NEW construction and alteration of
golf courses these days requires
that officials of proposed and existing
clubs know more about the work of the
golf course architect.

A. H. Tull, architect of a number of
famed American courses outlined some
high points of the architect's work for a
club in a letter from which we quote:

"A golf course architect usually charges
a flat fee (corresponding roughly to 10% of
the estimated cost of the course) for
design and supervision of construction.
He usually supplies a construction
superintendent who is paid by the club.
He supplies a plan of general layout,
working plans of each green, a plan of
the watering system and complete speci-
fications. He passes on bids if construc-
tion by contract is contemplated. He or
his assistant visit the
work about once a
week during construction to check on the
progress of the work and to direct the
contouring of greens and bunkering. He
personally stakes out tee, green, and
bunker locations.

"Sometimes, when the club has avail-
able a competent construction man or
contractor, the club's own committee
supervises the work to the extent of see-
ing that the plans and specifications are
followed. In this case, the golf course
architect makes three or four visits to
develop the design of the course during
construction, and in this case, his fee is
less.

"In some cases the construction work
can be carried out by the club's own
superintendent or by a contractor, in
which case the golf course architect usu-
ally supplies an expert to contour greens
and bunkers near the end of the construc-
tion period.

"If the golf course architect supervises
the entire operation of building the
course, he supplies his own superintendent
paid by the club. This superintendent
would carry on the work by "force ac-
count" by which is meant that the club
meets the payroll and pays for the
materials, or he acts as the Club's agent
in dealing with contractors who do the
work by lump sum contract.

"Some golf course architects combine
the functions of designer and contractor.

"Just as houses are designed for peo-
ples of varying desires and pocket-books,
so are golf courses. As a yard-stick, it is
my opinion that a fine 18-hole golf course
can be constructed for $50,000.00, when
labor is paid $.75 per hour. To this would
be added an amount necessary to cover
the cost of drainage, rock removal and
land-clearing if such were necessary. Pass-
ably good courses have been constructed
for $1,000.00 a hole, and many courses
have cost ten times as much.

"Where there is no land clearing, drain-
age, or rock-removal, a course can be
constructed at the rate of one or two holes
a week, but I wouldn't advise it, even tho' I have, at times, to make such
speed myself. No designer can make the
best of his opportunities under such pres-
sure. The many details of design go to
make the perfect hole, and these details
are developed as the construction work
progresses.

"Fill placed in greens and tees should
be allowed to settle and weather before be-
ing topsoiled. Flat surfaces such as road-
ways can be mechanically compacted, but
such methods do not work on contoured fill
or on fill which is finally to be a base for
growing turf.

"Generally speaking, construction should
start in the spring, seeding should be
done the following fall, and the course
opened for play the spring following, in
the north; or as soon as the turf is
sufficiently developed, in the south."

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Greenkeepers National Meet;
Cleveland, Jan. 29-Feb. 1

★ GREENKEEPING SUPTS. ASSN. will
renew its national convention and equip-
ment exhibit, held annually before the war.
Dates set for the affair are Jan. 29
through Feb. 1, 1946. The convention
sessions and exhibits are to be at Carter
hotel, Cleveland, O.

The event will be the 17th of the
greenkeepers' national conventions, and
the first held since Feb. 1942. Other war-
time national sessions were called off be-
cause of the government's request to
eliminate non-essential travel. Officers of
the organization, headed by Harold
Stodola, pres., were retained for duration
of the war by mail vote of the members.

An attendance of more than 600 is ex-
pected at the GSA first postwar meeting,
hence the advisability of making hotel
reservations early. Exhibit space reser-
vations should be made of the GSA sec.,
A. L. Brandon, St. Charles, Ill. Frank
Ermer of Cleveland again will be the
exhibition floor manager for the associa-
tion.