

## New Wage, Hour Exemption Granted Some Country Clubs

The office of the federal Wage-Hour Administration has issued an opinion letter extending the amusement and recreational exemption, in part, to certain country clubs. The same letter reaffirmed the applicability of the partial overtime exemption to restaurant employees of such clubs.

A section of the Fair Labor Standards Act provides a complete exemption from its minimum wage and overtime pay provisions for "any employe employed by an establishment which is an amusement or recreational establishment if (a) it does not operate for more than seven months in any calendar year, or (b) during the preceding calendar year its average receipts for any six months of such year were not more than one-third of its average receipts for the other six months of such year."

The office said that country clubs which are not open to the general public, but are available only to a select group of persons who have been specifically selected to club membership or whose membership fees are so high as to exclude the general public, are not considered amusement or recreational establishments for the purposes of the exemption.

## True Temper Steelworkers Walk Off Job in 4 States

Striking steelworkers shut down True Temper Corp. operations in four states July 1, walking off the job at midnight when their master contract expired.

Ken Davis, director of industrial relations working out of the company's Cleveland offices, told GOLFDOM, "We are on strike now, and it is difficult to say how long the strike will last. As of yet, the workers have not officially given us their issues." He said deliveries have not been affected, and he does not foresee any problems in the near future.

The 1,900 members of the United Steelworkers union have set up pickets at plants in Geneva, Ohio; Saybrook, Ohio; Charleston, W. Va.; Dunkirk, N.Y.; and Amory, Miss.



**Trojan celebrates 50th** — Trojan Battery Co. is now celebrating its 50th year in business from its 55,000 square feet of modern manufacturing facilities in Santa Fe Springs, Calif. It was started optimistically in a small, back-alley shop in January 1925 by the late George Godber and his brother-in-law Carl Speer. The company was the supplier of batteries in 1947 for a small manufacturer of a three-wheeled electric invalid vehicle which was the first to be tried for carrying golfers on the course, and has grown with the golf car industry. While strongly continuing in the quality automotive and commercial battery field, the major portion of its production and development efforts are now in batteries for motive power — from wheelchairs to lift trucks. Its future planning commitments revolve around the motto that "loads will be moved; people transported; and energy conserved with properly constructed batteries."

## Amur the Answer for Aquatic Weeds?

There might be an alternative to costly chemicals utilized in ridding aquatic weeds at some courses. The white amur, a fish native to the waters of China, Siberia and Manchuria, is currently being used to aid weed control.

The amur actually consumes underwater weeds and moss as its sole diet. On occasion, the fish will digest up to four times its weight in vegetation.

Arkansas is one of the states in which law allows the fish and their use has met with success at several courses, including the Sheridan Golf Club in Sheridan, Ark.

Superintendent Charlie Winkle told GOLFDOM that his club has enjoyed weed-free ponds and lakes, since introducing amurs into the water two years ago. "We have about three acres of water here and two summers ago we brought in 65 of the fish. Things have really cleared up," Winkle said.

One example of Sheridan's amur's work is the club's main lake that a couple of years ago was full of weeds and today is clear and clean. "I heard the fish were available in the area and I was having a real problem with weeds and algae. It made ball retrieval almost impossible. Along with that, the algae was a breeding place for mosquitoes, as well as being unsightly and odoriferous," commented Winkle.

Winkle admitted that he was

afraid to use chemicals in the water for fear of adverse effects, so he chose the fish. "After a few months, the lake was free of weeds. I then had more time to work on the fairways and greens."

Average life expectancy for the amur is 10 to 15 years and since the fish are not suited to reproduce in this country's environment, there is little threat their numbers will increase after being put into the water.

Experts in the aquatic weed control area think the amur can complement a selective chemical program well and help cut costs. Dr. Alva Burkhalter, coordinator of Aquatic Plant Research Control for the Florida Department of Natural Resources, told GOLFDOM that the fish is probably common in 48 states and laws vary on the use of the amur from state to state.

"Use of the amur depends on the ruling of each state fish and game commission," Burkhalter noted. According to Burkhalter, in Florida, chemical weed control can run from \$100 to \$300 an acre, a year, but amurs cost anywhere from \$1 to \$2 a piece and their use has been successful. One to two fish per acre would probably be adequate.

Superintendents interested in finding out about the prospects in their locations are advised that they should consult their state fish and game commission to check on the legality of using the fish.