

News



Watkins



Choate

Watkins, irr. author to retire this year

James A. Watkins, author of the *Turf Irrigation Manual*, and director of training for Weather-matic's College of Irrigation Knowledge® will retire at the end of this year. He has been a part of the turf irrigation industry for more than 45 years and served as director of training for Weather-matic since the college was opened in 1967. He has conducted 120 classes during that time. The current version of his book is now in its second printing and is used by colleges, universities and irrigation designers worldwide.

Watkins has served on the

Telsco Industries Board of Directors since 1951. He has traveled world-wide as irrigation lecturer and consultant, and has assisted the American Society of Plumbing Engineers, the Texas Turf Irrigation Association and the Better Business Bureau in the development of industry standards, testing and consumer protection guidelines.

Richard B. Choate has assumed the post as director of training, while Watkins will continue as consultant for Weather-matic on special projects such as future revisions of the *Turf Irrigation Manual*. Choate has 21 years of experience as an irrigation designer, including 13 years as training instructor and chief systems design consultant for Weather-matic.

More people golfing despite inflation

Overall golf participation increased by 7.1 percent during the second quarter of 1980 despite inflation and recession, according to the latest figures released by the National Golf Foundation. Coupled with a 9.6 percent gain in the first

quarter, the growth rate is running at 7.1 percent, compared with 4.4 percent at this point last year.

Some reasons for the increase include the fact that people are staying closer to home because of the high fuel costs. Forced labor layoffs are creating more leisure time with unemployment pay. Some regions, however, did report decreased play. The Mountain region, which includes Washington and Mt. St. Helens, reported a 41 percent decrease. The Mountain region reports a 41 percent decrease and the South Atlantic reported a 28 percent decrease.

The biggest gains came in the West North Central region with an 18.8 percent increase, and the South Central with an 8.8 percent increase.

Trade Comm. revokes golf car dumping

The U.S. International Trade Commission published in the June 11, 1980 Federal Register, their determination that, due to changed circumstances, an industry in the United States would not be threatened with material injury if the dumping finding concerning

electric golf cars from Poland were revoked. As a result, the Department of Commerce is revoking the finding of dumping applicable to electric golf cars from Poland being imported by Melex USA.

The Poles began to import Melex cars in 1971 and 959 cars entered the market that year. Imports increased rapidly up to 1975 with a total of 10,000 cars being imported. In 1975, a finding of dumping was brought forth and numbers dropped to 6000 units in 1976. The anti-dumping laws say that a foreign producer sells at less than fair value when it markets goods in the U.S. at prices lower than in its home market. This was difficult, in the case of Polish cars. There aren't any golf courses in Poland, thus no cars are sold there. Therefore the price was arbitrarily determined, using Canadian prices.

The USITC's public report, "Electric Golf Cars From Poland", contains the views of the Commissioners and information developed during the investigation. Copies are available by calling 202/523-5178, 212/466-5599, the Office of the Secretary, 701 E. Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20436.

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December

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