



Ashbourne installation was directed by Joe Tagnon, supt. and Albert Krebs, pres. of Farm & Golf Supply, (holding sprinkler) and Edward J. Hennessy of Keasbey & Mattison Co., and Martin Sharp, Ashbourne's green chairman.

Hoses, spigots and inconvenience are out with installation of new 650 gpm sprinkling system

An extensive, modern sprinkling system just completed at Ashbourne CC, Cheltenham, Pa. has increased the club's sprinkling capacity twenty-fold.

The system, which can deliver a total of 650 gpm, features non-corrosive asbestos-cement piping, concealed snap valves, plug-in sprinkler heads and a 75-hp electric pumping unit.

Ashbourne Increases Capacity Twenty-Fold

Prior to the installation of the system, the club had piping running from two wells to four fairways. To water these fairways, it used portable sprinklers and hoses, which were attached to spigots at various locations around the fairways. However, the club never considered this an ideal method for watering fairways.

Restricted Delivery

The supply of water from the wells was limited and it was not possible for the system to deliver more than 30 gpm. Therefore, to adequately cover the complete area of the four fairways required the constant moving of hoses and sprinklers, much to the inconvenience

and displeasure of the members. In addition, the system provided no means of watering the rest of the course.

To correct this situation, Martin Sharp, chairman of the green committee and Joseph Tagnon, supt. awarded a contract to Farm & Golf Course Supply Co., Philadelphia, for the installation of a new watering system.

The new system has eliminated the club's watering problems. It provides adequate water for all of the 18 fairways and greens which are spread over 100 acres of beautiful landscaped countryside. It eliminates the need for moving hoses, and it enables the Ashbourne maintenance staff to do the greater portion of the watering at night.

78-Foot Centers

The plan of the system called for installation of 100 concealed snap valves, on 78-ft. centers, throughout the length of the course. The snap valves are installed in risers which take off water from the main piping at these points. Also specified were 65-gpm



Ed Hennessy of K & M looks over a pre-tapped coupling, which simplifies installation of risers and snap valves.

plug-in type sprinkler heads, designed to be used 10 at a time. The piping system was engineered to operate at pressures of approximately 120 psi. depending upon the number of sprinklers being used.

To insure a permanent, trouble-free piping installation, Farm & Golf Course Supply Co. specified the use of K & M asbestos-cement irrigation pipe. This pipe is said to be tough, lightweight and immune to corrosion and electrolysis. A total of 14,000 ft. of asbestos-cement irrigation pipe, in 3, 4, 6 and 8-in. sizes, was installed under the fairways.

Pumping Equipment

The installation also included appropriate valving and pumping equipment. The piping was divided into a three-zone system. To accomplish this, a master valve at the pump and three zone valves, one for each of the three separate piping zones, were specified. To provide the necessary rate of discharge, a 75-hp electrically operated pumping unit was called for. The problem of water supply was eliminated by taking the water from a stream that flows through the club as well as from the two original wells.

Permanent Tight Seal

Pipe sections were joined by means of Fluid-Tite couplings which provide a permanent tight seal immediately upon assembly. Because of their unique, patented design, these couplings seal even tighter as the water pressure in the lines

increases. They also assemble easily and allow deflections up to five degrees at each joint. The couplings installed for lateral and riser connections were equipped with the recently introduced pre-tapped threaded brass inserts which eliminate the need for time-consuming field tapping operations.

Pleads with Course Builders to Protect Native Vegetation

Ray Hills of Los Angeles, a noted landscape artist, at a recent Southern California GCSA meeting at Bel-Air CC, Los Angeles, gave expert testimony to back up one of GOLFDOM's campaigns in calling attention to the immense damage done by destroying native vegetation during golf course construction. There have been hundreds of cases in which trees and other native growth alongside fairways that have been uprooted would have added tremendously to the golf value and distinctive beauty of the course. After the bulldozers have finished, thousands of dollars are spent in a vain effort to grow golf architecture and scenery that, at best, is inferior to that that already has been eliminated.

