

# Veteran Turf Nurseryman Reviews C-19 and C-1

By RALPH R. BOND

**C**ONGRESSIONAL C-19 bentgrass is one of the better bents and evidently has a wide range of adaptability as it ranks high in the midwest, clear across the northern part of the U. S. to UCLA, and in between at Purdue University at Lafayette, Ind. and Iowa State College, Ames.

Because of the exceptional high rating at Ames, year after year, we moved our Congressional nursery into Iowa and started a branch nursery at Farmington where we grow this strain exclusively.

It has always been one of the 5 top strains since its showing in the old pie-shape experimental greens of 1939-1940.

The Congressional strain is less than 20 years old. It was discovered in a green on the Congressional CC, Washington D. C., in 1936.

Congressional has the most attractive color of all bents, being a rich dark green. It has the longest and greatest amount of roots.

It ranks high in dollar spot resistance being on a par with Arlington and Old Orchard, but it has a very poor rating when it comes to brownpatch. Arlington C-1, Cohansey C-7, Norbeck C-36, Washington C-50, Metropolitan C-51, and Old Orchard C-52 creeping bentgrasses all rate higher. Congressional C-19 has the dubious distinction of equaling Toronto C-15 when it comes to brownpatch susceptibility.

It is one of the outstanding bentgrass clones with fine texture, closely knit turf, fine stolons, soft under foot, and true to putt on. It is an upstanding bent without swirl in the greens. The turf is thick but not matty. We believe that the great number of blades to the square inch is because of the number of nodes on the stolons. In our nursery we have observed as high as four nodes to the inch on stolons although one or two would be nearer to the average.

It is an early starter but a medium grower. Ratings for *poa annua* and clover indicate that it is not aggressive.

Congressional had a good start in single planted greens and was doing all right in this respect until someone thought of the idea to plant it in a mixture of C-1 and

C-27. But lately it is coming back into its own. We recently planted three golf courses with this strain without any mixture.

Reviewing its good points and bad points we still think the good points overshadow its bad points and the strain is good enough to be planted alone.

Here is our evaluation of Congressional:

## GOOD POINTS.

- 1—Resistance to Dollar Spot.
- 2—Beautiful dark-green color.
- 3—Quality and quantity of its root system.
- 4—Thick turf texture.
- 5—Early starter.
- 6—Holds color throughout the season.
- 7—Likes the heat.
- 8—Can stand very cold weather; winters well.

## BAD POINTS.

- 1—Poor rating with brownpatch.
- 2—Average rank for freedom from copper spot.
- 3—Not too aggressive.
- 4—*Poa Annua* and clover invade it.
- 5—Fair recovery after disease.

It is good enough for us to continue growing this strain commercially in large volume.

## Arlington C-1 Is Appraised

We feel that some have been misinformed about the Arlington C-1 strain of creeping bentgrass. Our reason for this suspicion is that in two months early this year we had more inquiries to buy this strain for golf courses to be planted alone on greens than we have had in all the nine years we have been growing this strain commercially.

We turned all offers down.

If we had a million bushels of these stolons we would never sell this strain to any golf course if the man in charge was going to plant greens alone with it, without mixing it with another strain.

Here is our evaluation of Arlington C-1 strain. The Arlington is a good tough strain and will take a lot of punishment. It is about tops for bent tees. It is very

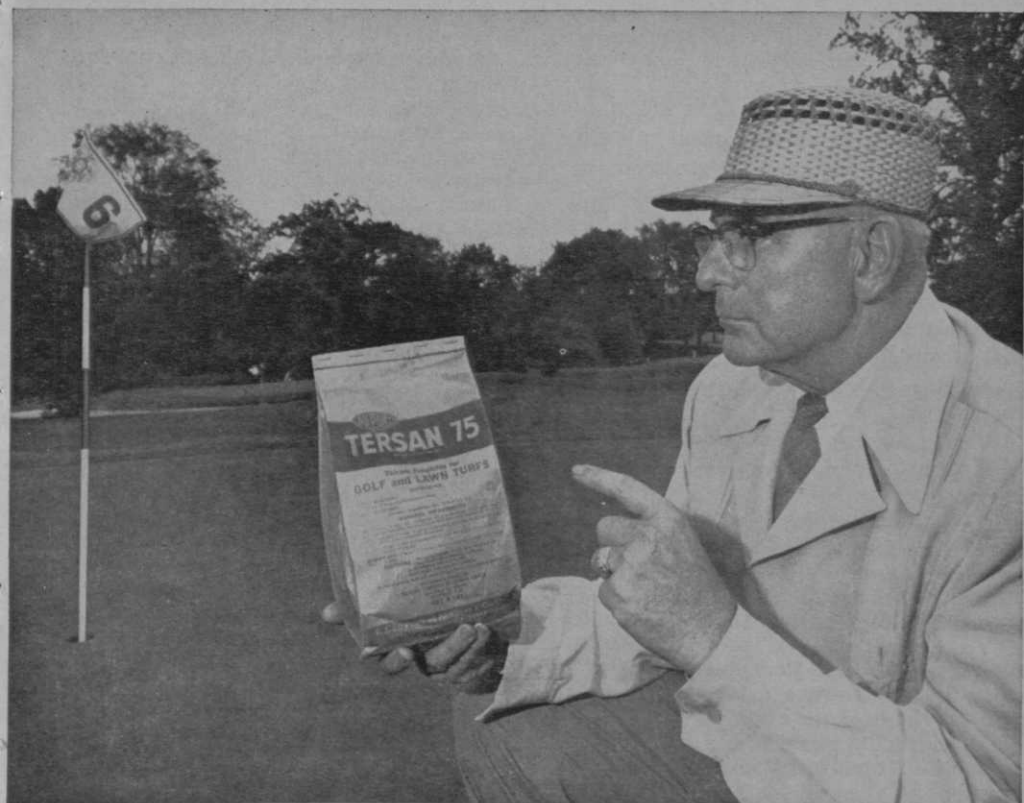
# **“We’ve found Tersan® best for year-round disease control”**

*Says Elmer J. Michael, Superintendent,  
Oak Hill Country Club, Rochester, New York,  
Site of the 1956 National Open Tournament*

Speaking from experience gained in 30 years of work with fine turf, Mr. Michael continues: “Wet, hot conditions can make large brown patch a big problem, so we arrange our sprays with an eye on the weather reports. With ‘Tersan’ we’ve gotten excellent control of both large and small brown patch. About the middle of November we start using ‘Tersan’ for snow-mold control. We’ve found that it mixes easily with material for use against certain insects and crabgrass. And it has never burned grass at this course.”



There is no disease problem on the greens at the Oak Hill course—in spite of this season’s poor weather. Mr. Michael feels that “Tersan” is largely responsible for their fine condition.



## “Tersan” stops disease before it starts

A treatment with “Tersan” cleans up brown patch fast. But a prevention program is the most efficient way to stop disease attacks.

The effectiveness of “Tersan” isn’t limited by tough weather conditions. Greens superintendents in all parts of the country have found “Tersan” superior for protecting fine turf.

“Tersan” comes in handy 3-lb. packages for easy mixing and measuring. It’s compatible with most commonly used turf chemicals. Mix in Special “Semesan” if you prefer to combine

a mercurial fungicide with “Tersan.” And to save labor, fertilize with the same application by adding Du Pont Soluble Plant Food—packed in 50-lb. bags for golf-course use.

*On all chemicals always follow directions for application. Where warning or caution statements on use of product are given, read them carefully.*



Order **Tersan**<sup>®</sup> Turf Fungicide  
from your golf supply dealer

BETTER THINGS FOR BETTER LIVING . . . THROUGH CHEMISTRY

resistant to dollar spot, and is a very persistent bent.

The bad points are:

1st. Susceptible to brownpatch.

2nd. Below average in aggressiveness, thereby allowing clover and **Poa Annuua** to creep in.

3rd. A slow grower. Does not heal injuries quickly.

4th. Not an early bent; greens up about two weeks later than some strains.

5th. Develops grain.

6th. Has a tendency to swirl in the greens.

7th. Has coarse stolons.

8th. Thins out or disappears if watered excessively.

9th. Has a bluish-green color.

Therefore we feel that the C-1 has too many bad points to offset its good points.

This is the reason that turfgrass experts advocate planting this strain with one or more strains, preferably with Congressional C-19. The idea is that the faults of one strain can be overcome by the good points of the other.

Not once have we heard or read of any responsible turfgrass expert advising planting C-1 alone in the greens.

We have never seen a C-1 green that we would consider to be a first-class green. We wouldn't give 30¢ for some we have seen.

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### Club Employees' Group Life Insurance Sponsored by WGA

**W**ESTERN Golf Assn. is sponsoring a golf club employees' group life insurance plan which became effective Aug. 1.

The plan has been discussed among Western Golf Assn. officials and officials of its member clubs for some time as needed to meet a want often observed in club operations. In case of death of employees clubs have passed the hat, or have done nothing. The comparison between employment by organizations of gentlemen sportsmen and by private industry with insurance and other benefits set up by management and unions hasn't made the gentlemen sportsmen's organizations shine as employers.

Benefits and monthly cost per employee of the group insurance which is available to all member clubs of the Western Golf Assn. are:

Pro, manager, course supt. . . . \$5000

for life insurance and \$5000 additional for accidental death, at monthly cost of \$6.25 per employee;

Asst. pro, asst. mgr., caddymaster, or other department head . . . \$3000 life insurance and \$3000 additional for accidental death, at monthly cost per employee of \$3.75;

All other employees (and any over age 65) . . . \$1000 life insurance and \$1000 additional for accidental death, at monthly cost per employee of \$1.26.

Waldo D. Thorsen, 1 North LaSalle st., Chicago 2, Ill., the insurance broker who set up the plan says:

"The plan is available to all Western Golf Assn. member clubs that have five or more employees. A full-time employee is defined as one who is employed at least seven months a year. The plan does not cover casual, part-time or temporary employees.

"It is a non-medical group life insurance plan on a non-contributory basis with the member club paying the entire cost of covering its own employees. The plan is underwritten by the State Mutual Life Assurance Co., Worcester, Mass.

"As the plan has just recently become effective any member club not already participating and wishing to enroll its eligible employees, may do so prior to Nov. 1, 1955, without submitting evidence of insurability of individual employees.

"The plan already has proved effective in mutually improving employer-employee relations at outstanding clubs such as Exmoor, Indian Hill and Bob O'Link in the Chicago district and at other prominent clubs in the midwest."

Details of the plan may be obtained from the Western Golf Assn., Golf, Ill.

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### Spalding Quickly Recovers From Flood Damage

**F**LOOD damage following hurricane Diane had Spalding's Chicopee, Mass., plant carrying 18 in. of water throughout the first floor.

Production was down for ten days. Raw materials, in-process manufacturing and some finished stock were affected by the flood but energetic, well-organized clean-up operations got the situation restored to nearly normal quickly.

Spalding customers were only slightly inconvenienced by the flood damage at the factory. Decentralized warehouse stocks made it possible for the company to ship most items without delay.



Silverado Country Club  
Napa Valley, California

Fine clubs like these are always  
in great demand



**Haig**  **Ultra**  
GOLF EQUIPMENT

Walter Hagen, Division of Wilson Sporting  
Goods Co., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan



The 5600 sq. ft. second green of the new Sullivan (Ill.) CC course flanked with large sand traps will give some of the boys trouble. New clubhouse is beyond trap at the left.

## Small Town Uses 3-step Plan to Build Debt Free Club

By JAMES McLAUGHLIN

AS OF March 1, 1950 the Sullivan Country Club had 36 members, 40 acres of land, 9 sand greens and a club house that was later sold for \$250.00.

Our new course was officially opened June 5th of this year. We have 250 members, 83½ acres of land, a 9-hole course of near-championship caliber, and a new, completely equipped club house. The total cost of the improvements was \$120,000. To put over a project of this size in a small town—3,600 population—required a lot of work and effort on the part of several members. However, in retrospect, the success of the club has been due to the program and policy adopted by the first Board of Directors. The three-stage program included:

1. The acquisition of additional land and plans for the new course.
2. Construction of a new club house.
3. Construction of a new course.

The policy adopted was that of completing each phase of the program in the order indicated and to secure professional

assistance in every phase of the work.

It was unanimously agreed that a competent golf course architect should be retained and we secured the services of Robert Bruce Harris of Chicago. He advised us concerning the land we should buy and laid out and designed our course, furnishing complete plans for all phases of the construction. We know that his suggestions and advice saved us initially from several serious mistakes. The course, as he designed it, could hardly be improved on, either as to layout or as to maintenance. The investment made to secure his services was one of the wisest moves we made.

A drive was immediately started for new members and for contributions. A reasonable membership fee was established and the members were solicited to make outright contributions to the club. Some members were unable to make any contributions. Others contributed from \$25.00 to \$7,500.00 Irrespective of the amount contributed, all of the mem-

# At Last!

## A REALLY PRACTICAL GOLF PRACTICE DEVICE

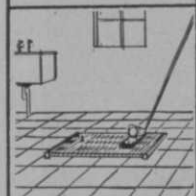
Featured in  
"Christmas  
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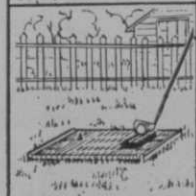
Retail  
\$11.95



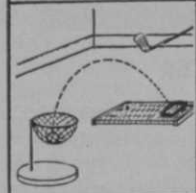
Can be used with every club in the bag. Brush insert for irons . . . rubber tee for woods.



Ideal for indoor practice in garage or basement . . . keep in golf trim the entire year 'round.



Use it in the yard for long iron and wood practice . . . prevents accidental divots in the lawn.



Makes a fascinating party game . . . everyone will enjoy the friendly competition.

Complete set includes mat, two sponge rubber practice balls, chipping target net and golf practice tips booklet.

Flexi-Mat's

# CHIP-N-DRIVE

home practice **golf tee mat**

Flexi-Mat's CHIP-N-DRIVE tee mat makes it possible for the golfer to supplement his course and range practice, in his leisure, at home. A perfect miniature of the standard tee mat made for range use, it includes a Tampico brush insert for iron shots and a rubber tee for woods.

Attractive two-color package is a selling "billboard" in itself . . . display it in your shop and watch it sell for you!

**SAME HIGH FLEXI-MAT QUALITY  
PRICED TO SELL—BUILT TO LAST**

Heavy duty nylon rubber cord construction with spring steel wire binding, same as standard Flexi-Mat range mats, will last a lifetime.

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"Chuck" Maddox (R), contractor who built the new Sullivan course is presented with first ball hit in opening day ceremonies by club president F. W. "Bo" Wood.

bers had the same rights and privileges.

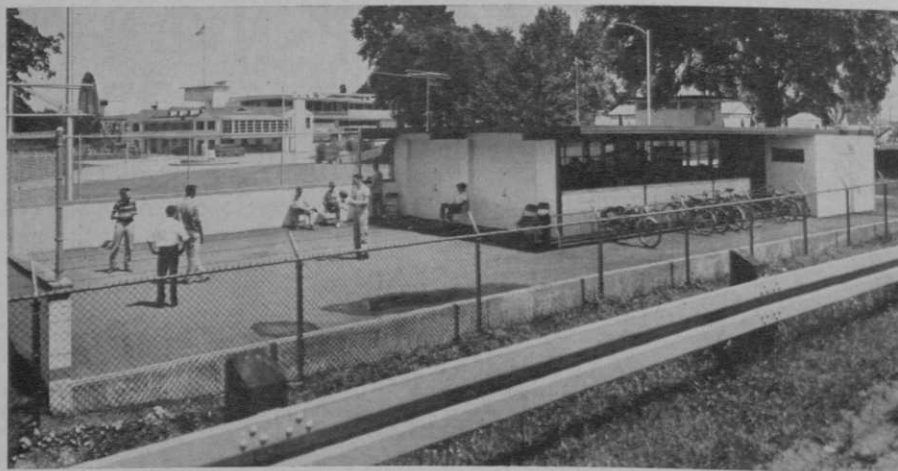
By June, 1953, we had purchased the new land—secured plans for our course and built and furnished our new club house entirely debt free.

The fall we started a new drive for

funds to build our new course and entered into a construction contract with Chuck Maddox of Rankin, Ill. In this respect we were extremely fortunate for Chuck has made a specialty of building golf courses. Except for minor changes, the architect's plans were followed to the letter, and as a result, we have a well designed course built with exceptional care.

The course was built in the summer and fall of 1954. We were so pleased with Chuck's work that the club held a special dinner in his honor. He is our number one life member, and was given the honor of hitting the first ball at the opening day ceremony.

Our program is completed. The social members are more than pleased with the year-around activities offered. The golfing members are extremely proud of a course which potentially can be one of the finest nine-hole courses in the country. The average cost per member was approximately \$500, a comparatively small investment, in view of the prospect we have for a lifetime of fun, playing golf.



### CLUBHOUSE FOR CADDIES AT TAM O'SHANTER

This \$22,500 building at Tam O'Shanter CC (Chicago dist.) is a modern version of the old caddy shelter. It's virtually a clubhouse for the boys. It has a dining area, commissary, television, radio, basketball court, bicycle racks and telephones.

Caddie awards for work during the season are distributed at the annual party put on by George S. and Alice May. The Mays have matched the Tam members' contributions to the Chick Evans Caddy Scholarship Fund of the Western Golf Assn., with \$29,085, making a total from the club of \$58,170. Eleven of the Tam caddies have won Evans scholarships. May's interest in caddies is further exhibited by a fee of \$1000 to the lad who caddies for the winner in the Tam World's championship tournament.



## How to Fit Slacks Into Xmas Pro Shop Sales

By JACK LUST

**I**N May GOLFDOM we discussed in general the sale of golf slacks in the pro shop.

With the approaching Christmas shopping season a few more facts on selling slacks will interest the promotion minded professional.

It is common knowledge in the men's apparel trade that many specialty shops do from one quarter to one third of their total yearly sales volume in the few weeks preceding Christmas.

Many factors contribute to this unusual situation but it is primarily due to the fact that all the VIP's in the family, from the children up, have been getting new clothes all year round, whereas the man in the house, either through lack of interest, or lack of funds, or an unfortunate combination of both, somehow winds up last getting new clothes.

So here is the smart professional's opportunity to fill part of the gap by displaying better slacks for dresswear or golfwear, with special appeal to women buyers who often have a special urge to "dress up" their man at the holiday time of the year.

In order to fully capitalize on this market and in order to keep on a par with the local merchants, we suggest a selective early display of sportswear highlighting the new style and fabric trends.

In this respect a smart display of slacks with matching shirts or fancy belts would be a very fine arrangement as one item helps you to sell the other. Many prospective buyers wish to shop or at least "look around" early. Whenever possible, we suggest that you put up "Christmas Merchandise" for prizes starting with the onset of Fall weather and advertise this merchandise as such in order to awaken early interest in Christmas shopping.

Our experience has proved that most people want top quality merchandise for Christmas gifts; therefore, do not hesitate to carry a reasonable assortment of better slacks such as imported flannels, better wool gabardines, doeskin flannels, etc. . . . in a good grade of tailoring.

Bearing in mind that junior golfers are away in college at that time of year, many mothers will no doubt appreciate the fact that you carry flannel slacks in stock including small waist sizes (from 29 up).

Special emphasis should be given to the

fact that all items are gift wrapped upon request; you will further encourage slack sales if you advertise that you exchange sizes as many amateur golfers often pick up a little "embonpoint" during the "off season". Most manufacturers will have no objection exchanging uncuffed slacks.

Keep handy Gift Certificates which will take care of last minute rush orders which can be filled after Christmas.

Let us point out that a fine pair of slacks is a truly personal gift and a useful one. So here is your opportunity to serve your members and continue to advertise your pro shop during the "off season".

## GE Jets Win Midwest Industrial Tourney from Field of 460

Four employes of the General Electric Jet Engine Division of Cincinnati, O., shot near-par golf over the 36-hole Tam O'Shanter course at Canton, O. to win the Tenth Annual Mid-West Golf Tournament.

In winning the event for the second year in a row, the Jets carded a 567 aggregate, lowering by 18 strokes the tournament record set in 1953 by Wright Field of Dayton, O. The Mid-West attracted 460 entries from a nine-state area, an all-time high.

Harry Olson, 27-year old water treatment operator from the Argonne Laboratory at Lemont, Ill., won medalist honors with a three-under-par 138. He shaded four runners-up by one stroke.

The GE Jets played more like pros than week-end golfers during the two-day event. They mastered Tam O'Shanter's 71-par Dales course and 70-par Hills layout with an aggregate score that was only three strokes over regulation figures.

Brilliance of their play is attested by the fact that Republic Steel Co. entry from Massillon, O., shattered the tournament's previous record by six strokes, yet were still 13 strokes in the wake of the fast-moving Jets. The two teams were tied at the half-way mark with 282 totals.

Westinghouse of Mansfield, O., 1952 Mid-West champions, finished third with 587; Ford Motor Co. of Dearborn, Mich., fourth with 588; Timken Roller Bearing Co. of Canton, the host company, and Thompson Products Co. of Cleveland tied for fifth with 589. Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. of Akron, O., a three-time winner, was seventh with 591.

Victory for the Cincinnati team continued a so-called Buckeye Command that is now in its eleventh year.



Big greens and interesting use of the knobby terrain make the Buena Vista course one that tests golf.

## Donated Labor and Materials Bring Fine Golf to Public

By VERNE WICKHAM

**P**ROVING again that any community that wants a golf course bad enough can get it, Kern County (Cal.) in mid-March opened the second nine of the Buena Vista public course, built—as was the first nine—in a large degree by contributed labor, funds and material.

A bulldozer here, a few hundred feet of pipe there and many hours of hard work and the Buena Vista back nine grew green and took shape and is now hearing the tread of the spikes of many of the golfers who helped build it. The Buena Vista and Kern County golf courses only became realities after the golfers themselves rolled up their collective sleeves and went to work.

As a nine-hole course, The Buena Vista course had been in operation for three years as a part of the Parks and Recreation system of sprawling Kern County (Pop. 270,000). The second nine was opened exactly three years to the day that the original nine was opened to play.

Posted in the clubhouse, which has served the original nine after being moved into the property by equipment and manpower of one of the oil companies, are two historic plaques.

One, in a large frame, lists in bold English type the names of more than 40

companies and organizations that contributed material, supplies and labor toward the building of the golf course.

The other bears the personal signature of more than 250 people, known as the Grass Root members of the Buena Vista Golfers' Association. These are the men, women and children who rolled up their sleeves to form the work parties to smooth fairways, shape and rake greens and build the course with their own hands. The wording above the signature reads:

**"Be it known that the undersigned have wielded pick and shovel, rake and hoe in the building of the Buena Vista Park golf course, contributing at least one day labor, or a reasonable facsimile thereof, and by the sweat of their brow they have earned the right to be known henceforth as the Grass Root members of the Buena Vista Golfers Association."**

With the opening of the back nine at Buena Vista, the Kern County Parks and Recreation Department now operates two 18-hole courses, the Buena Vista, near Taft, and the Kern County public golf course, 12 miles out of Bakersfield. The Buena Vista, as a nine-hole course, has been playing about 25,000 rounds per year and the Kern County course over 50,000 annually.

According to Herbert J. Evans, Director