



Jack gets to grips with a Sunningdale green.

as long as we are allowed to aerate, compensating for the additional traffic.

Somehow we must find a way to carry out aeration programmes without disturbing the golfer. Every experienced greenkeeper knows that a well-aerated soil aerates well with little evidence of the work having been carried out.

The real problem lies in very compacted soils where aerators

leave obvious evidence of where they have been working, i.e. surface plucking and tear, causing unacceptable disturbance to putting surfaces.

I know of greenkeepers whose lives are made a misery for carrying out sensible greenkeeping programmes. Some lose their jobs. I know others who have become ill with worry about it. This problem has brought a measure of stress that was never

there before and the greenkeeper is the whipping boy.

The work has to be done and I would suggest it is tackled early in the week and as early in the morning as possible. What the golfer does not see, etc...

I would also suggest that greenkeepers obtain clear guidelines on what their club's policy is regarding sensible aeration, taking away some of the burden. Unfortunately, many I talk to have no guidelines whatsoever regarding policy in this matter.

Much as I am sure that we should let the golfer know what we are doing and why, I very much doubt if he wants to know. After all, he is out to enjoy a game of golf. It is possible that one of the pleasures of playing the game is the right to criticise the greenstaff. After all, one of my great pleasures is to see people enjoying playing the game on courses we have prepared for them.

● *Jack McMillan is the course manager at Sunningdale Golf Club and vice chairman of the British and International Golf Greenkeepers Association.*

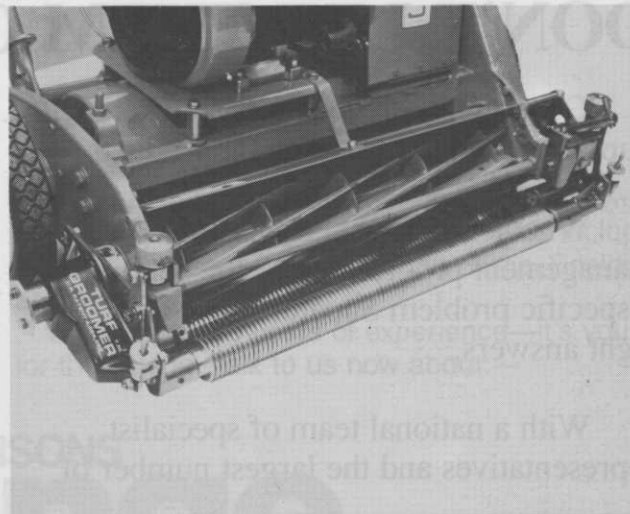
JACOBSEN HONOUR INVENTOR

The late Lawrence L. Lloyd, past member of the GCSAA and inventor of the Turf Groomer greens conditioner, was honored at a reception Sunday, February 1, held by Jacobsen Division of Textron Inc.

At the reception, John R. Dwyer, Jr., President of Jacobsen, presented Mrs. Barbara Lloyd with a plaque commemorating her husband's contributions to modern turf care equipment design.

Lloyd developed and tested the Turf Groomer over a period of two years. His primary goal was to combat fast thatch build-up on putting greens, but his invention proved to be beneficial in a number of ways. Improved green consistency, increased green speed without lowering cutting height, and improved control of broadleaf weeds, on green fringes were just a few of these additional benefits. Use of the greens conditioner, first introduced last year on the Greens King IV riding greens mower, has been shown to improve green health and consistency. Increases in green speed of as much as 25% have been achieved without lowering the cutting height.

Lloyd was vice president and superintendent at Rancho Canada Golf Club in Carmel, California. Jacobsen purchased his patent in 1985. As part of the patent purchase agreement, the Lloyd estate receives income from the sale of each Turf Groomer.



The Turf Groomer greens conditioner is now available on Jacobsen's standard and Championship walk-behind Greens Mowers.

TURF PROBLEMS?



DON'T LET THEM GET ON TOP OF YOU

Get tough with your turf attackers with Supaturf's range of protection products.

Whether you want a full turf management programme or the solution to a specific problem Supaturf have the right answers.

With a national team of specialist representatives and the largest number of

branches servicing customer needs throughout England and Wales, Supaturf can supply the full range of grass seeds, chemicals, fertilizers and sports ground equipment and accessories.

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The Johnson J-Range is a 'super-grass' range and has everything you need for the finest quality sports, amenity, local authority and landscaping schemes.

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of reclamation mixtures.

If you wish to make up your own mixtures we can supply the quality cultivars you need including Waldorf, Dawson, Banner, Parade, Arno, Scaldis and Merlin.

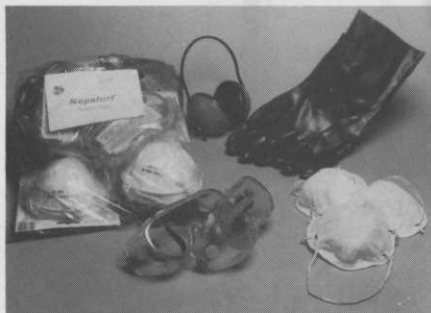
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As A Result Of Legislation...



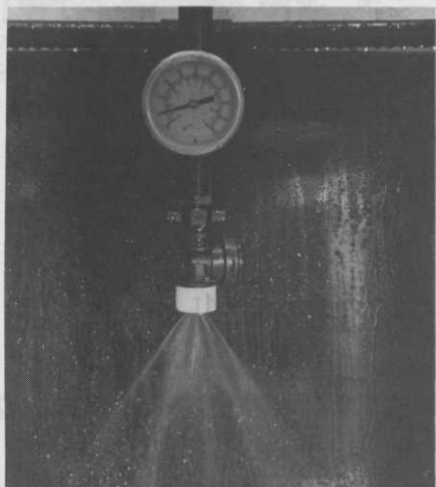
The Supaturf safety pack.

Supaturf has introduced a safety pack for spray operators.

It comprises protective gloves, goggles and masks, all conforming to British Safety Standards, and retails at £21.50.

First-time purchasers will also be able to obtain a free pair of hearing protectors.

For further information, contact Supaturf Products, Oxney Road, Peterborough PE1 5YZ. Tel: 0733 68384.



A worn nozzle, resulting in incorrect spray application.

A study carried out by May & Baker highlights the significance of nozzle matching on spray pattern uniformity.

To improve the performance of spray application, May & Baker, in conjunction with Lurmark, is offering a range of nozzles specially designed to suit the needs of chemical users.

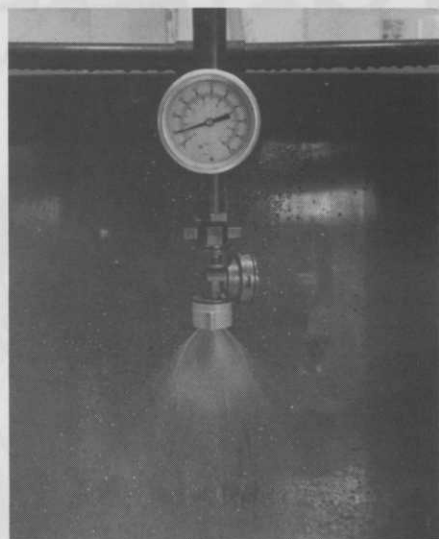
This colour-coded, range covers May & Baker's herbicides, fungicides, insecticides and

growth regulators, enabling the spray operator to choose easily the right nozzle to suit each chemical.

Tests have shown that these nozzles, made of Kematal, are stable and durable.

As nozzles wear, so the flow rate increases. In the case of Kematal nozzles, an increase of only five per cent extra spray in the flow rate was detected after 60 hours continual use, whereas stainless steel nozzles led to 16.1 per cent extra spray and brass gave a 30.4 per cent increase.

A Lurmark nozzle with spray pattern uniformity.



Jola Good Show!

AF Trenchers has launched a new Jola fertiliser spreader, following the company's appointment to market the Jola range in the UK.

The new type 110 has been designed for accuracy of spread control and can be adjusted to provide spread widths from 12 to 24 metres.

The spreader features double stainless steel rotors, enabling it to handle fertilisers of any chemical constitution. A new vee-belt drive system provides efficient and quiet operation. Its spread control is obtained by adjustments to the discharge hole, rather than by varying the rotation speed, and the efficient spread pattern eliminates the danger of

pollution to water courses and adjacent areas, resulting from stray fertiliser application.

The type 110 is a robust machine and the standard fit includes lid, screen and a flexible cable for spread control from the cab. It is also equipped with brackets for raising the spreader when using in standing crops.

Two sizes of machine are offered - 950 litres or 1,350 litres - and filling can be achieved by front loader, tip wagon or bulk bags.

Full technical specifications for the type 110, as well as the single rotor types 50 and 60, are available from AF Trenchers, Gosbecks Road, Colchester, Essex CO2 9JS. Tel: 0206 44411.



The new Jola type 110 double spreader.

A Newcomer With A Difference

Rufford Top Dress Supplies have acquired a sand quarry. Based at Rufford, near Southport, Lancashire, the deposit of silica sand has been described as one of Britain's finest top dress making sands.

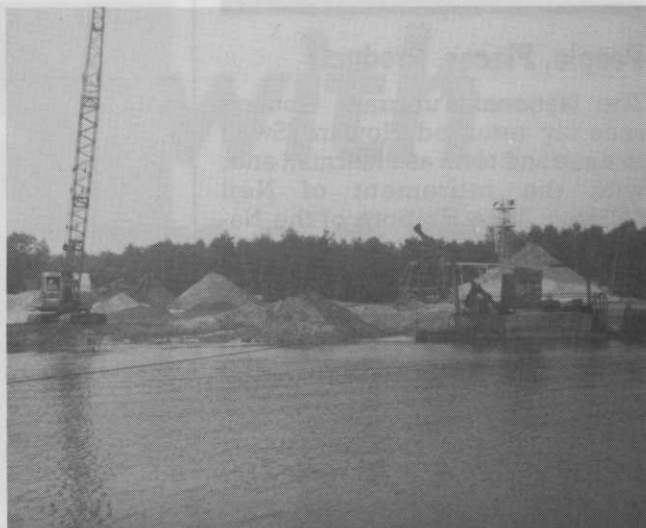
The sand is under 25 acres of thick forest and the soil covering the sand is an accumulation of many years of forest litter, which is now a decomposed leafmould, making it ideal for mixing with the sand to produce a high quality top dressing for use on all kinds of sports turf surfaces.

The company have vast reserves of both sand and soil in the quarry and there is also a huge deposit of valuable peat, which has, as yet, not been touched. A mixture of bark and sedge because it, too, lies under a forest, the peat is considered to be ideal for planting.

The quarry has only recently been taken over by the Rowcroft-Hambro (Group), based at Manchester, and the new owners are now determined to break into the UK top dress market.

As they own, extract and process the product, they guarantee total consistency of quality. And, as they control all of the operation in the quarry, they also guarantee to deliver to practically every corner of Great Britain within 48 hours and, indeed, within 24 hours to many areas.

The company have invested heavily to bring the quality of processing up to a high standard. As both the sand and the soil deposits are lying under a forest, removing brambles and twigs has proved difficult, but now, at last, this has been totally overcome. The end product is a very fine and easy to apply top dress at competitive prices.



The Rufford site has proved rich in resources.

The company had supplied over 60 golf clubs in various parts of the country by the last weeks of 1986 with either sand, soil or top dress and are now actively seeking to appoint agents throughout the country to promote this single product. As it is a single product with a single price, the company believe it would be easy for manufacturers and suppliers of machinery, as well as, of course, companies already involved in the marketing of top dress, to act as agents.

The company plan to install a bagging plant and currently deliver loads from five tonnes up to 25 tonnes in bulk to most parts of the country, but especially to the North-West, North-East, Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Cumbria.

SANDFORD SPRINGS GOLF CLUB nr. Newbury

require an enthusiastic

HEAD GREENKEEPER

(commencing April 1987)

The course is at present under construction (the remaining 9 holes to be completed this year) and the post will therefore provide an exciting opportunity of working on the course from its earliest stages of development through to opening in 1988/89.

Must be of proven ability. Career details to be enclosed with reply.

Salary negotiable, accommodation provided.

Reply to:

Hawtree & Son,
Golf Course Architects,
5 Oxford Street, Woodstock,
Oxford. OX7 1TQ

RUFFORD TOP DRESS SUPPLIES



Require immediately agents for all parts of the UK to help in the launching and establishment of their superb product.

The company has recently acquired ownership of a sand quarry located at Rufford, near Southport, Lancashire. This quarry has vast deposits of a very fine silica sand which has been described by acknowledged experts as one of Britain's finest top dressing sands.

As the quarry has been under a forest for over one hundred years the sand is covered by a layer of soil which is in effect an accumulation of forest litter, now a rich decomposed leafmould. When the fine sand and this soil are processed together they produce a top dress of the very highest quality.

The company is now very well situated and totally determined to make a major impact on this market and this is a unique opportunity for suitably qualified agents to join us, in what would be a long term financially rewarding joint venture.

All enquiries to: The Managing Director, Rowcroft-Hambro (Group) Ltd., Hambro House, Bradfield Road, Urmston, Manchester. M31 1PA Telephone: 061 747 4333

People, Places, Products

The National Turfgrass Council recently returned Howard Swan to a second term as chairman and, with the retirement of Neil Gilmour, John Holborn of the National Playing Fields Association was chosen as vice-chairman. John Shildrick was reconfirmed as secretary.

"I was particularly pleased with our workshop programme last year," Howard said, "which was excellently supported and anticipate that the fourth NTC conference and seminar (scheduled for October and which will take water management as its theme) will be a major event.

"We are planning a permanent secretariat for 1988 and shall be looking to our supporters in the industry to assist in setting this up."

The council also noted the appointment of council member Jon Bauer (ILAM) on the NPTC committee concerned with training under the new pesticides legislation and an updated bulletin of turfgrass research for publication in December.

The 1986 bulletin analysed areas of research presently being undertaken in the UK. The new version will revise this analysis to mid-1987 and also point towards areas of future research.

Peter Roberts, general manager at Toro Irrigation, became chairman of the British Turf Irrigation Association at its recent AGM. Robin Hume of Turf Irrigation Services was elected vice-chairman.

Roberts' immediate task will be to lead his committee of Bill Hawthorn (Watermation), John Penny (Cameron Irrigation) and Howard Swan (Golf Landscapes) to draw up proposals for minimum standards of irrigation on all kinds of turf and landscape.

The BTIA has already published minimum standards for golf course irrigation in its free booklet *Your Guide To The British Turf Irrigation Association* and plans to extend this to cover bowling greens, tennis courts, running tracks, soccer and rugby pitches and, perhaps most importantly, general landscape irrigation.



Christopher Sturdy.

Christopher Sturdy, 31, Rolawn's unit manager at Shackleford, near Godalming, Surrey, has been appointed southern area manager. He will be responsible for coordinating the company's two southern units.

David Levy is the new assistant manager with Corin Bowyer, sales administrator. Charles Frankau remains unit manager at Woodbury Hall, near Sandy, Beds.

The company, which has over a thousand acres of turf under cultivation in Britain, also operates from Elvington, Yorkshire and East Lothian.

Johnsons Seeds has issued the 1987 J Range brochure listing the seven standard turfgrass mixtures and three master blends recommended for sports and amenity areas.

The new brochure has been redesigned to simplify mixture selection. Proportions of individual components in each mixture are set out, together with recommended sowing rates and mowing heights in both metric and imperial measures. Recommended uses of each mixture are specified and grouped under four main headings.

Mixture descriptions have been revised, so that users can choose the best mix for their needs quickly and with confidence. Further guidance is available on the back cover where an A-Z list advises on mixture selection.

Copies of the J Range brochure are available free from Johnsons Seeds, London Road, Boston, Lincs PE21 8AD.

W. H. (Bill) Heath resigned from Supaturf recently to work as an agent, supplying grass seeds, fertilisers and topdressings through William Riley & Sons, Halmerend, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. He can be contacted on 0782 627780.

The IOG's programme of practical weekend training courses opened in January at Birmingham where sportsground construction was the topic.

Other subjects, venues and dates: are machinery and equipment, at Exeter from February 28-March 1, cricket square maintenance, Twickenham, March 14-15 and Exeter, March 28-29, bowling greens, Chippenham, April 4-5 and winter games pitches, Stockton on Tees, April 11-12.

The fee for each course is £40, inclusive of VAT, refreshments and lunch. The fee for IOG members is £20.

Further details from the Education Secretary, IOG, 19-23 Church Street, The Agora, Wolverton, Milton Keynes, Bucks MK12 5LG. Tel: 0908 312511.

Scottish Agricultural Industries is offering four new composts. Poting Plus has a resin-coated fertiliser enabling plants to be fed for up to nine months.

Container Plus is an advanced formula compost based on a blend of quality sphagnum peats and bark. It contains enmag, the safe source of slow-release nutrients, a resin-coated fertiliser for longer term feeding and grit for greater plant stability. SAI's Container Plus feeds plants for up to 15 months.

Modular SP is a new formula economy compost for use in the production of modular seedlings.

Ericaceous SG is an advanced formula compost with added sand and grit that is suitable for all lime-hating species.

All SAI composts are based on sphagnum peat with the addition of a balanced supply of nutrients including enmag. The four new composts are available in bulk and Modular SP is also sold in 100L bags.

Full details from SAI, 25 Ravelston Terrace, Edinburgh EH4 3ET. Tel: 031-332 2481.

Round first with Ransomes



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MOTOR 350D



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When the course has to be at its best, Greenkeepers can rely on RANSOMES mowers. They're chosen for their performance and reliability to bring an immaculate finish to any course.

Take the RANSOMES TRIPLEX 171 triple greens mower for example. It can mow, verticut and spike to provide the best playing surface. Interchangeability of units is quick and simple without the use of tools. With instant forward and reverse manoeuvring couldn't be easier. And for the finest of finishes there is also the AUTO CERTES, renowned throughout the world for its championship finish.

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Jack Has Europe In His Sights

Camcorp International and International Resort Holdings have been appointed to represent Jack Nicklaus Golf Services in Europe.

Nicklaus' reputation as a golf course designer is rapidly approaching his record exploits on the course. He has designed 76 courses around the world, 42 of which are now open for play. His designs span eleven countries.

Jack Nicklaus Golf Services provides a complete service to golf clubs and real estate developers, from initial planning through design to organisation of the club structure and maintenance of the course.

Camcorp International, a sports marketing company specialising in European golf, is owned by Roddy Carr, the ex-Walker Cup player. The company currently promotes the Spanish Open and the Portuguese Open.

International Resort Holdings specialises in golf-based developments. It is owned by Graham Fisher and Alistair Smith and was responsible for the first Jack Nicklaus course in the UK - at St Mellion, it recently opened for play.

Jack said: "I have known Roddy and his family for many years and Graham has worked with us over the past five years on the St Mellion project."

"We have been approached by several developers and are currently looking at proposals in France, Germany, Spain, Italy and Portugal. We hope to have five Jack Nicklaus signature golf courses under construction by the end of 1988," Roddy said.

Roddy Carr can be contacted on 01-438 0890, Graham Fisher on 04427 4656 and Alistair Smith on 031-225 3488.

People, Places, Products - Continued...

Too many courses have tatty tee markers. One company - Tacit-T-Markers of Unit 3, 3 Millers Lane, Monks Kirby, Rugby CV23 0RJ (Tel: 0788 832166) - has noticed this and is producing a tee marker that is both tidy and light.

A height of 16in helps define teeing ground clearly and the markers come in a variety of colours - white for men's medal, yellow for men's and red for the LGU.

A set of 36 markers costs £251.64 (£6.99 each) and a club or company emblem embossing service is available at £39 for the set. Postage and packing (£8.36) takes the total price to £299.

Toro 570 Stream Rotor sprinklers at Etruria Hall, formerly the Wedgwood family home and now the National Garden Centre headquarters.



Brian D. Pierson is now located at Homestead Farm, Ringwood Road, Three Legged Cross, Wimborne, Dorset BH21 6QY. Tel: 0202 822372/824906.

After the success of its fully automatic irrigation system at last year's National Garden Festival, Stoke, Turf Irrigation Services of Sandbach, Cheshire has already commenced work on a similar installation for the 1990 National Garden Festival at Gateshead.

The TIS system at Stoke comprised five main areas each with its own water supply and pumping system. Controlled by a two-wire multi-zone electronic control system utilising 250 solenoid valves, water was delivered through 1,500 Toro sprinklers, ranging from small Toro AG2 heads, 570 Shrub-heads and Toro 640 and Super 600 series pop-ups to specialised low flow sprinklers and drip for small areas.

Applicants are invited for the post of

HEAD GREENKEEPER

Applicants with a proven ability and suitable qualifications should send current C.V. to:

**The General Manager
Staverton Park Golf Club
Staverton, Daventry,
Northants.**

MOORS VALLEY GOLF COURSE

HEAD GREENKEEPER

A qualified Greenkeeper experienced in all aspects of golf course maintenance is required for the challenging task of maintaining this newly constructed 9 hole course. The golf course, which is part of the Council's Country Park Development, will open in the spring of 1988 and there is a possible extension to 18 holes.

Applicants should apply in writing with C.V. to:

**Personnel Officer,
Wimborne District Council, Council Offices,
Furzehill, Wimborne, Dorset.**

Closing Date: 27th February 1987.

GOLF COURSES – THEIR POTENTIAL AND ARCHITECTURE

I WANT to turn your attention to the task of taking a much wider view of our golf courses, writes *Eddie Park*... We live in an age of equality, but not all golf course sites are of equal potential – most greenkeepers would readily agree with that statement.

In fact, the nearer you are to the 'sharp end', the more likely you are to recognise the limitations under which you have to operate. But that is certainly not true of most *golfers* who have convinced themselves that, with just a little more effort, their course is the equal of any in the world. Here, then, is another subject to be studied in depth.

The most important factors in site potential are the turf and the terrain. If the turf is now good (ie bents and fescues), or if it was good before 'improvement', then it probably has the potential to be good again if treated correctly. Again, the terrain may have been good naturally or it may have been modified by a course builder as instructed by his architect.

A study of golf courses in literature helps to clear the mind. Any book that gives a picture of courses we know today as they existed under different management regimes will be of great service.

Classic books by writers who had an eye for good golfing country are fascinating. Horace Hutchinson wrote *Famous Golf Links* (1891) and *British Golf Links* (1897). Bernard Darwin produced *The Golf Courses Of The British Isles* (1910) with water colour illustrations by Harry Rountree.

More recent examples would be *A Round Of Golf Courses* (1951) by P. Dickinson, *Go Golfing In Britain* (1961) by L. Claughton Derbyshire and *Golfers Companion* (1962) by J.J.F. Pennink.

Looking further afield, a large Australian reference book *Golf* (1978) was edited by Tom Bradley and has excellent pictures and descriptions of courses right across the world.

We must not forget all the handbooks published annually, but none of them can compare with a book I have mentioned in a previous article, *Nisbet's Golf Yearbook* (c1903-1912), edited by John L. Low. Not only does it list all the clubs, but also provides a description of the type and standard of their courses (I wonder if we should start it up again? Perhaps that would be a bit too cruel!). The many clubs in London and the Home Counties are accompanied by maps showing the soils on which they lie.

This sort of information brings it home to me how clever our predecessors were at spotting the best sites for golf. Next time you drive through unfamiliar countryside, try and guess, as they did from the topography and existing vegetation, where you will find the best local course. Only too often nowadays, golf courses advertise their presence by those ghastly parallel rows of stunted trees, so that spoils the game.

Rapid expansion

Most architects seem to have eventually felt the need to write and there are plenty of books to study. In the days of the rapid expansion of golf – say 1885 to 1925 – it was relatively easy to lay out a good course on the many good sites still available and near enough to centres of population.

Ex-professionals, such as Willie Park, James Braid and J.H. Taylor, were very successful and were followed by some gifted amateurs who became very expert, indeed. H.S. Colt and his partner Charles Allison became internationally famous and published *Some Essays In Golf Course Architecture* (1920).

There are many who would argue that the greatest architect of them all was the Leeds doctor Alister Mackenzie with courses such as Moortown and Alwoodley at home and Royal Melbourne, Cypress Point and

Augusta (collaborating with Bobby Jones) abroad.

Mackenzie had made a great reputation during the First World War by using his landscaping skills to camouflage artillery positions. He not only designed many new courses, but also tidied up many poor designs on older courses. His only book is now widely regarded as a classic. *Golf Architecture* (1920) is a slim volume, but now commands a high price. It has been republished in a luxury edition in recent years.

M.F. Sutton gave us *Design Construction And Upkeep* (1933) and a good book often found at a reasonable price is *Design For Golf* (1952) by H.N. Wethered and the inimitable Tom Simpson. Wethered had earlier written *The Architectural Side of Golf* (1929).

Coming up to modern times, Fred Hawtrey, known to many greenkeepers, put together *Golf Course Planning Design And Maintenance* (1983). A beautiful book is *Golf Course Design* by Geoffrey Cornish, who gave such a fascinating review of the subject at the Cambridge EIGGA conference in 1984.

So we have looked at quite a wide cross-section of books on these subjects. I, for one, am struck by the fact that the most successful architect was the man who picked the best site and I believe that is still true today.

It is all very well to move mountains with bulldozers to achieve the greatest degree of scenic beauty, but recouping the cost and probably meeting heavy maintenance charges may cause the project to be of doubtful viability. The present era of these huge projects could, in future, be seen as just another blind alley.

This wide subject of the potential, both in terms of turf quality and amendment of terrain, is increasingly being perceived by many greenkeepers as of paramount importance to their wellbeing.

Next time, I want to look at books of a technological nature.



If you're looking for the best value it can only be **TORO** ... we may not be the lowest price but in the long run **TORO** are by far the finest economical and efficient **TURF MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT**. To prove the point why not have a demonstration working under your own conditions ... you'll soon see what we mean particularly if you have other equipment to compare.



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most manufacturers say it
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