

been allotted, to date, to PGA welfare, benevolent and educational funds, to caddie scholarship funds, AWVS Swing Clubs at veterans' hospitals and to golf course turf research.

Other activities associated with golf which qualify for aid from the National Golf Fund, Inc., are asked to present their cases to Fred Riggan, Sr., pres., Mueller Brass Co., Port Huron, Mich. He is pres. of National Golf Fund, Inc., whose directors consist of men and women widely known in golf.

### Some Answers the Supt. Must Get

By JOHN S. McCOY  
Supt., Cincinnati (O.) CC

Golf course employees today do not seem to have the interest in their work that they had a few years back. Quitting time and pay day are more important than maintaining fine turf. Some of the old men are about thru working, the younger ones often use golf course maintenance as a fill-in until they go in the services or to gain enough work experience that they can work into some other field. High school boys, used by many superintendents, start work at a critical time of the year, usually early June, and by the time they have developed some judgment in doing their tasks they leave for school again.

Rates of pay have some bearing on securing and holding employees but is only a part of the answer. Thru some years of experience I have found that maintenance workers, and superintendents for that matter, usually get paid according to the service they render. A good superintendent can do much for his helpers in working conditions, wages, etc., just as a good grounds chairman appreciates what the superintendent is doing and sees that he gets his just rewards.

Additional research is needed along technical lines and more emphasis should be placed in disseminating it thru extension workers. In my opinion not enough work is being done in studying control of weed grasses such as *poa annua* and crabgrass thru inhibiting seed growth.

Another very important subject for study is design of mowers, principally greens mowers, as they affect the grass thru cutting. During the 1952 season I noted considerable difference in bent grasses being able to withstand the extreme weather where different types of greens mowers have been used.

In Cincinnati we had a bad season in

1952 but not a disastrous one. Heat and humidity were high, disease was prevalent, air movement on some of our courses (mine is one of the worst) was almost minus and some courses still have many of the older bent grasses in greens. Labor was indifferent and needed constant supervision — often more than could be given. All those factors entered into our troubles along with many others. Some of the loss of turf seemed to defy explanation and the experts could not explain why some grass went out and other grass did not.

Of course the experts had no trouble at home but one could usually peek around the corner and find it.

### Florida Turf Meet at Gainesville, Aug. 5, 6

FIRST annual University of Florida Turf Conference and Field Day will be held at Gainesville, Fla., Aug. 5 and 6. It is sponsored by Florida Turf Assn., Florida Agricultural Experiment Station and Florida State Extension Service.

Gene C. Nutter, formerly with John Cornman at Cornell, now asst. agronomist (turf) at U of F agricultural experiment stations, has lined up a program of particular value to the state's golf course men as well as to others responsible for fine, large area turf.

Director Willard Fifield of the experiment stations, and his team-mates Nutter, Ralph Dickey (horticulturist), Dr. Roger W. Bledsoe (agronomist), Erdman West (mycologist), J. Russell Henderson (agronomist), and A. N. Tissot, F. E. Guthrie, D. O. Wolfenbarger, and E. G. Kelsheimer, will be station stars on the program. The latter four will talk on insect pest problems which plague Florida courses and supts.

O. J. Noer, J. R. Blackledge, Nash Higgens, T. C. Johnson, Mark Mahannah, Clinton Van Cleef and B. P. Robinson will be guest experts with talks and discussions on problems of courses, parks, athletic and recreation fields and cemeteries.

There will be an inspection of turf plots, demonstrations, and a number of question and answer sessions.

There also will be the first annual Florida Turf Assn. golf tournament Wednesday afternoon at Gainesville CC, with Wm. H. Etheridge, the club's pro, as host, and a banquet that evening at the club with Mgr. G. W. Gelwick as host and Dr. Frank Goodwin, U of F marketing professor, as speaker.