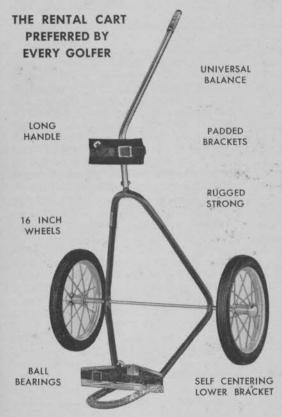
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## Grau's Answers to Turfgrass Question

If you've got a question you want Dr. Fred V. Grau to answer, please address it to Grau Q&A, Golfdom, 407 S. Dearborn, Chicago 5, Ill.



The Questions: (a) Where can I get good training in greenkeeping?

(b) Is it a good job today?

(Pa.)

These two questions, from a 19-year old, came to me through GOLFDOM as my preparations were being made to conduct the panel on "Training New Men" at the

Prepare For Your Career in Turfgrass Management GCSA's 28th National Turfgrass Conference in Louisville. This young man's questions came at a time when attention of the turf world was being focused on the answers at Louisville.

The answers are condensed from the fine papers presented by Rex McMorris, National Golf Foundation; Ted Woerhle, Beverly CC, Chicago; Andrew Bertoni, Meadowbrook CC, Northville, Michigan; and Prof. H. B. Musser of Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pa.:

Since you are a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania your school for studying Turfgrass Management is Penn State. Enclosed, you will find a leaflet, entitled: "Prepare For Your Career In Turfgrass Management." It will give you detailed and complete information on enrolling in the new Winter Course which consists of four 8-week terms of instruction at Penn State. This course is designed to give you the training needed to become a supt. But it will not train you to be a course supt. That part is up to you. If you aspire to be a supt. you will be required to spend at least a year in practical training under a man who is an expert in turf management. This should be one of the most interesting phases of your preparation. Assuming that you apply yourself to your studies and receive a certificate, it still will be very important that you pass your practical training as an assistant so that you can be recommended to take a position as supt. at any club in the country. It is possible that you may wish to take the 4-year course at Penn State so that, in the future, you will be eligible to study further for an advanced degree. There are several supts. who hold the M. Sc. (Master of Science) degree.

Other universities also offer four-year courses in Turfgrass Management. One that we recommend highly is Purdue. There are others, all very good, but these two have concentrated on turfgrass management and they have excellent research facilities where it may be possible to earn while you learn by working on the turf plots.

Now for the second question which you ask: "Is it a good job today?" What you ask directly is "What is likely to be my future in this work?"

Young man, with your interest and with a sincere desire to learn and apply yourself, I want to tell you that this field of turf-grass management has virtually unlimited possibilities. If you have imagination, desire to advance, ability to get along with people and technical proficiency, your future is assured. If you desire to become a supt. don't start unless your ambition is to learn everything there is to know in the field. Everyone needs a goal — make that one yours.

A good job? Young man, it is one of the most promising professions in the country

today. You can help to make it even greater and more profitable for those who will come after you if you will set and adhere to only highest possible standards. It is a profession which carries dignity, stature and responsibility. It is a profession which finally is being recognized as the true source of practical information for the millions of people who want the best there is in turf quality for their lawns, sports fields, cemeteries and parks. In short, the supts, and their courses are the turfgrass "proving grounds" of the nation. With the recognition that more people are interested in good turf than in any other agricultural enterprise, and that turf is big business, there is growing demand for young men who have been trained in this specialized industry.

It could happen, when you complete your training, that the salary offered you by a club may be insufficient to justify the time, energy and money you have invested in your chosen profession. This is a decision that golf course management must make — and soon!

A well-trained golf course supt. is the greatest asset a club can have. The shortage of them is acute and it will get worse before it improves. Mistakes are very costly. The elevation of a tractor driver to the position of supt. does little or nothing to reduce the possibility of errors in management. If this is what clubs prefer to do, you will have ample opportunities to step into positions with parks, highways, cemeteries, estates and airfields. In addition, industry is absorbing greater numbers of young men trained in turfgrass management to supervise test plots. Selling of turfgrass supplies and equipment is being entrusted more and more to turf specialists.

Yes, you have an excellent chance for a good future in some phase of turfgrass work. As a course supt, you can expect to advance faster and more soundly as a member of the Supts. Assn. of America. Many members refer to it as the "National". I recommend that you apply for membership in the National at your earliest opportunity after becoming eligible, Eliopibility requirements can be obtained from GCSA Secretary, Agar Brown, Box 106, St. Charles, Ill.

One more suggestion and the rest will be up to you. Grasp every opportunity to learn to write and speak the English language well. As a supt, you will be working with some of the ablest of men — your

#### **Turfgrass Meetings**

Mar. 4-6 — Midwest Turf Conference, Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind. Mar. 11-13 — Iowa Turfgrass Short Course, Memorial Union, Iowa State College, Ames.

Mar. 18-19 — School of Soils, Fertilization, Maintenance Conference, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Apr. 12 — Truro Turfgrass Conference, Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, N.S.

green chmn. and club officers. Look upon the chmn. as your friend and remember that you will command his respect in direct proportion to your ability to handle men, money and machines, the Big Three in management. Your preparation of budgets, your reports to him, your aptitude for directing men, your knowledge of things technical, your business and executive ability – these are the things that make successful supts. Almost without exception, the basis for success will be your mastery of the English language.

At this point there is only one more question that belongs in this month's Q &-A Department. It is the result of discussions at Louisville with supts., green chmn., panel members and others.

Q: What can golf clubs do now to assure themselves of well-trained supts, in the future?

A: The very first thing to do is to provide in the course budget for an "Assistant to the Supt." Club officers and committee chmn. are constantly changing and incumbents could perform a great service to their clubs by taking steps to train assistants who will be fully prepared to step into responsible supt. jobs when openings occur.

The next step is for clubs to provide salary and other benefits that will give proper dignity and stature to the profession. The third step is to work closely with the GCSA in the Scholarship Plan through which many future supts, will be developed. It is probably not presumptuous to say that many clubs may even want to provide in their budgets for "GCSA Scholarships".

Make Sure Your Club Officials Receive Golfdom in 1957 See Page 126

#### Superintendents Tour Louisville Golf, Manufacturing Sites

More than 300 persons attending the GCSA convention in Louisville spent the afternoon preceding the first educational session on a kind of busman's holiday looking over three of the city's leading courses and touring the Hillerich & Bradsby plant. At Audubon CC, Joe McDermott, supt., told of and demonstrated the progress that is being made there in converting the club's greens to Cohansey C7. At Seneca Municipal, the visiting delegation had an opportunity to look over an experimental Bermudagrass green and see the results of trial runs with a dye preparation that is being used to keep a late spring hue in another experimental green there. Joe Lally, pro, and Bob Hinkle, supt., who are busy getting ready for the Derby Open to be played at Seneca, April 24-28, were the hosts at the Municipal course. The visitors also got a chance to drop in on Supt. Ray Phillips at Louisville CC and inspect the layout there.

At H & B, Bill Kaiser, sales vp, ar-

#### Watch for This!

Every golf club in the United States is being mailed our annual form card on which space is provided for names of each club's operating personnel entitled to receive GOLFDOM. Please give this your prompt attention.

Unless we receive up-to-date information on those who are actively engaged in duties concerned with your golf club's operation we cannot continue mailing GOLFDOM.

If your club failed to receive our form card or misplaced it — use the form you'll find on Page 126 of this issue.

Our circulation auditing association requires us to show that the names to whom GOLFDOM is mailed are upto-date. Lacking this information we are instructed to stop mailing GOLFDOM to old names on our list.

To make certain your 1957 officials and operating heads receive GOLF-DOM fill-in the form and mail it — today — please.

Thank you.

GOLFDOM

ranged for the supts. to make a tour of the company plant where they saw how Power-Bilt golf clubs are assembled and Louisville Slugger bats fabricated.

#### Would Play More Golf In Wet Weather

By BILL DALGETY

Pro-Owner, Willowbrook GC, Cortland, N. Y.

In 1956 pro shop business was badly hurt by wet, cool weather.

So we complained, were resigned to not being able to do anything about it and lost sales.

I've been thinking that many of those days when there wasn't a soul on courses in our section would have been regarded as fine for a game by many in Scotland and England.

I've also been thinking that our courses in the United States are much better for play in wet weather than courses overseas.

And, I've been thinking that the comfortable rainwear, spiked rubber shoes, non-slip grips and clubhouse facilities to be enjoyed after a bracing round in the rain are infinitely ahead of anything we had in the old country.

Then I got recalling how well American men and women, amateurs and professionals alike, score in bad weather on the other side and how they prove that the American golfer isn't too much handicapped by wet and blustery playing weather.

All that led me to thinking about what the spring rain and wind do to make a beautiful rose complexion for women and how playing in stimulating weather stirs up the golfer's circulation and shakes the lead out of his system.

So, I began wondering if the licking that pro shop and other club departments take because the weather's a bit wet is something that is inevitable.

I doubt that it is.

More pro play and lessons in rainy weather could very well set examples that would alter the generally prevailing custom of not playing in it, be a good thing for the golfers' health and enjoyment and give him more use of his club.

Professionals can — and should — do a lot of educational work to eliminate the present tendency to stay away from golf if the weather looks the least bit threatening or "the mist is heavy," as patriots say in California and Scotland when it's raining buckets.



#### **Tournament Dates** MEN'S EVENTS

1-7 Trans Mississippi Seniors, Desert Inn CC. Las Vegas

7-10

Vegasional Open, Pensacola CC St. Petersburg Open, Lakewood CC American Seniors GA championship, St. Augustine,

To be announced Miami GC Miami Beach Open. Miami GC Azalea Open. Cape Fear CC, Wilmington, N. C. April 28-31

Masters, Augusta, Ga. Greater Greensboro (N.C.) Open, Sedgefield CC Tournament of Champions, Desert Inn CC, Las Vegas 18-21

9-12

Colonial Open, Ft. Worth, Tex.
Southern Amateur, Memphis (Tenn.) CC
Arlington Hotel Open, Hot Springs, Ark.
Greenbrier Open, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. 16-19 June

7-9

Tournament of Champions (amateur), Sunnehanna CC. Johnstown, Pa. USGA Open, Inverness Club. Toledo, O. Southern Amateur, La Gorce CC, Miami Beach, Fla. Trans-Mississippi, Brock Hollow GC, Dallas, Tex. Western Seniors, Belle Mende CC, Nashville, Tenn. Carlings Open, Flint (Mich.) CC Western Open, Plum Hollow GC, Detroit

#### WOMEN'S EVENTS

13-16 Titleholders, Augusta (Ga.) CC 21-24 Phoenix Onen, Arizona CC (tentative) 28-31 Tucson Open (tentative)

4-7 Amerillo Open (tentative) Club to be announced 11-14 Dallas Open, Glen Lakes CC 18-21 Babe Zaharias Onen, Beaument, Tex. 25-28 Western Open, Mentgemery (Ala.) CC

23-26 Land of Sky Open, CC of Asheville, N. C. 29-June 2 Triangle Round Robin, Cavalier Y & CC, Virginia Beach, Va.

June LPGA Championship, Churchill Valley CC. Pitts-6- 9

burgh USGA Wemen's Open, Winged Foot GC, Mamaron-eck, N.Y.

There may be some weather conditions so severe they call for closing the course to foot and golf ball traffic, but those occasions are infrequent on courses that are reasonably well drained.

Caddy cart traffic and raincoats to be worn by caddies are little problems that can be solved by a little commonsense and less money.

One place where the pros' good example should be set in bringing more golfers out onto courses in moist weather is at the PGA Monday tournaments, A lot of us have fallen into the bad habit of refusing to play in a little bit of rain, Probably we are partly to blame for the wrecking job that rain does to our shop and lesson revenue.

#### Tell Them You Saw the Ad in GOLFDOM

#### Swinging Around Golf

(Continued from page 34)

holes completed in a year . . . By 1918 the course had 11 holes . . . Its full 18-hole course was completed in 1921 . . . John Arthur Brown has been Pine Valley pres, for 30 years in April . . . Eb Steiniger has been course and building's supt, and Harry Fleming has been club mgr. for 30 years . . . The pro., George Govan, is son of the late Jimmy Govan who, came to Pine Valley from St. David's in the Philadelphia dist., when George Crump was beginning the course.

Len Hazlett, supt. at Beechmont CC (Cleveland Ohio.) thinks his club has made quite a record in growth in the six years he's been with it, increasing from 300 to 800 members . . . Fine piece in Louisville Courier-Journal on Mrs. Kenneth Baxter, supt. of 9-hole Carthage, (III.) CC for 6 years . . . She started in course maintenance work when her husband was elected pres, of the course "improvement association" and kept asking her: "Zelda, will you see that the greens are mowed: will you be sure that the boy sprays the grass." Mrs. Baxter says the maintenance budget was so small and the golfers wanted so much done she decided to do the job herself . . . Quite a girl, our Zelda, and has done remarkably well on that course for little money.

Beautiful colored views of 9th and 10th holes are on women's scorecard of Interlachen CC, Minneapolis . . . Interlachen supt., Pat Johnson, showed the Interlachen card to other supts. at GCSA convention and they're recommending that their clubs look into this very classy little touch.

City of Louisville no longer will sell suburbanites season tickets for play on the city's 5 muny courses . . . Local tax increases are becoming murderous to golf clubs . . . Detroit (Mich.) GC city property tax recently increased \$15,000 to \$80,000 . . . Speaking of taxes, Harold B. Harrison, pro-Supt. at Centre Hills CC, State College, Pa. was telling at the GCSA convention how his records of maintenance work prevented slapping a township tax of 5 per cent on membership dues The township tax case was based on the club's receiving road maintenance . . . Club's records presented to judge showed that the club had done all work in road mantenance the year around.

Fred Burkhardt, supt. at Westwood CC (Cleveland dist.) for more than 30 years prior to his retirement several years ago, died Feb. 18 in suburban Cleveland following a long illness . . . Fred was one of the founders of the National Assn. of Greenkeepers, predecessor of the GCSA and was the organization's pres. in 1935. He was the first chmn. of the association's Golf Show committee and established the exhibit space rental plan which became a major factor in the organization's financing.

Jim Holmes, USGA Green Section man in !

the newly established midwestern office at Chicago, was with Mallinckrodt Chemical Works for 4 years prior to going with the USGA... Holmes majored in agricultural chemistry at the University of Rhode Island... Pres. Ray Phillips and fellow members of the Kentuckiana GCSA richly deserve the plaudits they got for a swell job for being host to the national association's 28th conference.

Hamilton County (Cincinnati) Park District reported slight decrease in 1956 from previous year's play due to rainy April and May . . . Last year Sharon Woods had 29,971 rounds, and 40,600 rounds were played at Winton Woods.

Considerable changing in Atlanta course management recently with E.A. (Sarge) Shields going from Druid Hills to be supt. at Capitol City, Lee Stone coming from Columbus (Ga.) GC to succeed Shields at Druid Hills and Harry Wright, Ted Botterbaugh's top sergeant at Lakewood GC, Point Clear, Ala., moving over to be supt. at Peachtree CC.

Jaycees at Louisville working hard to put across Kentucky Derby \$30,000 Open which will be played at Seneca GC a week before the May 4 Derby — The Open will be played April 24, 25, 26 and 28... The 27th will be skipped as its is opening day at Churchill downs.

Course maintenance certainly holds the families together. Father and son teams at GCSA convention included Paul Weiss, sr and Paul Weiss, jr., Bob Pollock and son Hugh, Leo Feser and son, Bob, Frank Mastroleo and son, David. Ghet and Marion Mendenhall. Ed Roberts, sr. and Ed., jr. Frank Dinelli and Ray Gerber whose sons, like their dads, are supts. at prominent clubs, reported that the lads were back home on some winter work. Orville Clapper, Massachusetts equipment and supply dealer and his son, Sam, were at Louisville; Oscar Borgmeier and his son-in-law, Chuck Daugherty of George A. Davis Co., and T. L. Gustine and his son-in-law, Frank Shuman, of Philadelphia Toro Co. were making the beat.

Golfdom was guilty of a miscue in February (p. 78) when it permitted the name of Ralph R, Bond to appear as Robert R, Bond in the Old Orchard Turf Nurseries ad . . . Ralph has been in the nursery business for quite a number of years and says it's too late to be changing his given name.

Rutgers university will hold its 1958 turf short course Jan. 20-23 inclusive... Woodhaven CC on Bardstown Rd., Louisville, Ky., begins building 9 hole standard course and 9-hole, par 3 lighted... Club is to have large swimming pool, several lakes, areas for sports other than golf and large clubhouse with dues of \$100 a year... Ray Bischoff is financing construction... Harry Hargadon is pres. and Carl Benkert of Hillerich and Bradsby is vp.

Royal Canadian Golf Assn. and Ontario



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"...helped our greens take heavy play,
hot weather and high humidity
better than any greens in my
30 years' experience"

Reports "Hank" Hennings, Superintendent

Rock Island Arsenal Golf Club Davenport, Iowa

Mr. Hennings uses Du Pont "Uramite" for the base of his fertilization program. He applied "Uramite" in the fall of 1955—10 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft.; and in the spring of 1956—15 lbs. per 1,000 sq. ft.

His July 1956 report continues: "We now have gone through over a month of hot weather with temperatures as high as 95° and humidities up to 75%. As can be seen, all greens are in excellent condition in spite of two tournaments this week in addition to

the regular heavy play. The players from the four competing clubs in the tournaments commented that these are the outstanding greens in the vicinity. They, too, liked the uniformly good texture and color.

"We have not had one attack of fungus to date, and it appears my regular treatments are more effective. I credit this to the healthier turf resulting from the strong root system and greater turf density that has developed since I first applied 'Uramite' last fall."

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cultural College hold 8th annual turfgrass conference at the Horticultural Hall of the college, Guelph, Ont., March 18-19, under direction of Dr. R. J. Hilton . . . Very few have family background in golf of Edward Roberts, jr., supt., DuPont CC, Newark, Del. . . His dad, many years supt. at LuLu CC, then at North Hills CC (both Philadelphia dist.) from which he recently retired, was preceded in golf business by his grandfather, Wm. Young, who came from Carnoustie to be active in course construction and maintenance around Philadelphia and died last Dec. at the age of 98 . . . Roberts, jr., also is related to the Hackneys, famed in pro golf.

National Golf Foundation reports that survey made during National Conference of Health, Physical Education and Recreation directors and supervisors showed golf had big-

#### 2,741,173 Doz. Balls Sold in '56

Sale of golf balls for 1956 totaled 2,741,-173 doz., according to the Golf Ball Manufacturers Assn. This figure is below 1955 sales due to the unseasonable weather that prevailed during the spring and early summer last year. Prospects for 1957, however, are considered exceedingly bright since both the number of golfers and facilities are steadily increasing.

gest gain in high school sports curriculum in 1956 and now is on inter-school programs of 96 per cent of schools in cities of 50,000 to 100,000 population . . . National Golf Foundation joined the American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation in support of the annual national golf championship for college women.

If you haven't written your congressman and any member of the Senate Finance committee and/or House Ways and Means committee asking favorable action on HR 133, Rep. Thos. B. Curtis bill for knocking out the 20 per cent tax on club property improvements, you'd better get busy.

Chuck Malchalski now pro at Brookwood CC (Chicago dist.) . . . Annual championship of the Golf Writers' Assn. is a fixture at the Dunes CC, Myrtle Beach, S. C. with the club members and pro, Jimmy D'Angelo, rolling out the red carpet for the scribes the Monday before the Masters' starts . . . It'll be played April 1 . . . Pres. Des Sullivan of the writers' is also their champion.

First 9 of new County Club of Darien, Conn., designed by Al Tull, to open in spring . . . Second 9 under construction . . . Construction to start in spring on 18 Tull designed for Bergen County (N.J.) Park Commission . . . Another Tull job, entirely new 18 holes for Harbor Hills CC, Port Jefferson, N. Y., opening this spring . . . Tull has drawn plans for new 18 at Lake Tennenah House, Roscoe, N. Y., using part of old 9 . . . Clearing

now and expect to open course in spring, 1958 . . . The 18-hole job Tull did for El Embajador hotel, Ciudad Trujillo, Dominican Republic, now open . . . Tull designed par 3 9-hole lighted course for Green Valley CC, Harrison, N. Y., where owned, Sol Sosnowitz, has a regular 18 operating.

George Roloff, from Roselle (III.) CC where he's been supt. 11 years, to Inverness CC, Palatine, III. . . . Harry Obitz starting his 11th year at Shawnee CC, which Fred Waring has owned for 14 years . . . Obtiz also operates pro dept. at Whiteface Inn resort course . . . Waring will have another 18 close to Shawnee clubhouse at Shawnee-on-Delaware, Pa., when the 18 at Manwaltimink island is completed next year.

Another father-and-son team in course supt. jobs are Ellis Maples and son, Joe . . . Henson and Ellis were sons of the late Frank Maples of Pinehurst, one of the great pioneers . . . Bob Scott, jr., made the GCSA sessions, but his dad, Baltimore veteran of course maintenance, didn't make the Louisville trip . . . Cameron Henderson, son of Bob; Ed, one of the two sons of Pete Stewart, and John McNamara, jr., son of John, sr., were at the GCSA conference active in fine tradition their fathers set before the Henderson, Stewart and McNamara fathers passed to the courses beyond,

News of the death of Phil Kylander, 54, course equipment and supply dealer at West Hartford, Conn., saddened his many friends at the GCSA convention . . . Kylander died at St. Francis hospital, Hartford, Feb. 11, of a heart attack . . . He was widely known in New England course maintenance work . . . He had been associated with Orville Clapper and K. V. Norville before starting his own business . . . He is survived by his widow and his son Phil, a divinity student at Trinity,

John Edgar moves from Sunningdale CC to Maidstone CC (both NY Met dist.) as supt.

. . . Alex Edgar switches from supt. post at St. Andrews GC to Essex County (N.Y.) CC . . Gerald J. Scotti who has been with A C. McKay on construction and maintenance work now is supt., Peoria (III.) CC . . . Dyckman Park muny course at Logansport. Ind., to add 9 holes . . . Wayzata (Minn.) CC, being built by Maddox Construction Co. to design of Robert Bruce Harris, to open its first 9 this summer and second 9 next year.

Frank (Babe) Urzetta new pro at Drumlins GC, Syracuse, N.Y., and is opening the season in a completely renovated shop. . . Griff Owen succeeds Rudy Doctor as pro at Frontier CC. Youngstown, N.Y. . . . Roland Christy now pro at Inlet (N.Y.) GC . . . Tony Fortino succeeds Ben Lord as pro at Glen Falls (N.Y.) CC . . . Ben is retiring.

Charley Bemish retiring from pro job at CC of Rochester, N. Y. and is succeeded by Sam Urzetta . . . Pleasant View GC, Lancaster, N. Y. and Creekside GC, N. Tonawanda,