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October, 1955

more than 4 or 5 feet to the left of a direct line from defendant's position to the fourth green. Plaintiff was in the line of defendant's play. With knowledge that people were out in front of him defendant attempted a shot in the direction of the fourth hole, intending to loft his ball over the bunker on the fourth fairway and over the heads of all the people who might be between him and the bunker. Instead, the ball carried low and curved. Prior to addressing the ball the defendant should have called his warning to the plaintiff; but, instead, he waited to call "Fore," just before making his shot, and then, just as he struck the ball, when he saw the direction the plaintiff was going, he called "Fore," again, very loudly, but it was then too late. He had then hit the lad in the eye.

Caddy Not Negligent

The court had next to consider whether the boy was guilty of contributory negligence. In disposing of this point, it was only necessary to note that he was only 13 years old, and at the time was rightfully on the golf course. The defendant was not on the fourth tee, but was in the rough, and in the rear of the plaintiff at a distance of 35 to 75 yards.

Under such circumstances the boy had a right to expect that the defendant would not drive a ball so close to the direction in which plaintiff was proceeding without giving him fair warning before delivering the shot.

Then the court had to consider whether plaintiff assumed the risk of being injured by being struck by a golf ball. Since it was found that defendant failed to give a timely warning to the plaintiff, it could not be seriously contended that the mere act of caddying created an assumption by the boy of the risk of being hurt. This question was for the jury to determine, and they have now determined it in favor of the lad, and that is that. So, the issues are all decided in the boy's favor.

James A. Walsh and the defendant Frederick Machlin, golfers familiar with the rules, were partners on the Brook CC in Orange, Conn. Walsh sued Machlin for making a stroke without first calling "Fore," or giving some other form of adequate warning, and hitting Machlin in an eye. But the court found from the testimony that it was not necessary to give a warning, since Machlin was already aware that the shot was to be made, and that a warning to Machlin would have been merely superfluous. Therefore, the court merely affirmed a judgment in favor of Machlin.

The Missouri Court of Appeals has ruled that it is professional negligence to injure a caddy with a golf ball without giving a clear warning of the intention to strike the ball, so evidence of the lack of warning may be presented to the jury trying the case; meaning that the verdict of the jury upon the question of whether or not the defendant did or not issue the warning was final and conclusive.

What Is the Danger Zone?

Where a player had hit a caddy, and the evidence showed that the angle between the intended flight of an errant golf ball which struck the plaintiff and that of actual flight, was about 32 degrees, the contention that plaintiff was not within the range of probable danger was not logical or reasonable.

"To hold that a golf player was negligent merely because the ball did not travel in a straight line as intended by him would be imposing on him a greater duty of care than the Creator endowed him faculties to carry out," the court declared.

Where a golf course was constructed and maintained so one hole ran parallel to a busy highway, and players frequently without negligence accidentally sliced a ball onto the highway and the directors of the golf club knew this, the condition was adjudged a public nuisance rendering the club liable for a personal injury resulting when a golfer sliced a ball which struck and broke a windshield of an automobile traveling the highway, injuring the driver.

Where an invitee on a golf course was accidentally injured by a golf ball driven by an unidentified player, it was held that the golf course owner or proprietor was not liable simply because he did not warn the invitee of the dangers common to all golf courses and did not warn the unidentified player not to drive the golf ball, when the accident was an unusual and chance accident, since it would be assumed that the ordinary person thoroughly understood the possibility of such incidents.

An Illinois court once said in a golf case before it that there was considerable force to the contention that the plaintiff was guilty of contributory negligence, since he had admitted that he had not been paying much attention or any care for his own safety when the ball was hit from a

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During my stay in Florida, I hit a few shots with your Glasshafts which the pro at_ had on hand. I feel these shafts are easier on the player and need less effort to control than do steel shafts. 11 PRO

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October, 1955

neighboring hole which was very close to the fairway on which the plaintiff was playing.

The New York state court once remarked in a case before it: "The facts that golfers were playing in a seven-some was not of itself an act of negligence, although as the numbers of players increase, the ordinary reasonable man takes extra pains in discerning the whereabouts of his players and their respective caddies, for the greater the numbers of persons on the course, the greater the risk of injuring someone."

Range Ball Washer Made from Concrete Mixer

A concrete mixer can be converted into an efficient range ball washer, which when operated by two boys can clean 20,000 golf balls in a half hour, according to "Dutch" Wheaton, manager of the Lincolnwood Golf Driving Range on Chicago's north side.

At least two prominent mail order houses distribute this type of concrete mixer in three price classes; \$60, \$120 and \$360. Wheaton completely lined the interior of a \$360 model with scrubbing brushes closely fitted together and rigged up a sump pump to recover the cleaning solution after each batch of balls is washed.

Biggest feature of the entire operation is the fact that handling of balls is reduced to a minimum through a production line arrangement worked out by Wheaton.

One boy starts the washing cycle by dumping approximately 1500 balls into the mixer, turns on the sump pump to



Sump pump feeds cleaning solution into brush lined mixer after quick loading thru open end.



Washing solution is reclaimed by draining off balls thru screened ramp into sump pump tank.

fill the mixer with cleaning solution consisting of 1 pint of bleach and two cups of detergent to 30 gals. of water, starts the mixer revolving and, five minutes later, dumps the load of washed balls onto a ramp with a screened bottom.

The balls roll off to a collecting bin while the cleaning solution sinks down through the screened bottom of the ramp into a container next to the sump pump, ready to be pumped back into the mixer for the next batch of balls.

The second boy, after hosing the cleaned balls to remove excess suds still adhering to them, removes them through a sliding hatch and takes them to a storage bin in the range building where they are immediately available for dispensing to range patrons.

In the meantime, the first boy has already started another washing cycle with a new 1500-ball batch.

Wheaton estimates the entire layout can be set up for under \$500, depending on the size of mixer used. He also estimates that the Lincolnwood daily ball washing operation, which involves as many as 65,000 range balls on peak days, requires less than one-third the time it formerly took and with a significant reduction in the amount of hand labor required.

For further information you may write to Wheaton at the Lincolnwood Golf Driving Range, Lincoln and Touhy Avenues, Lincolnwood, Ill.



Mrs. Jackson Bradley looks over the sales record in the River Oaks shop. Jackson is at the right; his assistant at the left. Shop has excellent natural lighting but to make sure it's always sunny inside Bradley has fine lighting equipment.

Long Study by Pro and Wife Shown in New Shop

JACKSON Bradley's pro shop at River Oaks CC, Houston, Tex., is in a beautiful new pro department building near the first tee and 18th green.

Bradley and his wife are smart golf business people and the shop layout, furnishings and stock arrangement shows not only what Jackson and his assistants have picked up in their pro shop experience and investigations, but what Mrs. Bradley has noted in her own shopping and has adapted in a pro shop.



Lots of clubs and other golf equipment, apparel and supplies displayed. The club display in the foreground is one that magnetizes members.



Mrs. Jackson Bradley attends to a multitude of clerical and accounting tasks in the shop office conveniently located to keep eye on display area.



This attractive building houses the River Oaks pro department.

With the exception of the ball case everything is on open display in the River Oaks shop. Large stocks are carried.

An interesting feature of the shop is the two club display sections; one against a wall in a large alcove of the shop and the other in a grouping in the center of the shop as shown in one of the accompanying illustrations.

Naturally the club display in the center gets most attention. When members begin handling clubs and showing interest Bradley and his staff can put their club fitting service to work and provide the interested prospect with the proper clubs from any part of the displays or the reserve stocks stored back of the display rooms.

The compartment for slacks, shorts and sports coats in a wall alongside the ball counter makes an orderly and attractive display.

An important part of the back-stage working facilities is the office. In one of these views taken by Dan Sheehan, Mrs. Bradley is busy at the desk handling some of the innumerable accounting details that now require pros' careful attention.

The Bradley's shop record system enables them to keep their large inventory turning over quite rapidly and warns Bradley to order so sales won't be lost because of shortage of stock. It also tips off the Bradley staff to convert into cash whatever has been too long in stock.

Golf Works Wonders At Hospital Course

By THOMAS H. RICKMAN, JR. Director of Community Activities, U. S. Public Health Service Hospital, Carville, La.

GOLF continues to prove popular among patients at the U.S. Public Health Service Hospital in Carville, La. Here in the only hospital in the continental United States devoted to the treatment of leprosy are 343 patients ranging from 14 to 93 years of age. They include men and women from Mexico, Hawaii, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, Philippines, China, Japan, India, and many states within the United States.

The nine-hole, par 35, 2,428-yard patient course built in 1922 is seldom idle. Daily on a year-round basis patients engage each other in friendly matches. Several times a year all-patient tournaments are held and the Carville Invitational Tourney held each spring and fall has grown from 48 to 132 entries in four years. It includes golfers from New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Monroe, Lafayette, and Jacksonville, Fla., as well as Carville patients.

The interesting aspects of this golfing situation stem from the residual effects of leprosy; the hand and foot deformities, the loss of sensation in the extremities which demands some departures from normally accepted grips, stance, and swing. Henry Thomas, New Orleans City Park pro, is a consultant on the hospital staff and twice monthly spends a day at Carville teaching golf fundamentals to newly arrived patients and helping the old timers.

Instruction is mostly on an individual basis and includes men, women, and children. Evidence of progress is abundant. Until five years ago when Thomas started the teaching program, rarely had any patient been able to achieve par. In local patient tourneys the championship and first flights were filled with high 80 and low 90 scores. Not so any more. Par is fairly common and there is a scramble of low 70's in championship and first flights. This, mind you, in spite of the fact that practically 100% of those playing had never held a golf club in their hands until coming to Carville for treatment.

As recently as two years ago more than 25 per cent of the patients were playing golf here. Today that figure is down to about 15 per cent. This is not due to lack of interest but rather the fact that so many of the more active patients have responded well to treatment and have been discharged. The fact that while here they found a new interest and sharpened their skill will help sustain them in the adjustment period as they return to society.

USE BUYERS' SERVICE—PAGE 141 for quick information on Equipment and Supplies

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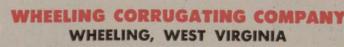
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TURF ROUND-UP By O. J. NOER

Second worst year for golf turf taught brutal lessons in water management, shortage of able labor, iron chlorosis prevention.

(First of a two part review of this year's maintenance.)

T HE summer of 1955 will go down in history as one of the two worst for golf turf in the region east of the Rockies and north of the Ohio and Missouri Rivers. Only 1928 compares with it. Both summers were terrifically hot and humid. Downpouring rains were general in 1928 and were bad this year in some places. In referring to 1928, one superintendent remarked "We did everything wrong in 1928." This statement explains why loss of grass was more extensive that year than in 1955. At some courses there was not a single blade of grass left on any one of the greens in 1928.

All records for sustained heat were broken in 1955. In Milwaukee there were 33 days when the thermometer registered above 90 degrees and many more close to that temperature. The same thing prevailed elsewhere. The heat alone would not have been bad had there been no rain and no humidity. Most people think all turf woes are caused by drought. The superintendent prefers that kind of weather, provided he has a good irrigation system and an adequate supply of water. He fears hot, wet, humid weather.

Some of the finest greens seen last year were at Yuma, Ariz. The turf was Seaside bent. There was no serious disease problem despite daytime temperatures exceeding 100 degrees day after day. It never rained and humidity was low. Greens were watered each night and showered lightly every afternoon.

There was less trouble in Kansas City in

1954 despite higher temperatures than in 1955. The season was dry and humidity was low. Every superintendent was plagued with trouble and problems this season due to high humidity and flash rains. They brought every known kind of disease.

Troubles this year started with the long July 4th week-end. Greens got enough water to carry them over until Tuesday. They were a bit on the wet side. Then came drenching rain in some places to make the soil overly wet. Warm windy weather followed. Heavy play on wet greens was bad for the turf and when wilting started in early afternoon nobody was available to shower the greens.

Labor Problem Gets Worse

There is an acute labor problem on many courses. The situation is becoming worse from year to year. Too many clubs rely upon temporary, inexperienced help. The purpose is to reduce the over-all cost of labor.

The superintendent recruits a new labor force every year. He shuns the floater Rescue Mission type of workmen in favor of vacationing college students. They are very satisfactory for some tasks but require constant supervision. Their big interest is in the pay check rather than acquiring a "know how" for the job. This leaves nobody but the superintendent to check for wilt, for disease, for insect damage, etc.

In bad weather it is a seven-day week because a half hour delay may spell the difference between keeping and losing grass on greens.

The time has come for club officials to recognize the need for a nucleus force of workmen with year around employment and future security assured. These men can be trained to do the operations of watering, fertilization, disease, and insect control. They can be taught to recognize wilt and how to stop it.

Some workmen must be on hand during the daytime in bad weather on Saturday and Sunday as well as week days, even though it means pay at overtime rates. Unless clubs do these things and make provision for retirement pay and the like, there will be no young men available to replace retiring superintendents.

Wilt Loss Terrific

Loss of grass from wilt was terrific during July and August. This remark by Farnham hits the nail on the head: "Until this year I thought Noer overemphasized the necessity for showering greens during daytime. It was the only way we stopped seri-

Chicago Tribune

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ulack Fleck, 1955 U. S. Open Golf Champion, shot a hole-in-one last month, determining the Nadco Hole-In-One Tournament. A fabulous timax to the unique Nadco Contest, it was the third ace in the lean Champion's golfing career. Winner of the grand prize award, a new Cadillac, was Mike Douglas, River Forest, III. There were entries from every one of the forty-eight states and Europe. Open to all golfers using Nadco golfing equipment . . . a verified hole-in-one shot on any recognized course qualifies you.

JACK FLECK

IN THIS ISSUE Diatomic Clubs

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to the Nadco insert for the greatest news in Golfdom. ous loss of grass and it had to be done on Saturdays and Sundays."

In desperation some superintendents did the work themselves on week-ends because there was nobody else at hand. By the time they rounded up a crew it would have been too late to save the wilting grass.

There were two distinct types of wilt. The customary dry wilt was common everywhere. Besides that there was a wet wilt. It occurred on water-saturated greens with the cups full of water. There were no roots of consequence. Surfaces dried quickly. Grass could not use the water below because there were no roots.

Unless the grass received a little water, just enough to stop wilt and no more, grass succumbed and the brown area was referred to as scald.

Golfers could not understand the reason for showering a wet green. They thought the use of water in midday would kill grass.

Another reason for wet wilt is the fact that roots do not absorb water or nutrients from a waterlogged soil which does not contain free or dissolved oxygen.

Hoagland demonstrated that fact years ago. He grew tomatoes in water culture. The leaves wilted and died in some of the jars even though roots were plentiful and surrounded completely by water. No wilting occurred in the jars where a minute amount of air was introduced into the water culture solution through the bottom of the jar.

The startling effect produced by any one of the aerifying tools when used on a waterlogged green results from the introduction of oxygen as much as anything else.

Soil Burning Hot

During the extreme heat parts of the greens were so hot one could not keep the palm of the hand on the spot. The temperature there was 20 to 40 degrees above that on nearby spots of higher moisture content. Heat developed rapidly on these spots because of the low soil moisture content.

Less heat is required to raise the temperature of soil than of water. Unless a little water was used promptly the grass wilted and died in a matter of minutes rather than hours. A light showering cooled the spots.

Water is a poor conductor of heat and soil temperatures are lowered as it evaporates. A thermometer inserted at the surface registered in the 135 to 140 degree Fahrenheit range. It dropped to 100 degrees or less after the green was showered with water.

Instead of showering the green some workmen overwater even when watering by hand. They apply water uniformly over the green instead of directing it to the high

low areas. With good pressure and the right size hose a man can shower a green in not over 5 to 10 minutes. All that is needed is just enough water to stop the wilt. More than that will aggravate pythium, brownpatch, and every other type of disease. In ordinary weather one showering in

spots and letting surface run-off wet the

early afternoon may suffice. In extreme weather applying more water then will not prevent wilt again later in the afternoon. The better way is to shower lightly twice rather than overwater once. A rose nozzle should be used because the smaller droplets absorb more oxygen from the air.

Sprinklers are of little use when roots are sparse and confined to the top inch or less. Some superintendents abandoned sprinklers altogether when they lost roots as a result of heavy downpouring rains. They changed to early morning watering and applied enough to restore evaporated and transpired water.

Morning watering destroys the droplets of dew and gutated water on the blades of grass. This helps dry the turf and lessens disease. Somebody should check greens for wilt later in the morning, right after lunch, and toward the end of the afternoon if necessary. The entire crew of 12 men were showering the greens toward the end of the afternoon one bad day on a course in Missouri. No grass had been lost despite bad weather because the superintendent had learned the hard way years before.

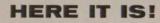
Overwetness and Thatch Ruinous

Overwetness and thatch, especially buried layers, have cost grass on many greens during hot, wet spells. The buried leaves and stems are highly combustible and undergo decay readily.

Some of the byproducts of decomposition under waterlogged conditions may be toxic. The marked improvement from a light application of hydrated lime following a drenching summer rain tends to support this supposition. The initial compounds of decomposition are soluble and are acid in character. Their calcium salts are insoluble so hydrate transforms them from soluble toxic compounds into insoluble substances which the plant does not absorb.

Heat is associated with anaerobic decomposition. The heat generated in a pile of clippings is evidence of that fact. Temperature rises quickly and the pile becomes uncomfortably hot. The same thing happens to the buried clippings in a green when the soil is waterlogged. The problem of thatch and its control will be touched upon later.

The experience of a Kentucky club sup-



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