AN OPEN LETTER TO MY FRIENDS IN GOLF - FROM DR. MARVIN H. FERGUSON

Dear Friends:

On August 31, 1968, I will terminate a period of employment with the United States Golf Association which began more than 28 years ago. During that period of time, I have come to have a profound appreciation and respect for the men who guide the USGA and for the principles which govern their actions. It has been a challenging, rewarding, and satisfying career.

These facts will enable you to understand my mixture of feelings - composed of regret and keen anticipation - as I make plans to go into other work. My job in the future will be that of president of Agri-Systems of Texas, Inc. My company will be active in the following diverse but related areas of service.

1. Golf course design and construction supervision. I will be personally responsible for this work, but my own knowledge of the game and its requirements will be supplemented by the talents of landscape architects, engineers, and site planners on our consulting staff. I am hopeful that our past efforts in research which sought to devise improved construction methods, and our abiding concern about maintenance considerations will enable us to create golf courses that are without persistent maintenance problems.

2. Irrigation system design and installation supervision. Mr. Herman Johnson, a man with an enviable reputation for competence, will be in charge of this work.

3. Soil analysis for putting greens has been done by our laboratory for about five years. Techniques and standards have grown out of research done under my supervision.

4. Sod production. Our company will develop modest acreages of specialty turfgrasses. These will be offered to homeowners as well as to golf clubs.

5. Consulting service. Our permanent staff of turfgrass specialists is supplemented by consulting specialists in all phases of agriculture and engineering. We can help with any job requiring expert knowledge of plants and soils.

We hope we may serve you. Don't let our company name mislead you. Our home base is in Texas, but our service is available anywhere. Best wishes.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Marvin H. Ferguson