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# Grau's Answers to Turf Questions

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If you've got a question you want Dr. Fred V. Grau to answer, please address it Grau Q&A, Golfdom, 407 S. Dearborn, Chicago 5, Ill.

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## Professional Advancement

**W**E HAVE just completed a three-week trip to Seattle, Tacoma, San Francisco, Sacramento, Reno, Salt Lake City, Denver, Omaha and Chicago. All during this trip, ending in Chicago at the greatest GCSA conference and show ever held, we observed the most significant progress in professional advancement since we became associated with course supts. in 1927.

We can not begin to name all those with whom we have talked regarding the advancement of the supt. It is significant that nearly everywhere we go, we are asked to partake of the hospitality of the club and to join in round table discussions with officers, committee heads, the professional and the supt. At these luncheon panels we observe more and more that the professional status of the supt. has been recognized and is respected. Part of this is because the supt. has overcome many obstacles and has provided members with conditions that please them. Part of it stems from the fact that the supt. conducts himself in such a way that the members are glad to see him around the club. It is evident that his standing has become enhanced by his membership in GCSA and by his active participation in local and state affairs pertaining to his profession.

It is inevitable that when a man becomes highly proficient in his work, his services will be in demand by others. Offers of higher pay or chances for greater opportunity may prompt a supt. to move. To fill the gap with a man of equal ability and professional standing usually requires that the salary and other incentives be considerably higher than that paid to the man who couldn't afford to stay. Inevitably, this creates the feeling, "I would have been glad to stay if they would have given me that figure." In most cases, everyone would have been better off had they done so. It must be recorded here that, in some cases, in a misguided effort to "save money", the club fills the vacancy with a "tractor driver" who has had no professional training and who has attained no professional standing. Occasionally it works out all right but not very often. The records are full of mistakes and costly repairs due to incompetence.

We commend supts. who have been training replacements for themselves. It is particularly heartening that the trainee is taken to local meetings and to the annual conference where his education is extended and broadened. In these days of shortages of well-trained men, it is not at all sure that the trainee will stay long enough to take over the position when the supt. retires. Other clubs in dire need may bid so high for his services that he literally will be forced to move. This should bring pride to the supt. who trained him even though it means that he will have to seek another trainee.

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## Nutter Appointed GCSA Executive Director

Appointed to the newly created GCSA position of executive-director in January, Dr. Gene C. Nutter will begin full time duties with the Association in April when its headquarters are to be moved to Jacksonville, Fla. He is presently connected with the University of Florida as an associate professor and turf technologist at the Research Station.

Born in Delaware, O., Nutter attended Ohio State University where he received a B. S. in Agriculture. He did graduate work at the Cornell University Agronomy school, getting his Ph. D. there in 1951. Nutter worked as a research assistant while attending Cornell and joined the University of Florida staff eight years ago. Since that time he has worked extensively on turf research and management problems

# *Extend Small Loan Program to Recreation Business*

**Make Application Through  
Regional, Branch Offices**

The government's Small Business Administration has announced that its business loans program will be extended to ventures in the recreation field. These have been largely barred in the past. SBA officials say that loan applications will be considered for golf courses open to the public, bowling alleys, swimming pools, etc.

All loans will be considered on an individual basis. Loans will not be made to businesses involved in gambling nor to ventures deriving a substantial part of their revenue from sale of alcoholic beverages. Until now, indoor theaters have been the only recreational businesses eligible for loans and these have been confined to repairs and modernization.

SBA business loans sometimes are made when bank or other loans may not be available. The SBA, in some cases, participates with banks or other agencies in making loans to businessmen. All loans made through the SBA carry an interest rate of 5½ per cent.

There are 15 regional and about 50 branch SBA offices, located in major cities. Persons desiring to apply for recreational loans should request the "SBA Business Loan" form.

covering nutrition, variety testing, entomology and related subjects.

For the past several years, the new GCSA executive-director has been conference coordinator and bulletin editor for the Florida Turfgrass Assn.

Married, and the father of three children, Nutter is a World War II veteran, having served with the Engineers in the Pacific as a Tech Sgt. He lists sports and music as his favorite hobbies but confesses, as so many persons close to the golf picture do, that he is not much of a threat swinging a club.

Nutter takes over the duties performed by Agar Brown, who resigned as the Association's secy-treas. in December.

## **Goggin Wins PGA Senior with 284**

With a 284, which was a good young man's scoring under conditions prevailing at the PGA's National course, Willie Goggin, San Jose, Calif., became the 20th PGA Senior champion. Goggin was chased down to the finish by Leland Gibson, Paul Runyan and Denny Shute, who had 285s.

The winner triumphed over a record field of 274 which included 10 of 13 men

who previously had won PGA Senior titles. These included Eddie Williams, who won the veterans' title in 1942, 1945 and 1946 and Al Watrous, 1950, 1951 and 1957 winner. Gene Sarazen won it in 1954-'58.

Goggin got \$1,200 of the \$10,000 prize money put up by William Teacher, Glasgow distiller, and the PGA, the Teacher trophy and expenses covering a trip to Britain this summer to meet the winner of the British PGA's Senior tournament. This event will be played for a Teacher trophy and prize money at Royal Mid Surrey, May 12-14.

The Bourne trophy, which goes to the Senior player, 55 or older, who leads the tournament at the end of the second round was won by Bill Goldbeck, Mt. Kisco, N. Y., who had a 140 at the midway point.

The PGA Senior tournament, Jan. 27 thru Feb. 1, under the direction of Willie Whalen, pres., PGA Seniors and Jack Ryan, PGA Seniors' tournament chmn., was the high spot of a program which included senior-junior competitions, the PGA's Quarter Century Club tournament, the Seniors' annual banquet, entertainment affairs of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the PGA headed by Mrs. Kenneth Milne and U. S. Rubber Co.'s annual Seniors' dinner.