



### WHAT? NO PENSION?

A good friend of long standing, a retired golf course superintendent now living in Florida, wrote to me recently. After 26 years of devoted service to his club (and he had many good years of service left) he was "retired," actually dismissed, without a pension of any kind. I know the man and I know the club. He introduced innovations in equipment, fertilizers, ground covers and many other things. What I don't understand is how the businessmen for whom he worked could so callously turn him out to pasture without the thank you and the courtesy of some sort of pension or endowment. It is a bit like unharnessing the horse, opening the pasture gate and giving him a slap on the rump.

This friend is understandably bitter, soft-spoken as he is. It is too late to turn back the clock for him, but his experience, which is shared by many, should guide present and future negotiations between club and superintendent. Surely there must be some guidelines that can help the new or old superintendent achieve a just and honorable contract, which will help to sustain him when he retires. Club officials should bow their heads in shame if they do not insist upon some such stipulation in the contract. One may safely assume that nine out of 10 businessmen in the club have made sure that they will have a retirement income. Shouldn't they also do the same for one of their most devoted employees?

I have just talked with another good friend who has been at his club since it was built about 1952. He has tried to negotiate a retirement benefit for several years, but each time he is told that he is selfish in wanting something just for him-

self. These short-sighted officials one day will wonder, "Why can't we attract good men?" The horse is not likely to be drawn to an empty feed-bag.

### MULTIPLE SOLUTION

**Q**—*In reviewing your Q's and A's, we see that on more than one occasion you stress the value of white soluble sulfate of potash, which can be applied in water suspension. We note, too, that for putting greens, you seem to favor sprayable powdered ureaform. We can obtain the UF powder, but can't find the sprayable sulfate of potash. Is there any possibility that the UF people might supply the  $K_2SO_4$  along with their product or even in a mixture?* (Virginia)

**A**—Recent contacts with manufacturers of both products give me strong hope that the UF people will supply the sprayable potash, too. One outfit is considering a 3-0-1 ratio mix of UF powder and sprayable (no clog) potash. Because some conditions dictate a different ratio (3-0-2 in some cases), it is important to have the sulfate of potash on hand as a separate item. As you are well aware, the big advantage of sprayable powders over granular products is "no mower pickup." Safety also counts.

### WHEN TO ADD P?

**Q**—*On our 18 hole course (sandy soil, very porous soil in the greens) we have what many golfers call "near perfect putting turf." They putt true, are resilient without being spongy, a well-played shot holds very well and the color and texture are excellent. The grass is Penn-cross, which is very responsive to our program.*

*I want to outline the feeding program and then ask the \$64 question.*

*continued on page 58*

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