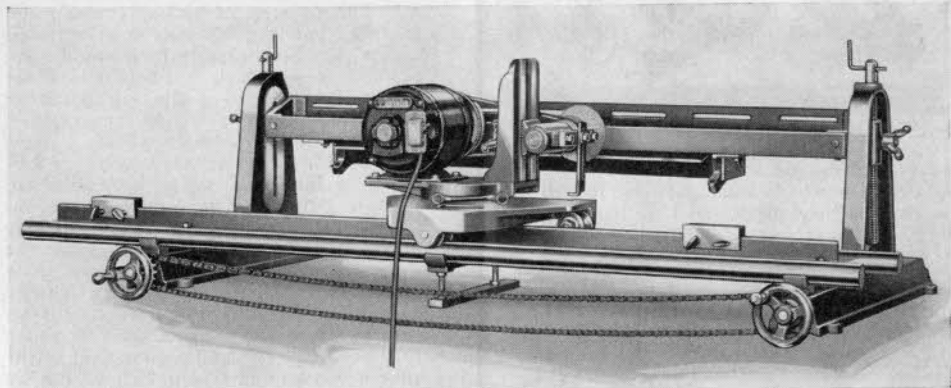
Inquire about big covering capacity of Fungol. Take advantage of extra chemicals in Fungol, at no extra cost, for combatting Earthworms, Sod Webworms, Cutworms, Grubs.

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Extreme turf coverage for your fungicide dollars means nothing if you fail to get maximum protection against brown patch! Special Semesan's recommended rate of application has been proved effective—providing the versatile protection of two organic mercuries for as little as 21c per 1,000 square feet of turf. It's the real economy buy among brown patch fungicides; the better condition of your turf and your budget will convince you! Write for free Turf Disease Pamphlet.

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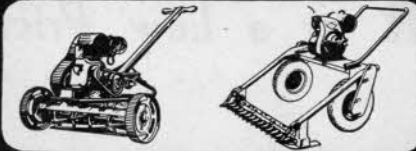
DU PONT BLDG., WILMINGTON, DEL.

5 lbs. ....	\$ 7.00
25 lbs. ....	32.50
100 lbs. ....	125.00



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Power, Fairway, Greens mowers, Tractors.

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we should become interested in our men as individuals, not just as employees that we may pick and fire from day to day. A man should be impressed with the effect of his work. If he does his job well, we can give him credit for it instead of having him do it just to get by.

When you are laying out your work for your men, let them thoroughly understand the work that they are to do; question them about it. In making your suggestions to them, take into consideration the suggestions that they may give you. The amount of knowledge that you may impart to your men should be only what they can absorb and digest, and it should create a more active interest in their work.

GERALD M. DEARIE (Edgewater Golf Club, Chicago): No set rules can be followed in the management, development, and maintenance of country clubs. What would be the correct thing at one club would be a mistake at another. As labor represents the bulk of the budget, a greenkeeper must be on his guard at all times to maintain the highest possible condition of his ground within that budget.

### Must Keep 'Up-to-Date'

The greenkeeper who has foresight analyzes his golf course as to its construction, equipment, drainage, irrigation system, barns, and compost. He keeps abreast of the new improvements in equipment and course management, and sees that these are applied so as to reduce his maintenance labor to a minimum. With the right management of men, the greenkeeper can provide a real test of golf and bring out the beauty of his grounds to the utmost.

The alert greenkeeper today keeps an accounting system of his golf course maintenance, but the statistics are worthless unless they are properly understood. An accounting system is a ready means for the greenkeeper to outline in detail all phases of golf labor and its management.

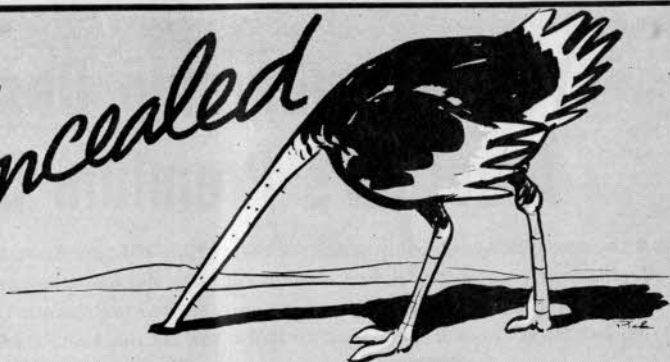
LEO FESER (Minneapolis): I have had about the same experience as Mr. Steiniger, but I can't say we keep all of our men on during the winter. We keep our married men, who constitute probably 80% of our crew, on throughout the winter, under conditions that are quite severe up in Minnesota. During January and up to the time I left, there was no time at which the temperature rose above thirty-two degrees; and a good deal of the time it was around zero or below. But we did manage and have managed for years to make winter work for the men and employ them on a year-round basis, using this hourly system.

I would like to ask you, Mr. Steiniger, what you did to sell your club the idea.

MR. STEINIGER: We have no chairmen at Pine Valley; we just have a board of governors. I am not responsible to the

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EQUIPMENT  
FOR**

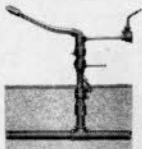
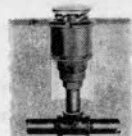
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whole board. I am just responsible to the president of the club. If anything comes up pertaining to the club, I am called in on it at a board meeting.

But, again, I am very fortunate in having a very good president. He is the boss of Pine Valley and whatever he says goes. And he is the boss with us; he is with the outside crew. Everything I tell him, if it is sensible or has some merit to it, he approves.

That gave me a good chance to work out my budget so that I could spread out my work all over the year. Now, we won't do any work in the middle of the summer that should be done in the winter, like repairing pipe dressing. We won't do that in July when there is other work to do. Our board of governors approves this system. If I went ahead and spent all that money in July and August, when October came along I would have to lay my men off; but by spreading out the work and the money, we can keep our crew all year around.

MR. FESER: It so happens that out at my club the house is closed during the winter, and it gives us an excellent opportunity on very bad days to work on furniture. We have no fire in the clubhouse—we drain the thing off—and any furniture from the swimming pool and the clubhouse is brought down to the shop and painted and taken care of.

Then, as our season starts some time in the first part of April, we usually build

our fires in the clubhouse from the first of March; and we divide the house into sections according to the demands of the committees, and fix up a locker-room or the dining room or the different parts. We go right in and do the job, from plastering to paper-hanging—a certain kind of paperhanging.

In order to do that, it was necessary to send some of our men to trade school, which we did a number of years ago. The club paid the bill. We sent these men to trade school for as long as six weeks at a period, to take up painting and plastering. Now, those men are not painters or plasterers; we don't consider them such. They are golf course workmen. But they have that skill, which has enabled them to work on a year-round basis.

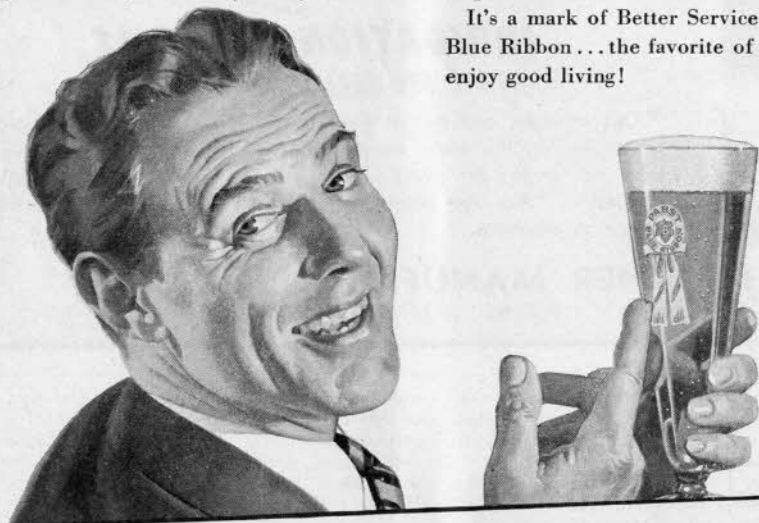
In addition to that, for instance, out there today, if the weather is above zero, our men are moving soil. A grade was made last fall. We are digging off the knoll of a hill, and that particular knoll was covered with about eighteen inches of manure and strophole and saddleback. So, in spite of the fact we have had temperatures going to twenty below zero (there was practically no frost under that) it is true that we have done a lot of soil moving. As a matter of fact, there has hardly been a year in the last six or seven years that during the winter time we haven't moved two or three thousand yards of soil, and by hand, too.

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Blue Ribbon. And *now* that advertisements like the one below are revealing *why* Blue Ribbon is Premium Quality...you're bound to get more and more calls for Pabst.

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*It's the BLEND that Better the Beer*

*Try* **Pabst Blue Ribbon** *and Prove it*

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## Clubs Protest Against Growing Tax Burden

By Herb Graffis

**Increasingly tough tax situation may necessitate clubs taking united action to fight higher, more numerous levies**

IT has been noted that failure of U. S. golf clubs to present a strong and united front through the USGA in tax matters has been partially responsible for an increasingly tough situation. Establishment of golf clubs usually means an increase in a locality's taxable values. The golf club by making a neighborhood more valuable for residential purposes adds substantially to a taxing body's income, but in this process gives itself a backbreaking load.

Imminence of increased taxes necessitated by national defense brings golf face-to-face with its tax problem. Golfers don't want to duck their share of the load, but they have some reason for believing the tax situation, unless rationally handled, may curtail the national revenue from the game.

### Further Play Increase Probable

Prior to the previous Great War, golf boomed in the U. S., undoubtedly because of munitions profits. There probably will be further extension of play on public and fee courses due to increased income of workers in offices and factories engaged in war work. Both the Allies and the Nazis while in the midst of their bloody struggle are regarding recreational activities as a necessity for the home front, even though sports across the Atlantic now of course, are sharply curtailed and on a hit-and-run basis.

So, regardless of developments, club officials figure they must get the tax situation adjusted to what the traffic will bear.

An illustration of one phase of the golf club causing increase of surrounding property values is at Reno, Nev. Construction and irrigation problems made the Reno municipal course cost high. However, increase in value and tax income of property adjacent to the course gives evidence of making the Reno course expense a profitable investment of public funds.

### Private Courses Hit Hard

Private courses, especially older, close-in courses, are suffering severely from the tax situation. The times are not favorable to an equitable adjustment of such taxes. Golf missed the boat on this by the clubs not getting together. USGA efforts were energetic but inadequate. The USGA position was weakened by an inability to declare that it specially represented, at any time, as many as  $\frac{1}{4}$  of American golf clubs.

It appears that this year the number of rounds of golf played over public and privately-owned daily fee courses will ex-

Passaic County (N. J.) golf course periodically awards golf balls among players who turn in scores for handicapping. The practice has greatly increased the number of cards posted.

ceed by probably 20% the number of rounds played over private courses, although there are only about 36% as many pay-as-you play courses as private courses in the U. S. That will dispose of the argument that golf is a luxury proposition and should be taxed accordingly.

The social security and unemployment taxes involving golf club help is an even more complex phase of the clubs' tax matters due to the limited period of most club's full-time operations and the caddie status. Limitations of the budget and the prevailing regional wage scales for agricultural labor keep course labor wages restricted. Inability, or oversight, of clubs in providing year-round employment for their course workers through the club work schedule, or off-season employment in members' factories, has laid clubs wide open for payment of unemployment compensation.

Arguments pro and con on this part of the club taxation problem are almost certain to bring out the fact that many course workers of considerable trained value during the course operating season are forced onto relief during the club's off season.

#### Question Logic of Tax

However onerous and complex most golf club taxation problems are, there is one tax matter that is getting club officials frothing in apparently impotent irritation. For golf's annual contribution of probably more than \$35,000,000 a year toward emergency solution of the youth unemployment problem, it is compelled, in numerous places, to take on a tax of questionable logic and inescapably high cost of collection.

Thomas Butler, secretary of the Rock Spring CC, Alton, Ill., writes Martin Durkin, Director of Labor, state of Illinois, concerning the Illinois unemployment compensation tax for caddies. Butler draws an interesting parallel between the position of golf clubs and labor unions in making his protest to Durkin.

Butler writes: "Recently we have been

Municipal golf in Indianapolis, in the decade since inaugurating the prevailing plan of course operation, has turned in a net profit of \$75,718.82. Numerous substantial improvements were made out of operating income. The golf department showed a deficit of \$25,684.54 on Jan. 1, 1930 when A. C. Sallee took charge. Players, instead of beefing that golf fees finance considerable other munny recreation plant operation, boast of the excellent character of Indianapolis' municipal golf. Taxpayers rub their eyes in pleased amazement.

informed of the Unemployment Compensation ruling that fees paid to caddies at golf clubs are taxable under the Unemployment Compensation law.

"The first explanation of this ruling we received indicated that the Division would expect golf clubs to estimate the number of caddies employed during a quarter, estimate their earnings and pay tax based on this estimate.

"Later a representative of the Unemployment Compensation Division told me this was not the case—that the requirement would be to list the name of every caddie, require him to obtain a Social Security number, and report on each individual's earnings, plus an estimate of his tips.

"The ruling in itself, I feel sure, will appear unreasonable to the hundreds of golf clubs over the State which are located in small or medium-sized towns and in which the clubs are managed by volunteer and unpaid officers. In these cases caddies come and go in numbers ranging from 20 to 50. Most of them are school boys who outside of school hours are able to pick up spending money in a healthful, wholesome manner. Such golf clubs are not business enterprises, are not organized for profit, do not have facilities to keep accurate records. Many of them, I am sure, are like our own club—actually in a state of bankruptcy but able to remain in existence only because of leniency on the part of the holders of the club's obligations and mortgages.

#### Contentends Player Is Employer

"In clubs like this the golf player is really the employer of the caddie. I understand the Division has held that since the club exercises authority over the department of caddies and keeps a caddie-master to apportion out the assignments among them, then the club assumes the title of employer. In a true sense, however, the club is not the employer—the player is. He decides whether he wants a caddie, whether the caddie is satisfactory and how much to pay the caddie. The club handles no money.

"If in such an instance the club is the employer then it would seem in parallel that where laborers are employed through the business agent of a union local, that local is the employer since the business agent gives the assignments and vouches for conduct and performance. It would seem to me equally reasonable to require the business agent to report on earnings of members of his local whom he has as-

signed to jobs and pay the tax on their wages. The relationship there is exactly the same as it is with a caddie-master at a golf club.

"As secretary of this club, I wish to protest against this ruling which appears to me to be so far-fetched and unreasonable. I cannot see how a caddie could possibly earn enough to qualify for benefits, or any common sense basis for holding that caddie fees should be taxable. Neither can I see how you could expect a correct accounting of their activities from golf clubs which are too small to maintain a systematic record. Secretaries of these golf clubs, just as officers in any volunteer social organization, perform their duties in order to try to keep the organizations going without any thought of compensa-

tion. Holding such organizations under the regulation of so many laws has multiplied their duties until they have become tremendously burdensome, and so do the taxes. Our own club, for example, must obtain 15 cents with which to pay tax for every dollar that it obtains, to keep going. This is in addition to making out all the reports that are required by the various agencies of government.

"As one who is doing his best to go along with governmental agencies and conform to their requirements, I want earnestly to urge you to arrive at a ruling which will more nearly result in compliance than in evasion because I feel sure that in many cases club officers will not even make a conscientious effort to comply with this ruling."

## What War is Doing To Turf Treatment

By John Monteith, Jr.

FOR years many Americans have regarded European squabbles as nothing to concern us. Recent months, however, have demonstrated many ways in which European affairs may complicate American operations. One item which to most people would seem well removed from wars, is the control of diseases on our American putting greens. Nevertheless, the fact is that the war is actually having a decided effect on the cost of controlling brown-patch and dollar spot.

The most effective fungicides known for the control of turf diseases are those that contain mercury. It so happens that mercury is one of the metals extensively used in wars for the manufacture of fulminate of mercury, employed as a detonator for high explosives. Other mercury salts are also extensively used by the medical corps of armies.

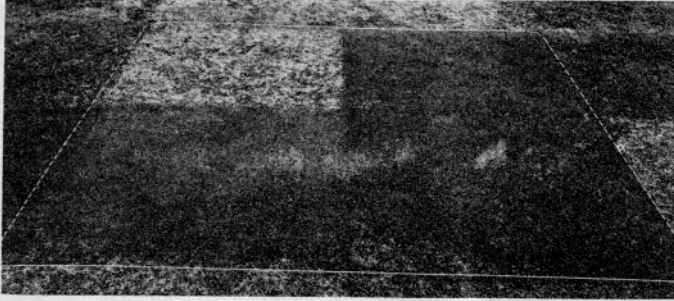
The big majority of the normal world's supply of mercury has for many years come from Europe—chiefly Spain and Italy. We produce in this country only a small percentage of our peace-time requirements. On the other hand, we have large quantities of mercury ore in the United States. This ore, however, is of low grade, which does not justify being extensively worked when the price of metallic mercury (quicksilver) is not well

above the normal level. It seems the development of new or abandoned mines is a slow process, so production is rather tardy responding to even a drastic rise of prices. Therefore, in spite of the stimulation of domestic mercury production the war in Europe will have a pronounced effect on the seemingly unrelated fight against turf diseases on the golf courses of this country.

Metallic mercury is ordinarily handled in flasks weighing 76 pounds. The average flask price in New York last August was \$84.41. In September it jumped up to \$140. And in March the price once went as high as \$183.

Corrosive sublimate contains approximately 74% of mercury. Thus to manufacture 100 pounds of corrosive sublimate it is necessary to use practically a flask of quicksilver. Because of its even higher mercury content, a flask of mercury will produce only about 90 lbs. of calomel. On the other hand, a flask will produce from 400 to 700 lbs. of some of the lower grade mercury fungicides commonly used on golf courses.

The other ingredients in these fungicides represent relatively negligible items of cost. For instance, the other ingredient of corrosive sublimate and calomel is chlorine. This material is a part of such



This turf test plot shows control of dollar spot with mercury combinations. Upper left square received no mercury. Upper right was treated with calomel; lower left with metallic mercury precipitated, or powdered chalk; lower right received oxide of mercury. These highly concentrated simple preparations of mercury all gave effective control of the disease.

cheap chemicals as common table salt. Their chemical relationship is indicated in the technical names sodium chloride (table salt), mercuric chloride (corrosive sublimate), and mercurous chloride (calomel). Since mercury is by far the most expensive ingredient of this group of turf fungicides, the prices must obviously increase most markedly for those compounds that contain the highest percentage of mercury.

At present prices many greenkeepers are tempted to switch from the standard disease treatments with corrosive sublimate and calomel to some of the preparations that have not changed in price. Before making such a decision one should figure the amount of mercury contained in the materials under consideration, since the actual mercury content is the chief measure of effectiveness of these fungicides as far as turf diseases are concerned.

#### Cost May Be Misleading

In buying fungicides it should also be remembered that some of the rates specified in advertising matter are not adequate for any but exceptionally mild cases of disease. Comparisons of costs of such low rates of applications of mercury with the heavier rates of the more concentrated forms are entirely misleading. It is the cost of protection throughout the season that is the important item to consider.

In cases of clubs operating on budgets that will not permit much expense for disease control, the wise plan would seem to be to continue to use the more concentrated forms of mercury rather than the diluted forms. Economies may be effected by using lower rates of these chemicals or by applying them at less frequent intervals. In this way more mercury can be applied at lower cost than is the case with the lower-grade mercury

fungicides, even though they may sell at prices that may appear attractive when compared with corrosive sublimate and calomel on the present cost-per-pound basis.

In order to reduce the cost of control, many mild cases of disease may be safely overlooked. Single greens or even parts of greens may be given treatments of fungicides as needed, rather than making general applications. Although decided economies may be accomplished by such means it should be perfectly obvious that they can be easily overdone. When a mild attack of dollar spot, for instance, appears in a scattered way on a few greens, it is a common practice to treat all the greens as a precautionary measure. If available funds require limited treatments this first attack may safely be ignored. Just because the grass recovers rapidly from this attack does not mean that all subsequent attacks can likewise be ignored. Where severe or frequent attacks develop it is false economy to spare the fungicide. The above procedure sums up to mean a balance of less chemical, but good chemicals and better judgment.

#### No Substitute Yet

The question of substitutes for mercury naturally is raised frequently these days. Unfortunately there is no satisfactory substitute in sight at present. Various chemicals have been found to check both brown-patch and dollar spot but none of them give the prolonged protection provided by the mercury compounds. Furthermore most of them that give any promising control are toxic to grass under unfavorable conditions.

In recent months there has been some loose talk about the various copper compounds—particularly Bordeaux mixture. This suggestion is by no means as new as



some individuals seem to imagine. Bordeaux mixture was one of the first fungicides used in agriculture and the first extensively used against brown-patch. It was later found that the copper accumulations resulting from its use caused severe damage to turf.

Some individuals who have never seen copper injury to turf may easily challenge its occurrence. Those who have seen it need no theories as to its non-existence and they recognize the costs involved in overcoming it. Copper poisoning does not develop in all soils—at least not as rapidly. As yet no one has determined where it may be toxic and where harmless. Tests with lime, contrary to some theories, have failed to overcome it.

#### No Saving With Bordeaux Mixture

One important fault in the reasoning of those who advocate economy in disease control through the use of Bordeaux mixture, is that they think in terms of costs per pound of Bordeaux mixture as compared with the mercury salts. An ounce or even half an ounce of corrosive sublimate is usually as effective as a pound of Bordeaux mixture. Therefore the price of Bordeaux mixture should be multiplied by at least 16 for a fair comparison. Add to this the absence of "hold-over" protection in the case of the copper compounds, which necessitates more frequent applications, and the fact that they do not control dollar spot and one fails to find any inducement to use copper rather than mercury compounds even at present prices.

The dye combinations containing malachite green are the most attractive substitutes for mercury. These, like the copper salts, must be applied more frequently than the mercury fungicides to control brown-patch. Also, as in the case of the copper salts, they are not very effective against dollar spot.

Recently prices of quicksilver have lowered slightly. What further changes occur will naturally depend on developments in Europe.

**Midwest Greenkeepers Meet at Fox Valley**—First 1940 outdoor meeting of the Midwest greenkeepers was held May 6 at Fox Valley CC (Batavia, Ill.), with Arthur Benson as host superintendent. An afternoon of golf and a fine dinner preceded the meeting at which the feature speaker was Alex Hornkohl, who talked on soil sterilization.

## Calendar Does Grand Publicity Job for Kansas Course

**P**RAIRIE DUNES GC of Hutchinson, Kans., is declared by many authorities to be the world's best 9-hole golf course. It's in Kansas' sand dunes and has several holes that rival the finest of the famous Scotch seaside courses.

Ross Wilson, Prairie Dunes pro-mgr., doesn't claim that the course ranks among the world's most glamorous but he does say that it has 9 of the most picturesque and toughest holes in the mid-continent. His statement is warmly endorsed by many transcontinental golfers.

But, instead of merely telling how attractive its course is, the Prairie Dunes club gets out a calendar that gives a sample. The calendar carries a full color view of the green of the 165-yd. seventh. It's an idea that other clubs should adopt.

## Iowa Greensmen Inspect ISC Experimental Turf Plots

**M**AY meeting of the Iowa Greenkeepers Assn., held May 14 at Iowa State College, Ames, was attended by 35 greenkeepers, who spent the greater part of the time checking over the many bent grass and bluegrass selections now growing on the ISC experimental grass plots.

At the meeting it was agreed that the Iowa association's greenkeepers would con-



Iowa's greenkeepers are shown looking over the ISC bent grass test plots and noting color, texture and density of the various bent grasses.

tinue to support the grass plots at the college at the rate of \$500 per year for five years. June meeting of the group is scheduled for June 11 at the Waveland course in Des Moines.

# PROTECT Against Fire Loss

By Bethune Jones

WHEN a clubhouse burns down, the club not only loses valuable property, but may have its very existence endangered. Regardless of the amount of fire insurance carried, rebuilding and refurbishing a clubhouse always involves heavy expenses that fall directly upon the club, and an unexpected financial burden, combined with the long-continued lack of essential facilities, has forced many a club into dissolution.

Yet, the average golf clubhouse is peculiarly vulnerable to fire. It is constructed largely, if not entirely, of combustible materials and is located some distance away from the nearest fire department station. Hence, if a fire gets a good start in the clubhouse, it is likely to do a great deal of damage before the firemen can arrive.

To prevent such a disaster, the club's own resources of manpower and fire-protection equipment must be properly organized to safeguard the property.

Organization, of course, requires an organizer; therefore, every club should have someone that acts in the capacity of "fire marshal", to use a convenient term.

Who the fire marshal should be will vary with the size and character of the club. In some cases, the club manager is best qualified to assume this responsibility. A very large club might well have a fire prevention committee with some experienced person, such as a fire chief or a fire protection engineer, as chairman. In any case, the fire marshal should be a man who will take the job very seriously and who will be able to assume leadership of both members and club employees in an emergency.

The duties of the fire marshal will vary with conditions but the following outline has general application:

**Safeguarding Fire Hazards**—The first thing to be done is to study the fire hazards in and around the clubhouse. These will include fireplaces, kitchen, storage places for paint, gasoline and oil, workrooms where paints and other inflammable liquids are used, rubbish heaps, garage, and any condition where a care-

lessly flung match or cigarette stub would quickly cause a bad fire (such as draperies that touch the floor, extensive decorations composed of highly combustible materials, open paint cans, and the like).

Whenever possible, fire hazards should be completely eliminated, but when they are a normal part of the club's operations, steps will include maintaining a high standard of housekeeping, the prompt removal and safe disposal of rubbish, keeping oily and paint-soaked rags in safety metal containers until disposed of, cleaning greasy kitchen flues, storing all inflammable liquids well away from the clubhouse, and many others.

If the fire marshal is uncertain just what he should do to protect the property, the local fire department will be glad to assign a man to go over the club property and help the fire marshal with this phase of his work.

**Providing Adequate Fire Protection**—Most clubhouses have one or more lines of hose, which can be used on fires outside and inside the clubhouse, but such hose should always be counted as the "second line" of defense against fires inside the house. The first line of defense should be made up of hand fire extinguishers, of the right types, located at strategic points.

Several different types of fire extinguishers will be needed to protect the average clubhouse, as there are special types for use on fires of ordinary combustible materials, of inflammable liquids and live electrical equipment. Here, again, the fire marshal should seek expert advice as to the selection and location of extinguishers, if he himself is unfamiliar with the subject. In any case, the extinguishers installed should be of types bearing the inspection label of the Underwriters' Laboratories, in order to insure getting equipment that has been tested and approved by a competent authority.

The number of extinguishers required can be determined by the following rule: a sufficient number of extinguishers should be provided so that a person will not have to travel more than 50 feet from any point