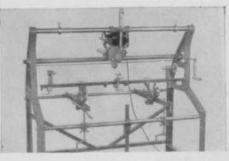
Gasoline shortage may change habit of awarding British Open championship to courses nearer large cities where bigger galleries to meet increased purse will be easier to draw. . British Golf Illustrated suggests more of Britain's promising pros should visit USA to take finishing schooling in tournament golf. . . Royal Hong Kong GC celebrating its 60th birthday. . US Seniors' GA beat Seniors' Golf Society of Great Britain 6 to 4 matches with 2 matches halved at Working (Eng.) GC in first international match of elders since 1938. . . It was first time US seniors' team had won in England.

Arthur Lacey recently elected chmn., British PGA... Irish Golf claims Killarney is "loveliest links in the world."... Judging by photographs with the magazine's story on Killarney we think the journal may be right... Ben Roman doing able job as volunteer press agent for NY Met district PGA... Roman calls attention to inventive genius of the sections' pros as exhibited by new putter designs by Frank Strazza and Willie Goggin.

Hearst newspapers' 1950 national junior championship to be at Lake Merced GC if Nelson Cullenward of San Francisco Call-Bulletin can get the invitation OKed... Have you noticed the number of war vet caddies in metropolitan districts this year?



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. . . Most of them were casualties who couldn't recover and feel weak in inside work. . . Finally women golfers have a clubhouse at St. Andrews, Scotland. . St. Regulus Ladies GC bought a building there.

George Schneiter, PGA Tournament Bureau mgr., writing in USGA Journal suggests "golf associations and manufacturers' representatives form an active committee to put in motion immediately the machinery for promotion of golf course construction." . . . Since 1936 the National Golf Foundation has been doing that job. . . Result has been construction of courses involving investments many times sum of tournament purses and accommodating, each year, many times total of tournament galleries. . . But there's still a lot of need for more courses. . . Promotion of new courses could be helped by tournament stars' aiding in the campaigns.

Most players at Big Oaks fee course (Chicago) thought for many months that the fire which destroyed the pro shop in July 1946 had cost them their pal and pro George Sprafka. Both of George's legs were so badly burned it looked like he was finished with golf forever. This season, with both legs recovered from a complete skin grafting operation, George is on the lesson tee from dawn 'til dusk.

The second "Occo" amateur championship, an annual event at Oelwein (Iowa) CC, sponsored by Earl Rhine, Pres., Oelwein Chemical Co., drew 186 entries from Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota. This year's championship, August 20-21, representing double the first year's entries, was won by Don Palmer of Dubuque. "We believe in encouraging the amateurs," says Howie Atten, host pro. "We ran our 18hole qualifying and 36-hole championship rounds in 11 flights with four prizes for each. It's the richest of Iowa's amateur golf events."

Mary (Mrs. Fred) Bunte retiring as publicity chmn., Women's Western GA... WWGA stars at smooth and successful tournament operation and handles press relations perfectly... To La Bunte is due credit for considerable increase in space given to women's tournament news.

R&A has outlawed hole-in-one insurance. . The insurance paid off \$40 per ace to the insured so he could pay bar bills in celebrating his feat. . Since R&A ruling if an amateur takes the \$40 he becomes a pro. . If the amateur has to take aspirin and icepacks the next morning he still is an amateur. . Lot of policemen's and mailmen's golf tournaments this summer. . Alvin Everett, 40, Rome, Ga., won National Left-Handers' title at French Lick, Ind. . . Everett now shares with Alex Antonio record of having won three

Golfdom

national southpaw titles. . . Lefthanders' 1950 national tournament probably at Bloomington, Ill.

Hugh Moore, Sr., lauded by Sam Glassman, Macon (Ga.) Telegraph sports editor for transformation of Macon's Bowden muny course into one of finest conditioned public courses in south. . . Moore credits city officials with understanding and cooperation that helped him convert a plant that was losing from 2 to 3Gs a month into a sound financial operation. . . Lula Schoenbaechler, wife of Joe, pro at Louisville, Ky., Shawnee muny course subject of feature story in Louisville Courier-Journal as "Boss behind the Boss" in excellent golf operation at Shawnee.

NY Times carried story on Casper G. Peterson, now chief steward of Garden City GC (NY Met dist.) celebrating 50th wedding anniversary and 50 years as a club steward. . . Drought in Europe gave golf courses bad summer. . . Hole-in-one tournament staged by Cleveland (O.) Kiwanis and radio station WJMO for benefit of city's Boystowns yielded 12 aces. . . Worthington balls were used during the four weeks of the competition.

International Harvester Co. Evansville, Ind. plant has 190 employees taking golf

Golf Knows

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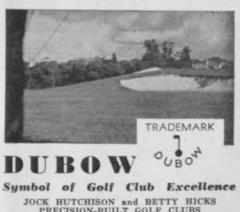
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(Continued on page 74)



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September, 1949

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GOLFDOM

SEPTEMBER • 1949

Superintendents Report Heavy Work Schedule for Fall

By HERB GRAFFIS

Two factors account for prospect of far more than the normal amount of work on golf courses this late summer and fall.

One is that in many sections the weather gave courses hell. Blistering heat, drought, humidity, cloudbursts, wet springs and long periods of hot summer winds day and night damaged courses that usually are in superb condition. There was a complete variety of adverse weather to make superintendents and green-chairmen say "amen" to the reverent reflection of a veteran greenkeeper who said "it's a tough business when the members expect you to out-guess God."

The other factor is the foresight of club officials and course superintendents in protecting against possibility of a general business recession being reflected in curtailment of course budgets. When business booms recede and club revenue naturally diminishes, economy waves hit maintenance budgets. Grass doesn't know how business is. It must be kept in good condition to attract and satisfy players, regardless of variations in club income.

The business slump of 1929-33 and the wartime period when the minimum of care could be given to golf course turf caused later abnormally high requirements of repair and reconditioning work. A lot of this needed work never has been done because of high labor and material costs following the war.

Greenkeepers know this and want to get courses in shape to withstand the threat of another period of extravagant "economy."

But the threat of neglected work isn't appreciated enough by club officials for the simple reason that very few of them stay on their unpaid onerous jobs long enough to have the same sort of solid foundation for keen business judgment they have in their commercial or professional duties.

Fall Work Outlined

From representative course superintendents GOLFDOM has received outlines of fall plans. Considering the long hours and troubles of superintendents' work this troublesome summer we got a lot more responses to our inquiries than we expected. That may be an indication that superintendents are organizing their work so they have time for thinking, planning and appraising their jobs instead of sweating and worrying on routine and emergencies.

A heavy fall program is planned for Interlachen at Minneapolis by Erich Pahl. Interlachen's standard of turf long has been rated exceptionally high but Pahl, one of the country's star greenkeepers, had seen indications that the fine old course needed plenty of modernizing to maintain its rating. He planned to resod four greens and had his nursery cut down to putting green length. High heat and humidity the worst in years in the Twin Cities — had such a bad effect on the nursery sod Pahl abandoned his greens sodding program.

He is going to alter the Interlachen watering system, extending some lines and moving others to the south so fairways can be kept properly watered against the prevailing south wind. Pahl also plans rebuilding several tees to level them and change grades for easier maintenance.

Water system revision will be prominent on the course work programs of many clubs this fall. The severe drought in several districts subjected old equipment and systems to heavy service that revealed serious defects.

Since the earlier systems were installed there have been many improvements made in design and equipment of the systems which assure better distribution of water and greater economy in operation. With pipe and other equipment being available again at prices clubs can afford general overhauling of watering systems is coming in for over-due attention.

Fairways to be Renovated

The almost miraculous performance of 2, 4-D in weed elimination has put fall fertilizing programs in the spotlight. Many smaller clubs found after 2, 4-D's elimination of weeds they didn't have any too much fairway turf left. Seeding and fertilizing to develop good turf so it would keep weeds crowded out has become a "must" at hundreds of courses this fall.

At Interlachen Pahl has good fairways and is giving them 5-10-5 fertilizer at the rate of 400 lbs. an acre this fall as logical maintenance. He's also replacing a few dead trees and planting trees in bare spots where golf architecture and landscaping recommend such planting.

Pahl says he's better off than a lot of clubs for equipment. He is enthusiastic about the Model T Rotoette for cultivating flower gardens and loosening hard sand traps. He says that this fall he'll probably take the sod off a green or two, give the soil a good roto-tilling and replace the sod. He'll thoroughly spike and topdress his other greens.

Orville W. Young, superintendent at Moraine CC, Dayton, O., has areas on his splendidly maintained course that don't suit him or the members and he's going to correct them this fall. In 1934 a fairway watering system was installed through the center of Moraine fairways. A bent mixture was sown in seeding over the pipe trenches. Bent has taken over most of the fairways. On the outer edges, however, bluegrass and fescue remain. These grasses can't stand the close mowing (¾ in.) of the bent fairways so Young is going to put Highland bent on these edges in September. Bent fairways and tees in Ohio took a beating during the first two hot humid weeks of July. Young got through in good shape but like many other top men in turf management lost some turf.

Bent Fairways Studied

Reports from different points point to the necessity of changes in bent strains and maintenance practices before greenkeepers get to be nearly unanimous in wanting bent fairways wherever that grass will grow. Cutting, disease, watering and fertilizing problems of bent fairways mean changes from the bluegrass and fescue procedure. Bent areas in fairway turf today have spread so a large part of numerous fairways is bent of a type that is satisfactory for players' footing and not altogether satisfactory for lies and divots. The objections of uncertain footing and huge divots also apply to bent tees of strains that have been satisfactory on the greens.

Heavy play this season has given tees so much of a beating that there'll probably be more tee enlarging and remodeling this fall than in any other year. Private courses, as well as daily fee and public courses, have found this year that unless they changed tee plates twice a day on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays their short hole tees were damaged badly enough to require major repair jobs. In many cases lack of nursery sod and manpower prevented prompt and proper attention to tee repair.

In some cases tees of the customary rectangular design and slightly elevated





Closeup showing near 100% weed kill after 2, 4-D application at Moraine CC. Dayton. Ohio. (L) Broad leaf weeds in rough before being sprayed in late June. (R) One month after application of 2, 4-D.

construction are to be displaced by remodeled tees on fairway level where drainage will be O.K.

Drainage Work Extensive

An extensive amount of drainage system enlargement, repair and modernization is scheduled for this fall. Ralph DeMase, supt. of the Hampshire CC, Mamaroneck, N.Y., is one of the many who has planned tee alteration and drainage system improvement before snowfall.

Obvious inadequacies of drainage systems which kept courses out of play following spring rains and summer cloudbursts by no means account for the considerable drainage work on fall programs. The educational campaigning of Noer and Grau at the turf short courses and the highly valuable address of G. O. Mott of Purdue at the National Greenkeeping Supts. Assn. conference last February directed attention to faulty drainage as the cause of considerable costly turf trouble.

Clearer understanding of the requirements of golf course drainage in relation to soil conditioning and maintenance of good turf has led to planning considerable revision of drainage systems this fall. Surface and subsurface drainage both are to be corrected at many clubs. Easing in labor market is reflected in much of this work. With small trenching machines available for fast, neat and economical work, price of the underground work is in line.

Correction of surface drainage in numerous instances is coordinated with course architectural changes. Architects report a record amount of remodeling work. Quite a volume of this work is at smaller clubs where they have discovered that architectural fees are not so stiff they are beyond the reach of the 9 hole clubs.

Smaller Clubs Improving

Demands of the players in smaller cities and towns and increased volume of play account for a great deal of fall work at such plants as the Fargo (N.D.) CC where Arthur J. Jensen is supt. This fall three of the greens are to be rebuilt. The 10th and 17th were close together in the original layout. They're being joined to make one very large green with two holes, as is done at St. Andrews, Scotland.

The Fargo program also calls for enlargement and resurfacing six other greens as part of a long range plan. Back tees are being built to make the course tougher for exhibitions and tournaments.

Enlargement of 9-hole courses is set as fall work in several places, among them at Contra Costa GC, Concord, Calif., where W. Tebaldi is supt. Native grass has provided the fairways for the first 9. This fall Tebaldi has the task of seeding the first 9 without halting play and building the second 9.

Fairway renovation is on the docket at many clubs. At the Battle Creek (Mich.) CC where Harold Peck succeeded his father, the late Andrew Peck, as supt., fairways are to be fertilized for the first time in many years and the fairways are to be rather completely overhauled. Peck has scheduled a lot of work on greens and fairways for his Aerifier this fall and will build some additional short tees for women and high handicap players.



Spraying rough in late June with 2, 4-D at Moraine. Supt. Orville Young uses 1 lb. of 2, 4-D to 75 gals. of water per acre at 15 lbs. pressure.

At the larger clubs course management faces fall as the busiest time of the year. The club officials and players think that the spring is the time when the superintendent and his force are under peak pressure but as a matter of fact the major jobs are completed by that time and the superintendent then figures he can settle down to his tough schedule of routine — barring when nature doesn't act up.

Gordon Brinkworth, supt. at the Minikahda Club, Minneapolis, has a fall work program that shows how keeping this fine plant in excellent condition is a management operation that is heaviest out of the spring and summer growing season.

Brinkworth's schedule, typical of that at larger clubs, includes:

Excavating and construction drain sumps for new irrigation system; Construction of new No. 9 tee; Possible dismantling of one old tennis court to make room for No. 1 tee enlargement; Lining out 500 saplings in new tree nursery; Rehabilitation of all turf nurseries; Possible regrading a new trap and skeet range; Erecting 1,000 ft. of fence on steel and concrete posts; stockpiling cinders for non-skid

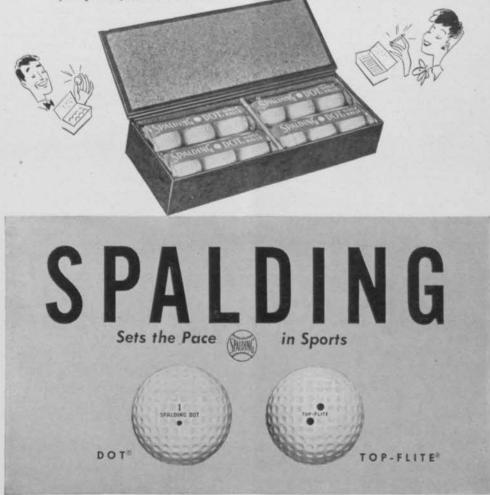
(Continued on page 58)



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Cooper Saves Time With "Self-Selling" Shop

"More merchandise in sight means more dollars in sales" is the policy followed very successfully by Harry Cooper, pro at Lakeside CC (Los Angeles district).

Cooper's shop, containing approximately 400 square feet of floor space, is continually stocked with \$14,000 in clubs, balls, bags, clothing and other accessories. All but a small reserve of Cooper's club inventory is attractively displayed on double deck racks along two sides of the shop while clothing, shoes and other items are presented in showcases running the full length of the shop.

The proof of the Cooper statement (plus pleasing presentation of stock) is in the fact that Cooper has an almost complete turn-over of clubs and balls every seven weeks with clothing and other accessories stock being turned over at almost the same interval in maintaining a thorough inventory.

Being located in Southern California, Cooper's shop business is not as severely subjected to the "on" and "off" seasons experienced by pros in other sections of the country. However, climate alone does not account for the healthy sales picture in Cooper's shop.

The biggest sales factor, according to Harry, is the old and well-proven technique of the "personal touch." He says:

"Experienced golfers buy clubs by 'feel.' However, frequently the pro is called upon to aid a beginner in his or her selection of clubs and to teach them how properly fitted clubs should feel. My policy is to help every customer in my shop in his selection of a set of clubs, spending all the time necessary to satisfy not only the customer, but myself, that the clubs he buys are the clubs best suited for him.

"The time spent with beginners is repaid many times over in repeat sales of balls and accessories and in establishing the habit of depending on the pro shop for all golf merchandise," according to Cooper.

Works on Timetable

With a membership of 524, and 475 bags in the racks, Harry has worked out a schedule to handle both large volume sales and lessons. Starting on the practice tee at 9:00 a.m., Cooper teaches until noon, breaking for two hours during which time he handles traffic through his shop. During the two hour session Harry works closely with members in their selection of merchandise. With club sales mostly in the two hour period, Cooper can return to the practice tee



Harry Cooper, professional, Lakeside CC (Los Angeles dist.), looks over new club before putting in display rack. Big shop enables Harry to keep large stock of well arranged merchandise within easy reach for customer inspection and handling.