

Central Plains Foundation First Field Day Draws 92

By WM. F. PICKETT

Ninety-two attended the first Annual Central Plains Turf Foundation Field Day at the Manhattan (Ks.) CC June 12. In the morning members of the Kansas State College staff showed the visitors the new cooperative turf plots which were planted in the spring of 1951.

These plots include 26 varieties, species, and mixtures of grasses. The work is carried on cooperatively by the Central Plains Turf Foundation and the Kansas State College. The departments of horticulture and agronomy at the college are in immediate supervision of the work.

The purpose of these plots is to determine which grasses or mixtures of grasses are best adapted for turf purposes in this general area. Although the area is equipped for irrigation, the application of water will be restricted to the amount needed for establishing the grasses and for carrying them through severe drought periods.

A height of mowing experiment is planned whereby a portion of each of the plots will be cut to $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, another portion at $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and a third portion at 3 inches.

A series of crab-grass control experiments has been established on the campus of the Kansas State College. This work is being done cooperatively by the Central Plains Turf Foundation, the Kansas State College, and the American Cyanamid Co. through the USGA Green Section.

Representatives of equipment companies gave demonstrations of equipment.

At the noon luncheon, Pres. James A. McCain of the Kansas State College expressed satisfaction that the college is cooperating with the Foundation on turf problems.

O. J. Noer of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission gave an excellent discussion on turf problems. He illustrated his talk with color pictures. A lively period followed during which time Noer and others answered many questions.

The president of the Foundation, Chet Mendenhall, invited everyone to attend a Second Annual Turf Conference to be held at the Kansas State College, October 24, 25, and 26. L. E. (Red) Lambert, chairman of the program committee for that conference, called a meeting of his committee and the over-all plans for the program were made.

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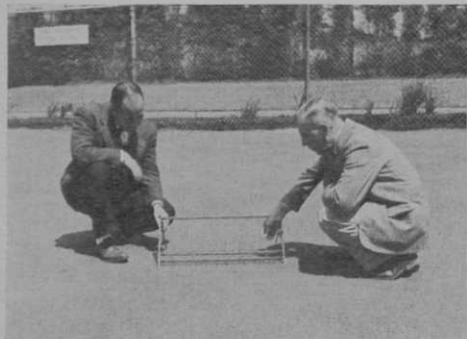
NEED SUPPLIES?

Turn to page 69

FOR GOLFDOM'S BUYER SERVICE

Factors Affecting Turf Growth Measured By Point Quadrat

Variations in temperature, moisture, height of cut, soil condition cause some grasses to increase, others to decrease. The extent to which various factors influence survival of a grass can be measured by the point contact method. Information obtained as to which grasses can survive under specific conditions is valu-



able in determining the grasses to plant for economical maintenance.

M. Zaki Mahdi, graduate student at UCLA sent here by the Egyptian government, shows point quadrat to H. B. Musser, Agronomy professor from Penn State. The point quadrat apparatus is used to determine percentage population of grasses in a mixed turf. Method consists of recording all vegetation hit at random by a number of points. For charting a lawn 500 to 1000 points are used. By recording every leaf hit, the relative percentage of each grass can be ascertained. This method is especially useful in short, dense turf such as that found on lawns, golf courses and athletic fields.

Southern Calif. Golfers Launch Big Junior Program

More than 60 public and private golf and country clubs in the Southern California area have joined together in the sponsorship of an ambitious program which will help better than 1000 youngsters in the organization of a Junior Golf Association. A governing board composed of three members each from the Southern California Golf Association, the Publinox Assn., the Southern Calif. section of the PGA, Harold Dawson, exec. sec'y. of the SCGA, and Dudley Shumway, Dir. of Recreation for the City of Los Angeles is the guiding force in launching the junior golf program.

The new Junior Association will serve as an auxiliary to each of the parent organizations and is open to any boy or girl who has not reached his or her 18th birthday. Membership dues are two dollars per year for which the youngster will get some

phase of tournament play or instruction every week of the summer vacation and on weekends during the school year.

Aside from organization and coordination of effort main purposes of the Junior Assn. are: to promote junior golf activities, to teach the rules and etiquette of golf, to secure instruction, practice and playing privileges for its members, and to establish handicaps.

Southeastern and Florida Turf Groups Meet

Program of the annual Southeastern Turf Management Conference held at the Georgia Coastal Plain Exp. Station, Tifton, was built around the theme, "Better Turf" for the southeastern United States. More than 150 registered for the two day meeting. A total of 18 states were represented with Alabama, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee having the largest delegations.

The Florida Assn. of Greenkeepers meeting in convention at Tampa with State Florists, Nurserymen, and Fern Growers greeted announcement of the news an appropriation had been made for grass research in Florida, which includes a full-time expert to set up experimental plots on golf courses and lawns throughout the state. Joe Konwinski, Lake Worth GC, was named pres., Gene Tift, Bay Shore GC, vp., and Mike Realino, Whispering Hills CC, Sec'y-treas.

COMING TURF EVENTS

- Aug. 7 — Turf Field Day. Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, N.J.
- Aug. 22-23 — 20th Annual Greenkeepers' Field Days. University of Rhode Island, Kingston.
- Aug. 27-31 — American Society of Agronomy Annual Meetings, Pennsylvania State College, State College, Pa.
- Sept. 5-7 — Turf Field Days. The Pennsylvania State College and USGA Turf Advisory Committee, State College, Pa.
- Sept. 17-18 — Turf Field Days. Purdue University and Midwest Regional Turf Foundation. West Lafayette, Ind.
- Oct. 7-9 — National Turf Field Days. Beltsville Turf Gardens, Plant Industry Station, Beltsville, Md.
- Oct. 24-26 — Turf Conference. Central Plains Turf Foundation and Kansas State College, Manhattan, Kansas.

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CLUB BY-LAWS

(Continued from page 37)

clinch its hold on its members however gaspingly one of them might struggle to be free, put in its by-laws the provision that "No resignation shall be effective until accepted by the Board of Directors, and until transfer of the certificate of membership on the Club's books the recordholder shall remain liable for all dues, fees, and other charges."

One who got in on the ground floor and received his certificate of membership, exercised club privileges and paid all dues and assessments for 15 years. He was a man of influence and a good member to have on the roll. But, no respecter of persons, the depression of the mid-thirties hit him, and in the process of retrenching as the necessities required he wanted to resign.

Thereupon, his dues being paid up, he indorsed his certificate of membership in blank and delivered it, along with his written resignation, to the Board of Directors. This was as the by-laws specified. But the Club's governing board thought it had the last say. It was having its financial troubles too in those hectic times. It fairly shuddered at the thought

of losing a prominent and paying member. It dilly-dallied about accepting the resignation, about transferring the certificate on its books. Didn't it have the right to hold him indefinitely by merely refraining from accepting his resignation and making the necessary book transfers?

On the fact of things it looked that way. But it was working a hardship on the member. He wanted out. The greater his insistence, the firmer the Board's stand. The struggle went on for two years or more. The Club kept holding him for dues.

In desperation, the member haled the Club into court for a decree compelling it to accept his resignation and relieving him of the financial burden. The trial court ruled against him; but he had his inning a year or two later in the Supreme Court.

Said the Judge there, in lighter vein than the ponderous tomes of the law ordinarily disclose: "This man wishes to resign as a member of the Club and be allowed to go in peace. Doubtless this is the only case in history where a golf Club has failed to heed the plaintive cry of one of its flock. The court below indorsed its action by refusing to say that

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the member was entitled to any balm at all. The judgment of the court was that he was 'stymied' and so must remain, forever and aye, unless perchance the Board of Directors might experience a change of heart and vote him a furlough.

"The member fails to appreciate the implied compliment to him in the Club's desire to retain him. The Club insists that unless and until it changes its mind and consents to his release, and follows it by a suitable entry in its book of life, he must gracefully submit and continue to 'roll in the fiery gulf.'

"However, the law requires the Club to provide a way of escape for members, imposing only such restrictions upon the right of resignation as may be just and reasonable . . . So much of the by-law as permits this Club to deny this member the right to resign, on the ground that it merely withholds its consent, or declines to make the necessary book entries, is invalid because unreasonable and arbitrary." So, the court loosened the member's shackles.

By no means are legal squabbles and contentions arising over the affairs or conduct of Country Clubs limited to the effect of either tricky or good-faith by-laws respecting resignations of members or the right of a Club to discipline or expel them. The contentions may take any of a variety of turns; and the by-laws may be significant not only for what they contain but also for omissions.

For instance, a Federal court has recently ruled that unless the by-laws authorize assessments against members, none can be made. This ruling had evidently been anticipated by counsel of a prominent New York Country Club in preparing its by-laws, for all provisions that would have authorized member assessments had been shrewdly omitted.

The omission worked to the Club's behoof in this way: The Federal laws re-

quire Country Clubs to pay income taxes on membership "dues, assessments, and initiation fees." The Board of Governors of this Club desired to improve its clubhouse and property to the amount of \$50,000 to be paid by the members. If the by-laws had authorized the levy of assessments, income taxes would have been payable on that sum. Since enforceable assessments were not authorized in the by-laws, the Board merely sent out letters to the members asking them to submit to a voluntary assessment of \$150 each. Nearly all did. A few did not, and the Board made no attempt to collect these, realizing there could be no legal enforcement of a voluntary contribution.

At the insistence of the Collector of Internal Revenue, the Club paid, under protest, income taxes on the approximately \$50,000 it had collected, and later sued to recover the amount paid. The court ruled that since the amounts received from the members had been voluntary payments, rather than enforceable assessments as would have been the case had such been authorized by the by-laws, they were not in reality assessments at all as contemplated by the income tax laws, and the Club was awarded a return of its money.

While legal difficulties never can, perhaps, be always and completely obviated in the inner workings of a Country Club, since those belonging to or running it are afflicted with the common weaknesses and imperfections of mankind, much can be done to head off disrupting occurrences by painstaking and thorough preparation of the rules (the by-laws) by which the associates agree to be governed. It is not a matter to be regarded lightly or as unimportant.

The governing board of the carefully organized and conducted Country Club will see to it that every member is informed specifically as to what the by-laws contain. Manifestly, this desideratum cannot be achieved by merely strik-

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ing off a typewritten set of by-laws and filing it with the secretary to be hauled out of a dusty pigeonhole and unwrinkled, if it can be found at all, in event some question arises requiring its inspection. The sensible way, and the safe way, is to have the by-laws printed in quantities sufficient to supply every member at the beginning and as often thereafter as may be reasonably necessary in keeping the membership informed.

As a final admonition, it is to be said that it is not only members of Country Clubs who must toe the legal mark in performing their obligation to the Club, or asserting their rights against it. The officials, too, have heavy responsibilities, enhanced by the fact that their relationship to the Club and its members is of a fiduciary nature. This relationship requires the ultimate of good faith on their part in handling Club affairs. They are absolutely prohibited by the law from doing anything in which they are personally interested that would be detrimental to the interests of the Club or its members.

Take one actual occurrence in illustration. A Chicago man hatched up a scheme that was a lulu. It called for the co-operation of seven kindred spirits, whom he lured into his net easily with the bait he had to offer.

In furtherance of the plan, this promoter located a tract of land suitable for a golf course, took an option-to-purchase, incorporated a golfing Club with himself and his seven associates as Directors, and sold stock to the public to the extent of \$300,000. Thereupon, the Directors sold the option to the Club for \$147,000, out of which was paid the actual purchase-price of the land, \$78,000, giving to the promoter and his willing associates, without any investment of their own money, the sum of \$69,000 personal profit at the expense of the Club and its stockholder-members.

The fraud soon came to light, and a court, at the instance of some of the members of the Club, required the unfaithful Directors to pay into the Club's treasury all profits they had made personally on the deal.

WHY MEMBERS THINK

(Continued from page 44)

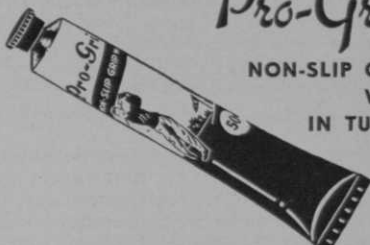
doesn't know all of them, he knows where to find them in a hurry when they are needed. He is the local law on golf. That's why the club hired him.

The pro is the club's golf business man. All his unpaid services to the members give him the right to sell them his wares in a proper shop provided by the club. This is a convenience to the players who get

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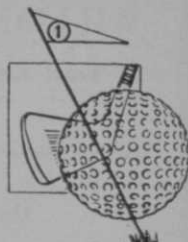
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expert help in choosing equipment from someone who knows their game and their golf habits. They buy from a merchant who is interested in selling them what they need and want, and holding them as customers; because their golf game as well as their golf equipment is his business. That's why the club hired a pro and built him a golf shop.

The pro is boss foreman to the hundred odd caddies in his charge. The caddie master may be directly responsible but the smooth operation of the caddie system goes back to the pro. The club chose him for his ability to handle the men and boys in his charge. He is a labor chief at the club. That's how he got the job as pro.

The club officials and members may not be aware of all the reasons why they hired a pro or the pro may not clearly realize what's expected of him. But when something goes wrong, then the pro learns what's expected of him. It's plenty.

MIDLAND COURSE

(Continued from page 48)

were brought in for green construction. There's been an extensive program of soil preparation followed in preparing greens, fairways and tees. Surface- and sub-drainage has been carefully planned and double-checked.

Artificial lakes and meandering draws have been designed into the layout so they look like nature made them.

The landscaping program started by making golf architectural use of largest of the mesquite trees native to the land and has been expanded into installation of 682 elms, cottonwoods and poplars fitted into the golf architecture and scenic planning.

Grau and Watson recently went on an inspection tour of the Midland job with Plummer and Fred Hogan and Jay Floyd of the club and the turf authorities are satisfied that this job already has made golf construction history in showing that recommendations of turf scientists effect the quick establishment of first grade golf

turf on what appears to be forbidding territory, and that the ultimate economy in cash has a long, long margin over the trial and error methods.

Another historic aspect of the Midland development is that three presidents and three boards have been in office since the project was begun yet there have been few alterations in the basic planning and the boys haven't drawn 6-guns on each other in labor-pain arguments. Roy Minear and Percy F. Bridgewater preceded the present president, Don Johnson, in office. Through the three administrations building has steadily progressed.

The club intended to construct a \$500,000 clubhouse but government building restrictions have forced indefinite postponement to that work.

SHAW LAWN EQUIPT. CO. HOST TO PHOENIX AREA SUPTS.



Alva Shaw and missus of the Shaw Lawn Mowing Equipment Co., Phoenix, Ariz., entertain the golf course superintendents and wives of the Phoenix area at annual dinner party. Guests of the Shaws for this occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Phil Hanson, Phoenix CC, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Perow, Mesa G&CC, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Stanley, ass't. at Phoenix CC, Mr. and Mrs. J. Woodward, Arizona CC, Preston Childers, Phoenix Muny Course and Cecil Watkins, Wigwam Course, Litchfield Park.

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WILSON ADVISORY STAFF REACHES 32 WITH ADDITION OF KLEIN

The addition of Chuck Klein, professional from the Willow Springs GC, San Antonio, Texas, brings the Wilson Sporting Goods Co. golf advisory staff up to a total of 32 players. Chuck captured top money for the first time this year when he won the Rio Grande Valley Open and added to his earnings when he tied for second place in the Miami Beach Open. Klein has been a professional since 1935 and counts among his past victories the San Antonio Grand Sweepstakes, the Ruidoso (New Mexico) Open, the West Texas Open and the Oklahoma Open.

GOLFCRAFT BROCHURE TELLS SPORK STORY

To aid sportswriters and sportscasters covering tournaments, clinics and exhibitions in which their Shirley Spork participates, Golfcraft, Inc., Chicago, have prepared a brochure on the charming and competent young lady that is noteworthy for its attractiveness, information and interest. Shirley and Miss Jane Woolley, Advertising Manager of Golfcraft, Inc., will leave on July 3 for San Francisco, where

Miss Spork is scheduled to give clinics and exhibitions at numerous golf clubs including the Sail-Ho GC, U. S. Training Center, San Diego; La Jolla CC, La Jolla, California; and the Pasatiempo CC in Santa Cruz, during the Northern California Girl's Championship.

180 YEARS OF SERVICE



Miss Hedwig Amend, secretary to H. Amtmann, Spalding Advertising Mgr., and Matthew J. Kiernan, ass't. vp in charge of golf offer mutual congratulations as they celebrate this month the observance of

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Miss Amend's 52nd year with the Spalding Co. and Mr. Kiernan's 53rd year. C. F. Robbins, Spalding, pres. (left) with the company 36 years, and L. E. Coleman, vp in charge of sales, with the company 39, are interested spectators for the occasion.

LIGHTWEIGHT IS FEATURE OF NEW SKEE RIEGEL GOLF SHOE

Two former national Amateur champions, Ted Bishop, 1946 champion and Robert H. (Skee) Riegel, 1947 champion, are teamed-up in the Ted Bishop Co., which reports a lively demand for their recently announced lightweight golf shoe. The newly developed shoe, known as the Skee Riegel golf shoe, is said to be the lightest golf shoe made. A spring steel equalizer is bonded to the sole to improve stance and to eliminate spike shifting and sole warping.

Insulated from hot and cold and moisture proof, the shoes come in three tones and in sizes from 7 to 12. Retailing at popular prices they are sold thru pros exclusively. Tournament tiredness started the Ted Bishop shoe business. "I always seemed to score higher the second round of tournament play and felt it was tiredness," says Bishop, "so Skee and I kept experimenting with all types of shoes and finally, in the Skee Riegel shoe, produced a truly lightweight, cushion comfort golf shoe which we believe golfers have longer for." Complete details from Ted Bishop Co., 101 Tremont St., Boston 8, Mass.

IMPROVED FLEXI-COMB DESIGN

The Flexi-comb, manufactured by West Point Lawn Products, West Point, Pa., and used for a number of years as an attachment to fairway mowers to get better cut fairways has been redesigned to provide greater operating convenience. New feature quickly locks comb in or out of combing position. Set the combs down to operate on fairways, snap them up out of operating position when crossing roads or moving mowers from one area to another.

Flexi-combs fit popular makes of mowers and are easy to install. Complete range of depth adjustment makes combs adaptable to individual conditions. Reduction of thatch, smoother cut, eradication of weeds by cutting runners and removal of seedheads are advantages of using Flexi-comb while mowing.

BEV HANSON, HELEN DETTWEILER JOIN MACGREGOR GOLF STAFF

Beverly Hanson, National Amateur Golf Champion, has turned professional and with Helen Dettweiler, her instructor, has joined the MacGregor Golf Co. Advisory Staff, according to pres. Henry P. Cowen, who made the announcement when he introduced the two golfers at the annual meeting of the MacGregor Tourney Club traditional get-together of the nation's top golf pros, held each year on the eve of the PGA Championship.

It is the first time that a nationally-known instructor-pupil golf team has joined a manufacturer's staff, Cowen said. They will aid in the development and promotion of MacGregor golf clubs and balls. Both are scheduled to conduct clinics and exhibitions across the country in behalf of the company. They will participate also in all women's opens and other events sched-



Beverly Hanson (left) and Helen Dettweiler hold contracts making them members of the MacGregor Advisory Staff. Pres. Henry Cowen made the announcement and presented the new members at the annual meeting of the MacGregor Tourney Club.

uled by the Ladies PGA of which Fred Corcoran is tournament director.

Beverly, who is 24 and divides her time between Indio, Calif. and Fargo, N. D., began to hit the golf limelight in the 1950 season when she won the Women's Texas Open at Fort Worth, the California State, the Southern California title, the Pasadena City championship, the Mid-Winter at Los

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- Sod cutter
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- Score cards
- Shoe spike wrench
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- Tees (wood) plastic
- Tees & Score Card Holder
- Tee mats
- Tees (rubber) for driving mats
- Teeing device (automatic)
- Tennis nets
- Trophies



Club House

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Club..... Address.....

Town..... Zone (.....) State.....

LET GOLFDOM HELP YOUR OFFICIALS MAKE THE MOST OF 1951

Each month GOLFDOM presents the latest, most practical ideas on golf club administration, management, upkeep and service ... for time, labor and money-saving guidance of your officials and department heads. Help the *right men* at your club do the *job right*. Send in the form below so we can get them "on the beam".

— FILL IN THE FORM BELOW — THEN MAIL THIS PAGE TO —
GOLFDOM, 407 SOUTH DEARBORN STREET, CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS

Name of club: Private Daily Fee Many **NUMBER OF HOLES**

Address Town:

Zone () State By Club Position

President's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State:

Secretary's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State:

Manager's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State:

Green Chrnm's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State:

Greenkeeper's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State:

Professional's:
name (Zone

Add: Town: State: