

increases the mowing costs, and increasing the number of traps is a decided added financial burden to the maintenance budget.

Well, what of it! We get our added (?) fun. Sure we do, but we don't pay the fiddler or the janitor and by and by the old dance floor gets weak, splintery, and dusty and the music off key and the ice cream is sour. Then we move to another dance hall.

Seriously, if the alterations are justifiable they are worthy of being maintained. Make them, and enjoy them, but realize that golf course alterations are seldom made to decrease the cost of golfing; so give the greenkeeper sufficient additional funds for proper maintenance.

Next month—Chapter VIII—Understanding and interpretation of costs.

Compost

By COLONEL JOHN MORLEY

COMPOST as it is generally known contains a liberal amount of organic matter, especially when it is made of sods and other vegetable matter as well as a fair supply of stable manures (free from wood shavings), and a couple of layers of sharp sand.

Compost is made for two principal reasons. First, to breed into the soils nitroifying bacteria. These bacteria take the organic materials which the compost contains, helps to decompose them and releases the various fertilizing elements, so that when they are applied to the soil intended to be topdressed they become immediately available as plant food for the grass.

Second, to create a good porous soil. In order to hasten nitrification a small quantity of lime or sulphate of ammonia should be used. This produces heat that helps to hasten fermentation. In order to check nitrogen from escaping or leaching out of a compost pile both sides and both ends should be well protected with sods. The top of the pile should consist of a layer of sharp sand so that water can enter and penetrate more freely into the soil.

In making compost we should remember that the productiveness of any soils for grasses is determined in a very large degree by the amount of water it can hold, and by the manner in which it is held. And also by the facility and completeness with which the grass plants growing in it are able to withdraw that water for their use as it is needed.

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