



Correcting Windburn Injury Without Interrupting Play

by O. J. NOER

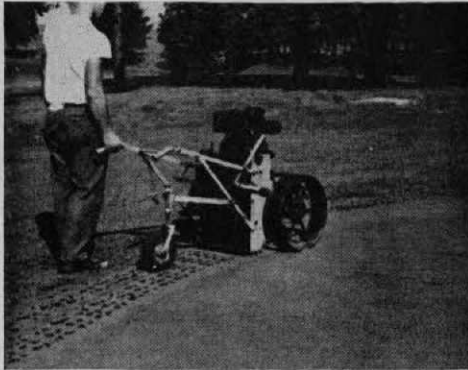
In the spring of 1949 the greens at Ozaukee Country Club suffered badly from windburn. Grass started growth, but began to wither and die in spots soon afterwards. Injury was mostly on the knobs and higher ridges, or on the greens facing the south. The prevailing winds are from that direction. Examination of the turf disclosed a shallow, meager root system, and a thick surface mat of grass.

The season before was exactly the same. The greens at Brynwood were badly damaged by windburn that spring, but escaped in 1949. These greens were aerified twice during 1948. Examination showed deep white roots in the spots cultivated by the aerifier spoons.

Raking out the seemingly dead grass in 1948 and reseeding with bent or red top did not result in quick recovery at Brynwood. The spots were bad for play until midsummer. New growth from surviving nodes on seemingly dead grass accounted for as much or more of the recovery than the seed.

Dr. Conroy, Chairman at Ozaukee, sent the greenkeeper to Chicago to observe the operation of a Turferator at LaGrange. Prompt delivery of a machine was secured and the greens were drilled, starting with

1. Injured spots in spring on a windburned green, due to shallow rooted turf. The high spots were affected most.
2. The greens were drilled promptly in spring, and holes were left open to encourage deep root formation.
3. The green surfaces looked like this after drilling.
4. The small amount of soil around each drill hole was removed with a dandelion-type rake.
5. New white roots started to develop immediately. By midsummer they extended beyond the depth of the drill hole.



the worst ones first. Two men were used. They exchanged jobs every half hour. While one operated the drill machine, the other removed the scattered soil around the drill holes with a fine toothed dandelion type rake. The greens got no top-dressing that spring because of the matted condition of the turf. They received some 3-9-18 to start growth and provide phosphate and potash. Organic nitrogen was provided also. After that the greens received from 1 to 1½ pounds actual nitrogen per month until fall.

Water was used right after a green was drilled. As new growth started, the turf was watched closely during the daytime on windy days and a little water was applied by hand to provide moisture at the surface while the new growth was becoming established.

Play was not interrupted at any time. Dr. Conroy decided upon the Turferator because it disfigured the surface less than any other machine available at the time.

The Turferator was used more or less during the summer. The collars around the edge of the greens were drilled, and the machine was used whenever localized dry spots developed. Arnold Wessel, greenkeeper, said the cost of drilling was more than saved by the less amount of daytime handwatering required in hot weather. From Decoration Day on the greens were never better—according to playing members, and in the last analysis, they are the final judges.

Detroit District Report Shows Crowded Clubs

Detroit District Golf Assn. annual report for 1949 shows that at reporting clubs of the DDGA 32 Detroit area and five clubs elsewhere in Michigan there is room for 205 members. Last year's report showed room for 353 more members in clubs having membership limits. Play at private clubs of DDGA was up in 1949. At public courses, due to discontinuance of daylight-saving time rounds played in Detroit area dropped 18,000 from 1948 high of 296,849. Increases in costs of general operations and course maintenance resulted in increased dues and assessments at seven clubs of the association.

Questionnaire produced DDGA member club reports on status of membership, dues, assessments, tax, rounds played in 1948 and 1949, green fees, per cent of increase of golf course and general operations and regulations concerning members' entertainment of guests.

Considerable attention was given to caddy welfare during 1949. Rates for

1949 were recommended to be retained in 1950. Rates range from \$1.75 18-holes single and \$3.00 double to \$1.35 single and \$2.25 double for Class B caddies. Recommended 25 cent increase for twilight caddying and 25 cent increase, at discretion of caddy-master, for caddying in rain.

Green Section of DDGA made especially interesting report. Items covered: Progress Report of Turf Fellowship at Michigan State College and costs and other operating data. Greenhouse and field projects at MSC studied effect of watering, cutting length and effect of cutting lengths on roll of ball, as well as height of ball from ground on creeping red fescue and Kentucky bluegrass fairways.

Course maintenance costs ranged from \$38,000 to \$9,000 with average of \$21,435. Much credit was given to value of greenkeepers' meetings.

Robert Trent Jones Elected Golf Architects' Head

Robert Trent Jones, N.Y., was elected pres., American Society of Golf Course Architects at the association's annual meeting held at Montego Bay, Jamaica. Wm. Langford, Chicago, was elected vp and William Bell, Pasadena, Calif., sec-treas. Three new members: Bell, Jr. of Pasadena, Harrison of Pittsburgh and McCann of Vancouver were elected to regular membership. A new classification of associate members was created. Eligible under this classification are members of firms of the Society's regular members. A classification of complimentary membership also was created to recognize amateurs who contribute to the advancement of golf course architecture.

The Society took formal action in adopting a policy of close cooperation with the Green Section of the USGA. The resolution approved as standard practice the inclusion of Green Section recommendations on grass strains after the Section's recommendations had three years of tests.

A memorial plaque to Donald Ross is to be installed at Pinehurst by the architects' society, according to action taken at the Jamaica meeting. The Society's team of Trent Jones, Stanley Thompson, William Langford and William Gordon defeated a team of British amateurs, 15 to 3 in a convention entertainment feature. Jones was medalist with 72 on the par 69 Fairfield CC course.

One result of the Society's meeting was to spur Jamaica authorities to installing two new courses as tourist attraction.

Society's 1951 meeting probably will be held at Del Monte, Calif.