

## Thomas Tapes Trouble For Iowa Turf Conference

At the 26th turfgrass short course held at Iowa State University this spring a new type presentation was made, designed to make the audience doubly aware of the importance of sound in the study of preventive maintenance.

Roger J. Thomas, commercial products mgr. of Jacobsen Manufacturing Co., used a combination of tape sounds, a slide presentation and oral instruction to make the unique presentation. Pointing out that recognition of trouble-warning sounds apply to all mechanized maintenance equipment, including power mowers, Thomas showed some 150 persons how recognizing these sounds and doing something about them



R. J. Thomas

can give "thou-

sands of dollars of relief to the budget."

Explaining that even a new born babe has an innate fear of noises, Thomas said that man goes through a noise evolution during which recognition of sounds becomes a normal part of calm, everyday life. "However," he said, "the slightest squeak or rattle in a car will cause the owner to head straight for a mechanic, yet we seem to feel that noises in lawn mowers eventually will disappear.

"Recognizing a singing bearing noise in time," Thomas continued, "results in a \$4.50 replacement cost. Failure to recognize it, or not doing anything about it, may result in more than \$75.00 damage to an engine and mower."

Thomas punctuated his talk with actual sounds from troublesome machinery . . . asking the audience if anyone recognized the danger signals. This was done through the medium of a tape recorder.

The slide portion of the program consisted of photos showing results of not paying attention to sound. They depicted bearing and gear failures, reel wear and general equipment deterioration.

It was pointed out that the purpose of the recorded sounds was not to teach the audience actual recognition of exact prob-

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lems, but to realize the importance of noticing and doing something about any warning signals. "Too often," Thomas said, "maintenance men, as well as the average consumer, wait until equipment refuses to operate before they investigate."

Some of the actual sounds heard were intermittent sparking, noisy cutting unit, "singing" bearing, engine knock and mower operation at excessive speed. The tape recorder also played back (in contrast) the sounds of normal operating units.

Thomas plans to capture more "sound" problems via the medium of the tape recorder. He and Jacobsen reps will then tour the country and present "sound" advice to groups of supts., park and highway commissioners and other large acreage mowing equipment men.

## Central N.Y. Pros Hold First Business School

First Business School of the Central N. Y. section of the PGA was held May 5 and 13th at LaFayette CC, Jamesville, N. Y. Professionals and assistants from many upstate New York clubs attended.

Warren Orlick, professional at Tam O Shanter CC, Orchard Lake, Mich. was

the main speaker on the 5th. Orlick gave a complete description of shop operation, handling of members and players, staff training, rules and how to operate a more efficient pro dept.

George Izett spoke on the 13th and covered club design, repairs in the shop and fitting for needs of individual players.

Central N. Y. pros who served on the panels were Danny Jones, Waverly, Bob Klink, Auburn, Bill McCune, McConnellsville, Emmett Kelly, Fayetteville, Aldor Jones, Cortland, Bill Dennis, Endicott, Nick Rindenello, Utica, Carrol Armstrong, school secy., Utica, and John Budd, school dir., Endicott.

## Managers' Employment Service

Club Managers Assn. of America, 1028 Connecticut ave., N. W., Washington 6, D. C. operates an employment referral service for prospective employers of club mgrs. The office made 131 placements in 1959. Edward Lyon, executive secy. of CMAA is in charge of the service.

BUYERS' SERVICE • P. 103