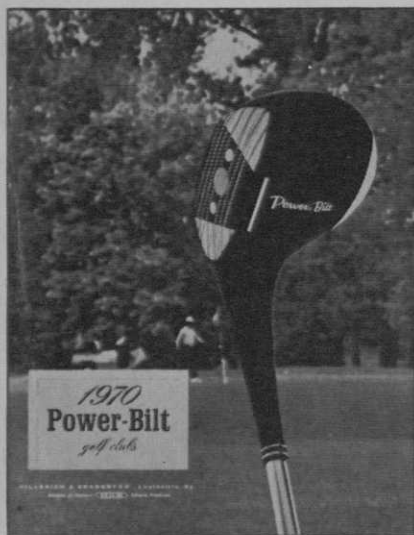


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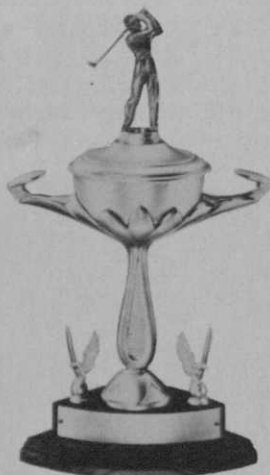


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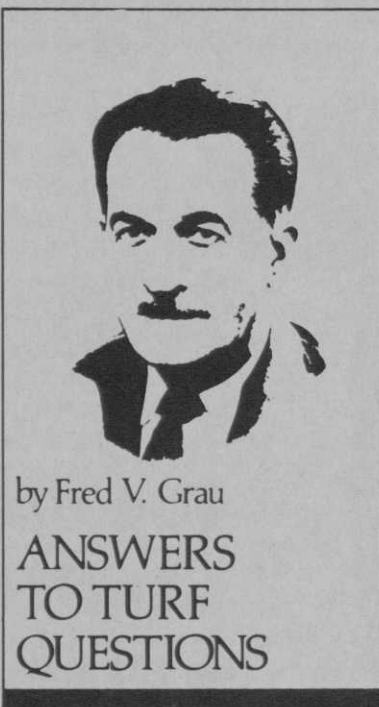
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by Fred V. Grau

ANSWERS TO TURF QUESTIONS

Outlook for the sensible seventies

Were I young today I would choose turf as my life's work, just as I did in 1927 when starting my college career. I would embrace turf more warmly now because I have seen many of the rewards that it offers. No profession that I know offers such a wide variety of opportunities to the eager young person who *wants* to learn.

Turf is a multi-billion dollar industry that covers a broad field of goods and services. It is no haven for the shirker, but there are ample rewards for the energetic and the industrious. It is a thrill to go to the International Turfgrass Conference and to talk to some of the bright happy young men who are securely launched on their careers in turfgrass. As one talks with them, one becomes infected with their enthusiasm and realizes that they learned from good teachers who believed in them and who motivated them to perform to the limits of their capacities. Let us be eternally grateful to dedicated teachers who have the capacity to guide and to motivate young people. Let us resolve to bend every effort toward the goal of training

more outstanding teachers to insure the future of the turfgrass industry. Let us resolve to train more teachers who can motivate young men to move into positions of leadership and give them the necessary training.

One day soon the extension services in the 50 states will find ways to increase their staffs to include more turfgrass extension specialists. There are more taxpayers interested in better turf than in any other phase of agriculture. County agents are realizing that turfgrass rapidly is becoming a vital part of their economy and that requests for assistance are increasing.

Research workers in turf may be found in many disciplines at many different types of institutions the world over. They cover soils, grasses, fertilizers, pesticides, pathology, entomology and other schools that impinge upon the world of turf. Funds for research are meagre. Much depends on "grants" from industry. More funds must come from tax-supported sources. Private industry contributes vast sums of money and years of effort to perfect products that can produce better turf.

In years past a salesman in industry was known as a "peddler." No more! Today, and in the future, salesmen help to disseminate accurate, useful information while they represent their employers and his products. This approach takes talent! Industry is looking for bright well-trained personnel who are a credit to the firm and to the turfgrass industry.

As we move into the sensible seventies we will see a significant trend toward professionalism as more trained men are motivated to improve their standards. We must train more good teachers who, in turn, can train the future turfgrass managers, extension specialists, research personnel and representatives of industrial firms. The industry will command respect and will grow in stature as each of us continues to improve his professional image.

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