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January, 1949



-Larry Shafer, photo

REMINDER TO CHECK FIRE RISK

What's left after \$75,000 blaze gutted section of clubhouse of Kirtland CC (Cleveland dist.) last fall is a reminder that check-up on fire prevention, fire control and fire insurance is one of the important jobs to be done during time when golf clubhouse operations in central and northern states are in a lull. Increased building costs point to need of insurance revision upward. Manager and officials can use this time too in discussing operating practices to reduce fire risk when the season is on. Fire insurance fellows say "every country clubhouse burns once," and attribute high fire insurance rates in most cases to causes that can be eliminated without undue expense. Fire insurance men don't tell, however, how to fully control carelessness of members and help so fire risk will be reduced. That's one of the problems that make managers grey-headed.

ing balls into Jim's oats which was something that didn't improve anybody's disposition or pleasure.

While the changes were being made steadily and slowly I was studying books on golf architecture and with that basic training was questioning good architects and greenkeepers and pros, hoping that someday we would have license for bragging we had the best smalltown course in Western Iowa. But nobody ever wanted to discuss the merits of famous holes illustrated in the copy of The Links I often carried around with me.

A friend of mine from San Diego, Si Boysen, who knows the beginning and has seen the change in our course, said to me I was doing a \$5,000 job for the club. That was a pleasing shock to me but when I got over being built up to myself by the comment I got to thinking what the time I'd spent in 25 years on the course might be worth, even at mighty low wages an hour. Any earnest green-chairman who will do the same thing after serving his club for some years will be surprised at how the total will run up. But nobody will give a damn. The average golf club member in any size or class of club just wants to have all possible pleasure at least possible expense and no work at all, so some conscientious nut has to do what the others won't. And, to tell the truth, I don't know where a fellow with the correct fit of persistence, patience, eagerness to learn and willingness to put up with indifference or criticism from the uninformed, can get any more satisfaction from ultimate achievement in a hobby than a green-chairman gets when he sees his course gradually develop into something that receives high approval from his fellow club members and their guests.

A rather amusing contradictory thing about the average golfer is he will come home with glowing accounts of playing an interesting hole on some neighboring course. But if you suggest building a green like it he will have seven kinds of a cat fit. Funny ain't he? A case in point with us is the No. 4 hole at Perry, Ia. Our No. 4 could be made to conform and be almost as interesting.

One very important thing that the chairman of the smaller club will learn is that for maintaining keen interest of players

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Back of your swing with clubs of Persimmon are many intricate operations ... skill of experienced workmen seasoned knowledge in handling this Ebony ad ... and perfection of scientific precision odern machinery.

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production facilities is in progress. To the end that all who feel the rare pleasure of the clear click of the club head-the accurate flight of the ball-may continue to enjoy to the utmost the pleasures of the game, our resources and facilities will continue to "follow through." An abundant supply to meet the demands of those who appreciate the finer things in life and at play is ever yours to enjoy.

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PERSIMMON -- AMERICAN EBONY-PRODUCES FINER THINGS IN WOOD

the layout of the course ranks right along with condition. In our limited area we haven't got the long hole arrangement I'd like for our 3,000 yd. course. But we do have an interesting variety that calls for all the shots in almost anybody's bag. Here's our card:

HOLE	YDS.	PAR	
1	400	4	
2	300	4	
3	390	4	
4	125	3	
5	500	5	
6	355	4	
7	330	4	
8	220	3	
9	380	4	
	3000	35	

By continuously keeping in mind a longrange landscaping plan we have been able to diminish risks of parallel fairways and use trees and shrubs so they have just as positive effect in determining shot placement as some expensive sand trapping which a club of our income couldn't afford to maintain in first class condition.

One of the effective and unorthodox uses of landscaping as a hazard and direction control factor is a hedge that runs into the course from the Lincoln highway which is to the right of our first hole. How that hedge has reduced the number of balls sprayed out into the highway by being a reminder that one had better aim well to the left! It also reduces club liability for accidents to passing motorists.

It was a tedious trial to overcome the original handicaps of old-fashioned square greens, impoverished soil and worn-out and cheap equipment. Remember, we were trying to have a golf course on a shoestring. Many a time instead of risking criticism for small expenditures I paid the bills myself and forgot them. I spent hours running back and forth with repairs for our ancient Fordson tractor and our fairway mower which was practically a museum piece. Greens were mowed by hand.

Gets Expert Advice

All one winter the boy who did our greenkeeping hauled manure from a dairy five miles away. That gave us a start in getting some real turf on worn-out pasture land. We couldn't afford a greenkeeper. The youth who did the work on the courses did the hauling during the winter in return for occupancy of a house I'd got for him.

As signs of improvement began to show I was cheered and managed to get the fellows to agree to remodeling and modernization of some greens. The members wanted bent and I argued with them bent was wasted on greens of the design and construction of our original ones. I got all the advice I could about the bent to put in.

John Monteith, then of the USGA Green section, came out one time to advise us and was greeted by a stiff argument about grasses from one of our members. My good fellow citizen didn't know any more about bent for greens than a hog knows about Sunday, so his remarks were somewhat embarrassing to me after I'd prevailed upon the USGA authority to come to help us. However John took the assault in stride and outside of saying our member was "hostile" didn't seem to be upset.

Every course I visited was studied for an idea that might contribute to Carroll. At Wakondah at Des Moines I saw how holes that ran with out-of-bounds to the right had been dog-legged in away from the boundaries. We adapted that idea to considerable advantage.

When we finally got the dissenters to agree to remodeling some of our greens and get bent on them, I got Bill Keating, the greenkeeper at the Des Moines G&CC to come, at my expense, to get us started off right. What a joy and relief it was to me to have a member who first met Bill on arrival refer to him as "the best greenkeeper in Iowa," That heralding I knew would get our folks to accept Bill's recommendations as the law.

I'd been having some mild debates with members who wanted the new greens built up from borrow areas along the fences that already were barren of decent top-soil. I was getting nowhere until Bill said we could get enough good soil around the sites of the remodeled greens to give us desired elevation and some smart trapping from where this soil had been removed.

The new greens were designed to fit like nature had made them for the shot. Their soil structure and drainage was made according to sound modern ideas. The bent couldn't be mowed by hand without breaking a man's back so we had to buy a power greens mower, and that's been a great help to us in keeping fine greens turf in best condition.

I'd already found that having a golf course in pretty fair shape in the spring is not too tough a job but the test of good maintenance comes in the summer. Keating's advice to us in bringing the course through the summer was invaluable.

PATENTED



Club _____ January, 1949 Position

55

And let me tell the chairman of any small town course that if there is a greenkeepers' association in his territory by all means attend all of that organization's meetings and listen to and ask questions of these very able men. The Iowa Greenkeepers' association members and meetings have helped me in work for our club more than could be appraised in just dollars and cents. These men not only know what turf and maintenance problems the chairman has but the policy and personnel problems. They'll give you as many of the right answers as the green chairman ever can get from practical experts. But a lot of the other right answers you'll learn only from headaches, as I did.

BUILDS GREENKEEPER

(Continued from page 40)

not only by the graduating class, but by greenkeepers from all parts of New England and neighboring states. This conference also serves as a "homecoming" period for the graduates of the winter school and they gather from far and wide. Speakers at the conference include men noted in the fine turf field. Members of the graduating class are also selected to give their views on the profession.

Upon completion of the course, the graduate has received ten weeks of intensive study. He is eminently equipped to handle the numerous problems of his chosen field. During his studies he has been encouraged to compile a set of complete notebooks from lecture notes and from precis that are handed out in class. These notebooks serve him in future years as a text giving him the latest and best information. It is considered that a graduate's set of notebooks represents at the time of his graduation the most complete and up-to-date text available on the growing of grass.

Graduates of the eighteen Winter Schools which have been held to date, occupy a great variety of positions. Several own their own courses, some are managers, others are pro-greenkeepers and others are with equipment and supply dealers. Five lost their lives during World War II. By far the greater number of the graduates are greenkeeping superintendents. Arthur Anderson, Ed Casey, Jack Counsell, Tom Festo, Emile Mashie, John McNamara, Charles Storrier and Norman Butler are a few of the graduates on whose courses National Championships have been played.

A number of graduates own their own businesses. For example, Clinton Kent Bradley, writer for Golfdom, runs his own equipment business in New Jersey and Henry and Bill Mitchell, two of the four famous Mitchell brothers, all graduates of the school, own and operate a velvet bent nursery in New Hampshire and are also in the golf course construction business.

Ted Glowa is Superintendent of Grounds at the United States Military Academy. Casper McCulloch is greenkeeping superintendent at Banff Springs in the Canadian Rockies and keeps a watchful eye on other Canadian Pacific courses. G. H. Cassell is in charge of all fine turf areas controlled by the United States in the Canal Zone including the Fort Amador Golf Course at Balboa Heights.

Demand Exceeds Supply

It is not within the scope of this article to catalogue the positions held by all the graduates, but all are doing well and all are making valuable contributions year by year to the fine turf work. The alumni of the eighteen Winter Schools now constitute a large group within the greenkeeping profession.



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The two year course is limited to twelve students entering annually . The first year of the course starts at the beginning of October and proceeds to the end of March. A supervised placement training period of six months follows in the student's chosen field, whether it be golf course, park, cemetery or business. At the end of this period, the student returns to the university for a further year of academic work and is graduated in June of his second year. Courses studied provide a thorough grounding in fine turf culture, allied sciences and related fields such as horticulture, floriculture and arboriculture. Courses in business English, speech, accounting and agricultural engineering are also taken by the two year students.

On completion of the two years, the graduate has not only received a broad general education, but has a start towards a life profession for which he is eminently suited by virtue of his education. If two year men elect to proceed to degrees after graduation, they are offered some credit for the two years if their high school academic qualifications are sufficient for university entrance.

The first class to graduate in the two year course finished in 1948. These graduates have already settled in a number of positions with the demand for them exceeding the supply. Paul Murphy of this class has remained on the campus in charge of turf experimental work. Paul O'Leary took up the position of greenkeeping superintendent at the Craig Wood G&CC at Lake Placid. Judson Edwards has received the position of greenkeeper at the Litchfield Country Club in Connecticut and Jack Sullivan took over the position of pro-greenkeeper at the Suffield Country Club in that state. The other boys are in positions either on golf courses or in work associated with them. It is confidently expected that this group of capable young men, now starting in their life's profession will contribute much of value to golf in future years.

Research Complements Teaching

Almost from the inauguration of classes in fine turf management, Professor Dickinson realized the necessity for demonstration turf areas on the campus. Research projects in turf were established and until the war these were an integral part of the Section of Agrostology. At the outbreak of war, research in turf had to be abandoned. This year, however, with the financial and moral assistance of the Massachusetts Section of the New England Turf As-

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heads. SQUARE GRIP and short shaft insure directional accuracy. Three clubs in set. Putter 31", Approach Cleek 32" Chipper 33" long. Nationally advertiand 1,000,000 have been sold. ORDER A SAMPLE SET TODAY. To show them means sales to present users and thousands of players who will buy these extra irons to improve their game. Send for new FREE circular about Walloper (Iron Driver) biggest selling special club ever developed.

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These areas will be used for both classroom demonstrations and for research work.

The research is being arranged so as not to duplicate the work already done by other institutions. Members of the Massachusetts Turf Association are advising on the problems to be studied, and a large part of the research is arranged to prove experimentally conclusions which have already been reached as a result of observations by fine turf growers, Professor Dickinson and the University staff. The experiments are open to visitors and bulletins concerning the findings will be forwarded by the Section of Agrostology to members of the Turf Association.

A commercial firm has recently given an industrial fellowship to the Section of Agrostology for study of a by-product of their industry with the intention of adapting it to golf course and fine turf work. Mr. M. A. Harward, a graduate of Brigham Young University has joined the Section to complete this reseach.

Emphasis on Teaching Greenkeepers

With the assistance of the Massachusetts Turf Association and the recently donated industrial fellowship, the amount of research into fine turf research at Massachusetts is growing steadily and as much extension work from the university to the field is done as time permits. To facilitate this extension, Professor Dickinson has recently completed a comprehensive illustrated booklet on lawn areas which is being published and will be circulated shortly on request.

As a result of the work of this school and other institutions which are offering short courses in greenkeeping, much progress has been made in greenkeeping education since Professor Dickinson established the first class on the University of Massachusetts campus back in 1927. But large numbers of replacements are needed annually and as new golf courses, memorial parks, playing fields and airports are completed, the demand for trained turf specialists continues to be large and exceeds the supply.

Midwest Regional Turf Meeting Purdue Univ., March 7-9

The annual meeting of the Midwest Regional Turf Conference will be held in the Purdue Memorial Union on the campus of Purdue University on March 7, 8, and 9. The conference will begin at 1:00 P.M. on March 7, and will close at noon on March 9. Hotel reservations should be made at the Union Club on the campus or the Fowler Hotel in Layfayette. An educational program is being planned which will be of interest to greenkeepers. Cemetery superintendents, Park superintendents, and others interested in the establishment and maintenance of turf. Address all inquiries concerning the conference to G. O. Mott, Dept. of Agronomy, Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

Tri-State Turf Association Elects 1949 Officers

The Tri-State Assn. which embraces, Western, Eastern Ohio and northern West Virginia elected officers at the December meeting which was held at Beaver Valley C.C., Beaver Falls, Pa. The election results were as follows: Ross Brown, Kahkwa C.C., Erie, Pa. (relected) President, Roy Gibson, Highland C.C., Pittsburg, Pa., 1st Vice President; W. I. Jones, Monongahela C.C., Monongahela, Pa., 2nd Vice President; Henry Bober, Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia, Sec-Treas. Joe Ball, veteran greenkeeper of Chartiers C.C., of Pittsburg, Pa. addressed the group on "Golf Course Problems and their Remedies." The Tri-State group has 70 members and meets regularly each month.

Advisors Appointed for So. Calif. Turf Research Work at UCLA

University of California at Los Angeles now has turf experiment plots established at its West Los Angeles campus. Research work is under direction and supervision of Dr. V. T. Stoutemeyer. Advisory committee to work with Stoutemeyer includes representatives of groups which developed and financed the research program. The committee consists of Wm. Beresford and Wm. Stewart for So. Calif. Golf Course Supts. Assn.; E. B. Marzolf for manufacturers and trade firms in LA area; J. R. Wimmer for Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation; Gilbert L. Skutt for City of LA Parks and Recreation; Sam E. Davis for Public Links GA; Wm. P. Bell for American Association of Golf Course Architects: Jere C. Bowden and C. C. Simpson for So. Calif. GA.

January, 1949



1949 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY

- 7-10-Los Angeles Open, Riviera CC.
- 10-15-P. G. A. Seniors' Championship, P. G. A. National GC, Dunedin, Fla.
- 13-16-Bing Crosby Pro-Am., Inv., Del Monte, Calif.
- 20-23-Long Beach (Calif.) Open Inv., Lakewood CC.
- 27-30-Phoenix (Ariz.) CC, Open Inv.

FEBRUARY

- 3-6-Tucson (Ariz.) Open Inv., El Rio G & CC
- 10-13-Texas Open Inv., Brackenridge Park GC & Ft. Sam Houston GC, San Antonio, Tex.
- 17-20-Houston (Tex.) Open Inv., Pine Forest CC
- 24-27-Rio Grande Valley Open Inv., Harlingen (Tex.) Municipal GC.

MARCH

- 3-6-St. Petersburg (Fla.) Open Inv., Lakewood CC.
- 10-13-Miami (Fla.) Four-Ball Inv., Miami Springs CC.
- 14-La Gorce CC, Pro-Am. Inv., Miami, Fla.
- 15-16-Seminole CC Pro-Am., Inv., Palm Beach, Fla.
- 18-21—Jacksonville (Fla.) Open Inv., Municipal GC.
- 31-Apr. 3-Greater Greensboro (N. C.) Open Inv., Starmount Forest CC.

APRIL

7-10-Masters', Augusta (Ga.) National GC.

MAY

- 12-15-Goodall Round Robin, Wykagyl CC, New Rochelle, N. Y.
- 25-31—National P. G. A., Hermitage CC, Richmond, Va.
- 23-28-British Amateur, Portmarnock, Ireland.

Suggests War Vets Tourney

Louis E. Powers, Tam O' Shanter CC, Orchard Lake, Mich. publicity chmn., Michigan PGA, suggests that PGA sections in 1949 conduct a tournament in which veterans of World Wars I and II alone

JUNE

- 4-8-British Open, Deal.
- 9-11-U. S. Open, Medinah, CC, Chicago dist.
- 14-17-Western G. A. Junior, Univ. of Mich., Ann Arbor.
- 16-19-Western Open, Kellar GC, St. Paul, Minn.
- 20-25—Women's Western G. A. Inv. Open, Oklahoma. G&CC, Oklahoma City.
- 27-July 2-NCAA Championship, Univ. of Iowa, Ames.

JULY

- 11-16—U. S. Public Links, El Rancho GC, Los Angeles.
- 27-30—USGA Junior, Congressional CC, Washington, D. C.

AUGUST

- 1-6—Women's Western Junior, Onwentsia CC, Lake Forest, III.
- 2-4-Hearst National Junior.
- 2-7—U.S.J.C.C. Natl. Junior Amateur, Houston, CC.
- 8-14—All American, Tam O'Shanter CC, Chicago dist.
- 16-18-Western Junior, Univ. of Mich., Ann Arbor.
- 19-20—Walker Cup Match, Winged Foot, Mamoroneck, N. Y.
- 22-27-Women's Western Amateur.
- 29-Sep. 3—U.S.G.A. Amateur Golf Championship, Oak Hill CC, Pittsford, N. Y.

SEPTEMBER

- 12-17-U. S. Women's, Merion CC, Ardmore, Pa.
- 16-17-Ryder Cup Matches, Ganton, Eng.
- 19-25—Western G. A. Amateur, Bellerive CC, St. Louis.

would compete. Entry and admission fees should go to benefit of disabled PGA vets and their families. Sectional winners would meet in a national vet title event. The vet idea of War I vs. War II play also looks like a good one to put on club programs for member play.

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