

THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

How many of us can watch the power and skill of a Jack Nicklaus or a Lee Trevino and still be convinced that "all men are created equal"? Even though these two men are endowed with tremendous natural ability, perfection in their skills has never been an effortless gift. Both must spend hour upon hour in practice, concentration and study.

We can recall seeing Jack Nicklaus on a nearby course during his early high school days. At that age he was already somewhat of a celebrity. As our foursome started down the first fairway, we observed young Nicklaus hitting balls from the practice tee. When we finished nearly five hours later, the summer shadows were long but Jack Nicklaus was still deeply engrossed in practice.

Lee Trevino tells the aspiring young golfer to be willing to hit a thousand balls each day and ignore the pain of bleeding hands. The lesson is hard but obvious. If one has been graced with a certain talent, only devoted work and sacrifice can make this gift truly productive and worthwhile.

Golf course superintendents have much in common with the likes of Jack Nicklaus and Lee Trevino. Each works at a skill that requires maximum effort. Anything less and the results speak for themselves.

The talented superintendent, like the professional, must continually search for ways to improve his performance. Just as the professional golfer depends

on practice, the professional superintendent must depend on the constant process of learning. He must know his course better than he knows the back of his hand. He must anticipate its problems and promptly execute the solutions.

Today's golf course superintendent has the difficult task of keeping abreast of rapid-fire innovations, techniques and information. But, while doing this, he must constantly apprise himself of old problems. The sources of good information are endless and each deserves full consideration. Most of all, superintendents can learn from each other, for each has a total golf course responsibility. Fortunately, there is an eagerness to share successes as well as failures.

To complicate daily duties and the learning process, the superintendent must be a master mechanic, diplomat, labor advisor, friend and father confessor. He must smile when it's impossible and swallow to choke a scream.

The professional golfer can ill afford to live on past performance and laurels, and so it is with the golf course superintendent. The demands are sometimes quite exacting, but each must consistently give a full measure to his profession.

Proturf Issue Four
O. M. Scott & Sons
Marysville, Ohio

Nutrient deficiencies, weeds, diseases, thin turf, insects.

For the superintendent
who has everything . . . or
anything . . . or who just wants
to make a good thing better . . .
ProTurf offers research tested,
golf course proven professional
turf products.

Just give me a call.



A division of
O. M. Scott & Sons

Lee Overpeck
219 Grant Drive
Bolingbrook, IL 60439
Ph: 312 - 759-7061

Jerry O'Donnell
Rt. 2 - S. Hill Road
DeForest, WI 53532
Ph: 808 - 846-3629

Bill Keneipp
1785 Hinsdale Drive
Decatur, IL 62526
Ph: 217 - 877-5929

