

Bartlesville Course Ready for Amateur

BARTLESVILLE — Hillcrest Country club will be in excellent condition for the state amateur championship June 10-17. Veteran course superintendent Henry Manley, who has been in charge of the course for the past 14 years, guarantees it.

Last year during the drought the course had a lot of trouble with the greens during the state open. The trouble was caused from salt in the Caney river



from which water is secured. Recent rains have flushed out the river and the water is now in a usable condition.

Great activity is in progress on the greens despite bad

weather which has slowed Manley and his crew.

"The greens will be in good, playable condition for the amateur," Manley promised when asked point blank about them. "The rainy spring has kept us from getting along as quickly as we would have liked, but we'll have them ready."

Hillcrest is one of the state's top golf courses. Designed and built by the late Perry Maxwell in 1925 with sand greens. Bermuda was placed on the front nine in 1930 and Bent was placed on the back nine in 1931. The front nine was changed to Bent in 1932.

Last year the club spent ap-

proximately \$60,000 for a fairway watering system. They are being aerified and fertilized this year and will be in perfect condition for the amateur unless there is a poor growing season.

Present work on the greens includes deep drilling and the replacing of the soil with a mixture of soil peat moss and sand that will drain off any salt from the river water. The greens are to be verticut and get fertilization plus seeding in weak portions of the turf.

THE course has a total of 38 traps, 20 on the front nine and 18 on the back. All of these are to be resanded and trimmed. Routine treatment is due the big trees.

In reserve for use on greens should it be needed is a huge new 24,000-square foot nursery which is half Seaside bent and half C-7. Present greens are in Seaside. Eventually the club hopes to have all 18 greens in C-7. Two of these may be sodded in late this year.

Hampering work on the green has been a shortage of suitable soil. Nine samples were rejected from the course property and nine others from the Bartlesville area before a usable one was discovered east of Dewey.

The club planning committee has announced to members: "You will receive plans soon for clubhouse improvement. This has been sorely needed for a long time. Plans are now in shape to submit for your approval. This will be done as soon as possible."