

grass industry have been willing to offer higher financial inducements than have golf clubs. But I do not believe that this is due entirely to the fact that clubs could not meet this competition in many cases if they were willing to do so. While there are some outstanding exceptions, there is still a widespread failure to recognize that golf course management has become a very specialized and technical business. It requires men who not only have a good background of basic training but also have served an internship in practical course operation. Assistantships that are sufficiently attractive are few and far between.

Diversity of jobs held by turf graduates is a good indication of the opportunities in this field. When we add to this the fact that the demand for trained men to fill these places is greater than the supply, it is a bit difficult to account for low enrollments reported.

Training Publicity Needed

One reason for this may be that many young men planning to enter college do not know that such training opportunities exist. This can be corrected by the development of more adequate publicity on the possibilities and advantages of this field.

A second, and perhaps even more compelling reason may be that young men who are interested primarily in the practical side of turf management are not sold on the necessity of taking four years of college training to fit themselves for it. The very wide differences in the number of students in 4-year courses compared to those taking shorter courses is good evidence of this. While the 4-year training period is more desirable, it should be admitted, that it is possible to present a practical training program in a shorter period of time.

It is regrettable that institutions having the personnel and facilities to do this have been so slow in recognizing the need and in trying to do anything about it. I am happy to announce that Pennsylvania State University will activate such a training course next fall. Beginning in October, a special curriculum in turfgrass management will be offered at Penn State as a part of the winter course program. It will cover a period of 16 weeks in each of two years. Upon successful completion, students will receive an appropriate certificate of accomplishment. We believe that only by the adoption of some such program as this can the educational institutions meet their share of the responsibility in the field of training for turfgrass management.

Golf Catches Up With Carson City



Carson City, Nev., last of the state capitals without a golf course, corrected that situation this winter with the completion of a 9-hole municipal layout. Bob Baldock was the architect. When the course was officially opened, Gov. Charles Russell (1) and Carson City's mayor, Turner Houston, were among the first golfers to put it to a test.

Metairie Members Aid New Louisiana Turfgrass Assn.

The newly organized Louisiana Turfgrass Assn., well supplied with grass problems but short on cash, received help when W. Gordon Hayward, green chmn., Metairie CC, New Orleans, got club officials to approve asking the club's members for contributions for the new turfgrass group's work.

The solicitation letter pointed out that the association would benefit not only golf course but home lawn and park turf. Member response has been quick and good, says Metairie Supt. Lou G. Vickers.

Hayward conceived and promoted the plan of member participation as one way of reminding members how much research and other work course maintenance demands. Hayward also has been prime mover in Metairie's long-term plan for rebuilding its course without losing a day from plan. Supt. Vickers says the rebuilding is about 80 per cent completed.

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