Cooperative Purchasing

The success of the cooperative purchasing bureaus of the Golf Association of Philadelphia, the Cleveland District Golf Association, and the Chicago District Golf Association has led to a movement in the Long Island Golf Association looking toward the establishing of a similar bureau for the golf clubs which are members of the Long Island association. In a statement issued February 15, 1924, from the office of the Secretary of the Long Island Golf Association, 280 Starr Street, Brooklyn, Mr. Wesley M. Oler, Jr., president of the Association, estimates that at least 20 per cent can be saved by each club on its total purchases, by means of a cooperative purchasing bureau. The plan is to have requisitions printed and issued to each club, with order blanks to be issued by the purchasing agent to the vendor. All prices will be checked by the purchasing agent and bills forwarded to the chairman of the green committee or of the house committee of each club for approval and payment. It will be required that all purchases, except the very insignificant ones which may be made from the club’s petty cash, shall pass through the purchasing bureau. In this way representatives of vendors will be compelled to call upon the association’s purchasing agent, who, by reason of his familiarity with the quality and kinds of materials needed, and his facilities for grouping the clubs’ requirements, will be in a position to obtain lower prices, better qualities, and more satisfactory deliveries. It is intended to include in this arrangement the purchasing of grounds and house supplies and equipment, but not commissary supplies. The purchasing agent of a large corporation has offered his service free of charge as purchasing agent of the cooperative bureau. The only expense to the clubs will be printing, stationery, and stenographic hire, this expense to be pro-rated among the clubs according to the gross amount of purchases made. The opportunities for savings in time and money through the agency of cooperative purchasing bureaus are very great. It is believed that golf associations interested in this feature will obtain helpful suggestions by acquainting themselves with the experiences of the Philadelphia, Cleveland, and Chicago associations, the offices of which are at the following addresses: Golf Association of Philadelphia, 214 West Washington Square, Philadelphia; Cleveland District Golf Association, 603 Newman-Stern Building, East 12th Street and Walnut Avenue, Cleveland; Chicago District Golf Association, 108 South La Salle Street, Chicago.