

do not know the details of how the business is run but reports of performance is good.

Some older experienced superintendents look after more than one course. This in effect is a form of contract maintenance. They assume a certain responsibility for which they are paid.

Contract maintenance could be conducted by a responsible corporation which would assume full responsibility for year-around grooming. The club would meet contract payments, but would have no further requirement. Performance would be bonded. The program would be conducted by certified superintendents who have proved their ability by past performance. I can visualize an enhanced status for qualified superintendents, together with an improvement in pay scale, retirement and fringe benefits. A profit-oriented corporation would be obliged to maintain high standards in every department.

It would appear that more efficient large-scale buying (or leasing) would bring about savings in equipment, fertilizers, chemicals and other items.

There must be some disadvantages in the idea of contract maintenance but so far no one has pointed them out to me nor have I discovered them.

Q—An official at our club engaged a private independent soil testing laboratory to sample and test the soils on our new course which isn't built yet. We are quite unfamiliar with their figures and their terminology. They reported the quantity of nitrogen in the soil and used that to calculate the N needed to establish the turf. We think that their recommendations are too low. We enclose a copy of the test results. Your comments? (Virginia)

A—Nor am I familiar with their method of reporting. It seems that they are farm-oriented because their explanations revolve around manure, legumes-plowed-down and crop residue. I must agree that the nitrogen recommendations for establishment are too low. Ureaform was recommended but the quantity was too small to be significant.

My suggestion is to contact your state extension turf specialist. □

Samaritan Law. This law gives laymen (club officials) and professionals (doctors, policemen and firemen) the right to render first aid without fear of legal prosecution," he says. "It has been discovered in some states, that physicians would pass the scene of an accident because of fear of malpractice suits," Dr. Granzen says. "The New York law protects the 'good samaritan' even if he does things totally wrong. Club officials should check with lawyer-members to see if their states have such a law. Clubs are more liable to have lawsuits brought against them if they are not prepared to handle an emergency," says Dr. Granzen. "In some cases, suits have charged clubs with negligence, because they did not anticipate strokes and have the emergency equipment available."

Both Dr. Granzen and O'Donnell agree that good first-aid procedures are really common sense. "There can be only one boss at the scene of an accident directing traffic," Granzen says, "and he must keep the crowd away from the victim, administer first aid and keep the victim from panicking." "One of the major concerns of older people," O'Donnell adds, "is the reassurance that they are going to be okay. Their primary concern, however, is generally over their spouse."

Death or serious injury on the golf course because a club was not prepared can have a detrimental effect on the attitudes of the membership. They could always wonder what would happen if they were next. Besides causing sleepless nights for the unprepared manager, professional or superintendent, it may also cost him his job.

Saving a life can take a few dollars worth of investment in equipment and a few hours investment in education. But you can't put a price tag on the results if you're caught unprepared. First aid: It's equipment and knowledge you need, but hope you will never have to use. □

Correction

Merit Associates Inc., manufacturer of the Sight-Line Putter, was erroneously listed in our PGA Merchandise Show preview (GOLFDOM, January, p. 71) as Merritt Assn., Inc. The company's address is 224 South St., Freehold, N.J. 07728.

ment. "We were just out of our line with turf maintenance equipment," he says. "Warren's does not expect to continue in the turf maintenance area, but will instead increase its concentration of distribution of its line of turfgrasses."

Jack Hahn, executive vice president of Hahn, said that the agreement with Ransomes would be a milestone for both companies. "The position of Hahn West Point distributors in this country will be greatly strengthened through the addition of a wider range of specialized grass cutting equipment. Hahn's gross sales last year were \$16 million," Hahn says. "Ransomes sales were \$31 million. We expect the agreement to increase Hahn sales by between 10 to 20 per cent initially. We will complement each other very well," Hahn says. "Ransomes is involved in walk behind green mowers and has gang mowers. Hahn has riding mowers, verti-cutters and aerators."

As part of the agreement, Ransomes has made a convertible loan of a substantial amount to Hahn, thus ensuring a long-term relationship between the two companies.

Credle changes name to Midwest Toro
Credle Company, a distributor for The Toro Company, has changed its name to **Midwest Toro**.

Midwest Toro is the distributor for Toro's three major product lines—power mowers, turf equipment for golf courses, parks, schools and cemeteries, and Moist O'Matic underground lawn sprinkler equipment. Midwest Toro is also the distributor for over 50 other turf equipment product lines.

Japanese ball hits pro-only market

The first Japanese-manufactured golf ball for pro shops only has been announced by Jiro Yamamoto, president of **Rainbow Sales Company** of Gardena, Calif. The **Skyway** golf ball is manufactured by Bridgestone Tire Company, Ltd., of Japan.

The ball is coated with a new, thick chemical (polyurethane) for extra durability. The cover is abrasion and moisture proof and has a liquid center. The ball, approved and tested by the United States Golf Assn., is being offered in pro shops in 80, 90, and 100 compression.