

PRIVATE CLUBS

NCA establishes legal defense fund

National Club Association President Herbert L. Emanuelson, Jr. has announced the establishment of the NCA Legal Defense Fund in an attempt to combat the high costs of fighting the increasing challenges to the club industry by government and activist groups.

The NCA Board of Directors has asked club boards across the country to sponsor a fund-raising drive requesting a \$1 voluntary contribution from each club member to establish a fund to pay fees for professional services for the various legal and legislative battles in defense of the rights of private clubs.

Commenting on the establishment

of the NCA Legal Defense Fund, Emanuelson said, "So far, NCA has compiled an outstanding record of achievement in behalf of the club industry, but in recent years the problems facing clubs have exceeded our financial ability to fight them. Please bear in mind that this (the Legal Defense Fund) is not a political action committee but rather a private club defense fund to pay for the professional skills and advice which are urgently needed to maintain our very precious right of free association."

Over the last several years, he noted that NCA has incurred tremendous expenses in: —various Congressional battles to preserve the right of the club members to deduct their dues and expenses from their taxes and to triple a private club's allowable non-

member income; —various battles with federal regulatory agencies, such as the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, which is proposing regulations to prohibit federal contractors from paying employees' dues and expenses in private clubs with selective admissions policies; —the filing of briefs in various appeals throughout the country where the right of free association has been challenged; —and in increasing battles at the local and state level, such as the current New York City Council proposed bill that could set a nationwide precedent by redefining a club's eligibility for private status.

Emanuelson said, "Of course, many of our efforts in behalf of the private club industry would not have been possible without the close cooperation of other professional associations, business groups and fraternal and service organizations on the national, state and local level. NCA is dedicated to the belief that all private clubs should be strongly represented before legislative bodies, regulatory agencies, the courts and the public. But, to win today's problems and those we see on the horizon will demand far greater NCA resources than our member dues alone will provide."



The Idea File

Bob Graunke, Superintendent
Eagle Ridge Golf Club
Galena, Illinois

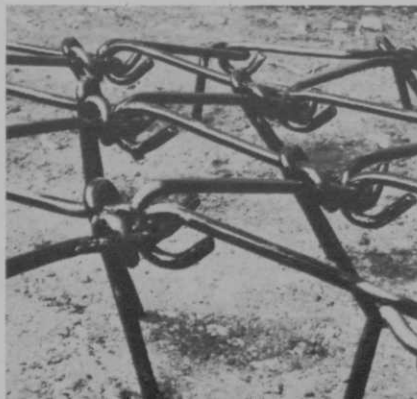
Harrow cures snow mold

We have some snow mold problems where the snow lays on the grass on the lower part of the slopes around tees, greens and bunkers, and on long grass in roughs where we didn't have time to mow in the fall.

As spring comes, fermentation starts in those areas that lose snow last—the pockets that get either very little, or no sun in the spring.

Running the harrow over these areas in the maximum position opens them up to allow drying. Sun and wind takes care of the drying process, then, once they are open. After harrowing, our snow mold has gone away every time, without any extended damage.

We go over our whole course every spring. It also brings up thatch and really stimulates growth. It just makes a denser turf and takes care of the snow mold areas at the same time. *Ed. note: Bob uses an 8-foot harrow, shown in the photographs, and supplied by Fuerst Brothers.*



FINANCIAL

Minimum wage studies predicted 'anti-business'

The Minimum Wage Study Commission's final report next year is predicted to be "strongly anti-business" by S. Warne Robinson, board chairman of the G.C. Murphy Co., according to an article in the Washington Report, published by the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. Robinson, the only business member of the commission, was quoted as saying, "given the generally pro-union background of most commissioners, it would not be surprising if the group's decisions closely follow the AFL-CIO line."

The minimum wage will increase to \$3.35 on January 1. Congress is expected to propose further increases next year, a move that is

Publisher's Point



The "new look" in size and format which begins with this month's issue is primarily the result of constructive feedback from you, the readers. During the past several months, we've been asking many of you for your comments and suggestions as to how GOLF BUSINESS could better serve you in 1981. In the course of receiving your input, one suggestion was almost universal: return the magazine to a smaller and more convenient size. We sincerely hope that the "new" GOLF BUSINESS meets with your approval.

Size and format will not be the only changes in GOLF BUSINESS for 1981. In 1980, the amount of editorial material increased by 30 percent over what was presented in 1979. Our commitment in 1981 is to boost the editorial content by an additional 20 percent... with pertinent articles, useful how-to-ideas, research reports and up-dates, and timely commentary on economic trends that are affecting our industry.

Rest assured that the numerous comments and suggestions offered by many of you have been incorporated into our editorial plans for the coming year. GOLF BUSINESS will increase its coverage of sound management principles; incorporating the ideas and practices of superintendents who have developed successful management practices.

Seeking out and reporting your ideas and successes regarding all aspects of golf course maintenance operations will be a dominant theme in GOLF BUSINESS throughout 1981. With your individual help, we will put the sharing of these experiences on a nationwide basis.

As we start out the year, GOLF BUSINESS joins you in the hope that 1981 will be a better and more stable year for the golf maintenance industry.

viewed by many to be inflationary. Stating that "too many companies with pay scales above the minimum feel that increases are not their problem, Robinson added that "minimum-wage hikes also fuel inflation by helping push up the wage rates of other workers, even those earning well above minimum-wage rates." He also made the point that higher rates may actually hurt workers with limited skills. "When minimum-wage rates reach uneconomical levels, employers cut back on those workers by substituting more experienced and skilled workers or through automation or reduction in hours or service."

REAL ESTATE

Mayer wants to buy 2nd N.C. golf complex

Mayer Investments, Inc., the community developer which already owns Foxfire Village in Pinehurst, N.C., is currently negotiating to purchase another major residential/recreational complex in the Sandhills/Pinehurst area of North Carolina. The property being considered is Lake Surf, a 2500-acre private lake and golf community near Southern Pines. Lake Surf has the region's largest lake (1130 acres) and an 18-hole golf course designed by Ellis Maples.

Chairman of the Board Henry D. Mayer said, "Our original enthusiasm about this area, which is unquestionably the 'Golf Capital of the world', has only increased since our original involvement here began in 1978. Our immediate and continued success at Foxfire reflects the need and demand for additional quality recreational communities in this area."

IRRIGATION

Annual show will have 200 irrigation exhibits

The Second Annual Agri-Turf Irrigation Exposition and Technical Conference, to be held in Salt Lake City, Utah from February 15th through 18th, is expected to attract

over 2000 visitors. Sponsored by The Irrigation Association, in cooperation with the Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association, approximately 200 industry exhibits are expected to virtually fill the vast Salt Palace, and give an opportunity to visit with the largest number of irrigation industry manufacturers ever gathered under one roof. All facets of the industry will be represented among the 100 or more firms exhibiting their products, including surface, drip and sprinkler irrigation equipment.

The conference will open on Monday morning with a Keynote Breakfast and special address by David McLaughlin, Chairman of the Board of The Toro Company.

Detailed programs, registration information and hotel reservation forms are available from The Irrigation Association, 13975 Connecticut Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20906, telephone: 301/871-1200. Preregistration is open until January 30. Registration fees, which include admission to the Exposition and all Conference sessions and meals, are \$125 for members of The IA and the Idaho Association, and \$175 for non-members. Special registration will also be available on a daily basis for those wishing to see only the Exposition portion of the meeting at a daily ticket charge of \$10.00 per person.

SOIL

Scotts sets up data bank of 100,000 tests

A central computer data bank of results from some 100,000 soil tests made on the nation's golf courses is being set up by the ProTurf division of Scotts, working with Harris Laboratory of Lincoln, Nebraska. Once the data is assembled, the computer will be able to produce a summary of soil characteristics for particular regions of the country. While recommendations will be based on individual course soil traits, the data bank will give the Scotts technical representatives a broader knowledge of an area's soil history, including any possible trends, to use in a soil test interpretation.