

"Golden VIGORO

Complete Lawn Food

has given my greens a

Richer Color

than any plant food

I have ever used!"

says **MR. OTIS OWENS,**
Superintendent, Dallas Country Club,
Dallas, Texas



"You may count me as a very satisfied user of Golden VIGORO!" says Mr. Owens. "Golden VIGORO has given my greens a richer color than any plant food I have ever used, and it is economical to use because it lasts longer and is easy to apply."

No wonder Mr. Owens and so many other experienced golf course superintendents have switched to Golden VIGORO, and recommend its use! It saves both labor and money because it's non-burning and lasts for months. And Golden VIGORO will give you top results because it has been plot-tested, under all conditions, all over the country.

Vigoro is a registered trademark of Swift & Company

Golden VIGORO

Complete Lawn Food

is made right for the soils and
growing conditions in
your area!



New

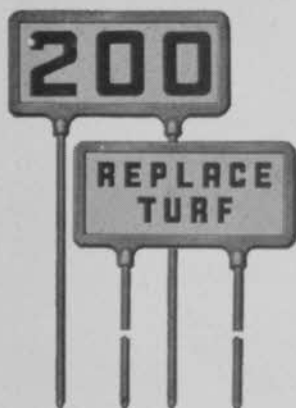
Golden VIGORO

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The Best Turf Food Made

Just ask your Swift Field Representative
(or write) for full particulars to
SWIFT & COMPANY

Plant Food Division
Union Stock Yards, Chicago 9, Ill.

NEW YARDAGE MARKER



- BLACK NUMBERS
- YELLOW BACKGROUND
- ALUMINUM FRAME

One side gives fairway yardage (150, 200, 250 or 300), other side reads "Replace Turf." Frame 4½" x 9" fitted with two ground stakes. Prompt delivery.

STANDARD MANUFACTURING CO.

Box G57, Cedar Falls, Iowa

Vandalism on golf courses seems to be getting worse each year . . . Recently vandals got into golf car garage at La Gorce course at Miami Beach, Fla., took out 11 cars and ran them all over the course, playing tag with them and wrecked all eleven . . . Two greens at Kitsap G&CC, Bremerton, Wash., badly damaged by automobile running deep circular ruts into the greens . . . Cost of repairs to greens estimated at \$1,200 . . . Damage partially repaired before Washington State amateur was played at Kitsap, Aug. 12-16 . . . Horses ridden several times over three greens under construction at new Haggins Oaks 9-hole muni course at Sacramento, Calif.

Tom Kinney, sports editor, Columbus (Ga.) Ledger-Enquirer, wrote most informative newspaper column we've ever seen on golf turf in telling about job being done at Columbus CC in changing to Tifgreen Bermuda after soil preparing using Dowfume MC-2 gas . . . Kinney got his data from Frank Lumpkin, jr., Columbus CC green chmn.

Pine Hills GC, new 18-hole semi-private club in southwestern suburban Cleveland, O. opened . . . Harold D. Paddock, sr., is architect of Pine Hills . . . Melvin O. Houser is supt. . . . Taconic State Park

TURF that Speaks for Itself!

ALBERT ALLEN GROWS EXCEPTIONAL GRASS AT KERNWOOD

Albert Allen has made the golf course at Kernwood Country Club, Salem, Massachusetts, second to none for play. His greens of Kernwood velvet bent are keen and true. They are a sight to behold. The fairways are a dense mat of deep green turf. Every lie is a perfect one.

Milorganite has been one of the tools used by Albert Allen to produce such wonderful turf. He applies a large sized carload every year.

If you have a turf problem, Consult:

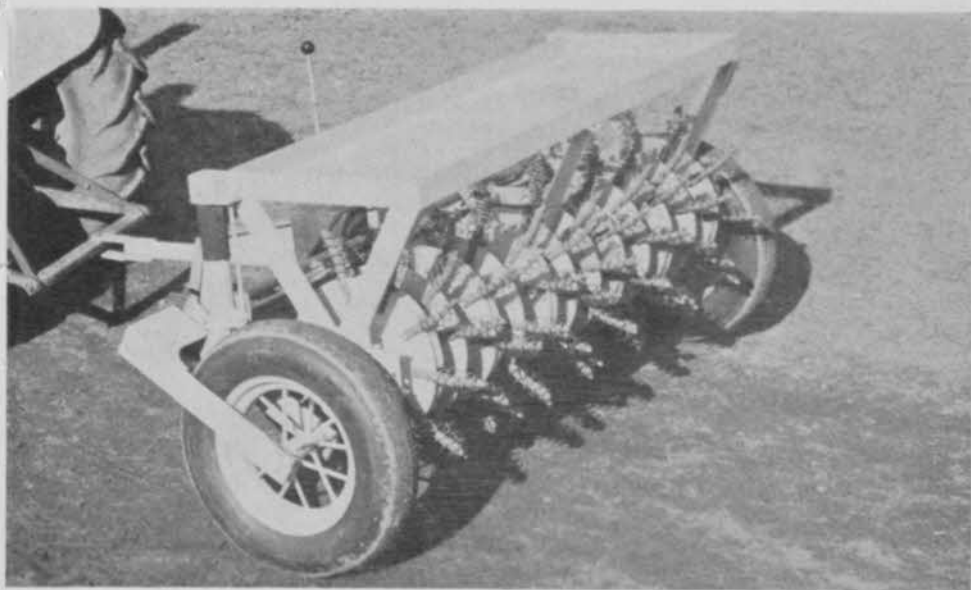


THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION, Milwaukee 1, Wis.

CLUBS
PREFER

MILORGANITE

THAN ANY
OTHER FERTILIZER



For a Happier New Year

Good turfgrass on the areas you are responsible for will do a lot to make 1958 a fine year for you. And one thing is certain; there's no better way to get good grass next year than by aerifying *this fall!*

Soil improvement is basic to turf improvement. The "root zone cultivation" of a West Point Aerifier* encourages a deep extensive root system that is able to use food and moisture from a large volume of the soil. After aerification seed comes into contact with the soil. Plant foods move into the soil to encourage deep feeding.

EIGHT available Aerifier models for any size turfgrass area. *Grasslan* model illustrated. Your West Point Products distributor wants to talk aerification with you NOW.

BUT PLEASE REMEMBER: the spoon is the heart of the Aerifier. New spoons cut clean. If you have an Aerifier with worn, bent or rusty spoons, they should be replaced before you aerify this fall.

West Point Products Corporation

West Point, Penna.



**"Regular use of
AGRICO and
AGRINITE
contributes
greatly to the
excellence of
our Course
selected for many
important tournaments."**

—says Elmer J. Michael, Supt.
OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB,
Rochester, N. Y.



Mr. Michael also says: "AGRICO and AGRINITE play a very important part in our turf maintenance program and in the constant excellence and fine quality of greens, tees and fairways on both East and West Courses."

IT WILL PAY YOU to use AGRICO and AGRINITE, the 100% Natural (not synthetic) Organic Fertilizer. See your regular supplier, or write to The AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL CHEMICAL Co., New York 7, N. Y.

AGRICO®

America's Premier Golf Course Fertilizer

AGRINITE®

the Better, Natural 100% Organic Fertilizer

(N. Y.) Commission OKs plans of Robert Trent Jones for 9-hole addition to Staatsburg-Dinsmore course.

Haleyville (Ala.) G&CC organized to build 9-hole course near city's airport . . . Aptos Beach GC opens first 9 . . . Second 9 to be opened soon . . . Ed Holbrook is pro . . . Club is south of Santa Cruz, Calif., and used to be known, pre-World War II, as the very de luxe Rio Del Mar club.

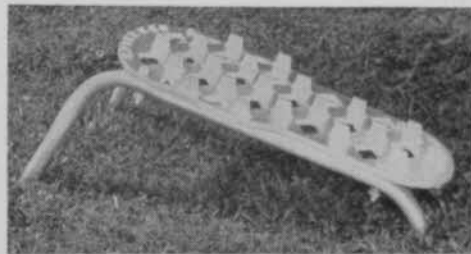
Bob Jones main speaker at Jaycees' national junior championship banquet . . . Dow Finsterwald and Jimmy Thomson conducted clinics at Jaycee championship at Ohio State university courses, Columbus, O., won by Jack Nicklaus.

MacGregor Golf salesmen and executives held dinner honoring Tom Robbins, senior statesman of the company's sales staff who will retire to his estate near Pinehurst next year . . . Robbins, winner of numerous senior golf championships, was presented with a shotgun by Harry Adams, representing Tom's companion peddlers . . . The dinner was put on during the company's annual sales meeting . . . Pete Bullis played rock-and-roll numbers with sales force, headed by Pres. Henry Cowen

SPIKLEEN

"THE GOLFERS' DOORMAT"

- ON THE TEE
- AT LOCKER ENTRANCES



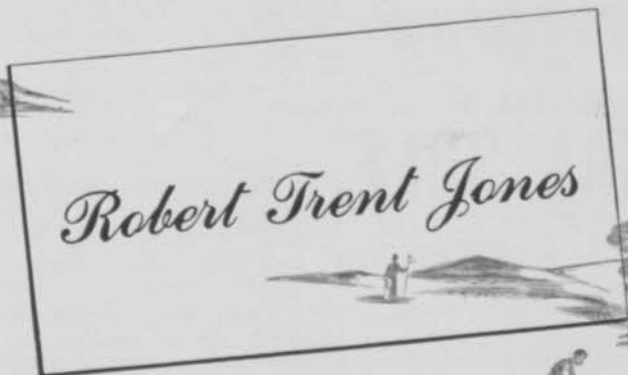
Introduced this spring — now in use
at clubs from coast to coast.

\$8.95 each . . . 6 for \$50

Postpaid anywhere in the U. S.

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10 Warren Road, Maplewood, N.J.



specified **TRIANGLE**

for such famous Courses as:

- **BALTUSROL GOLF CLUB**
- **TUXEDO PARK COUNTRY CLUB**
- **UPPER MONTCLAIR COUNTRY CLUB**
- **CORAL RIDGE COUNTRY CLUB**

Triangle Semi-Rigid has proven itself with other top architects for other top courses as well. They specify it because it is economical, performs well, is corrosion-resistant, easy to install, and has a trouble-free long life. Doesn't it make sense, then, to consider a product that has proven itself in the golf field for your course's irrigation system. We'll be glad to help you with your plans. For preliminary information, write for our free new "Prospectus on Golf Course Irrigation."



TRIANGLE *Plastic Pipe*

Division of TRIANGLE CONDUIT & CABLE CO., INC.
NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY

Tufhorse

announces a
SPECIAL SALE

... while
they
last!

Yes, we are selling out two of the most popular models in our line at an attractive reduction. We have just a limited number left, so order now.

(If you've received samples, send repeat orders at earliest possible date to be sure of delivery.)

MODEL 54-30

(Formerly L654)

Regular \$35 Retail

SPECIAL NOW AT \$27

A large, 9-inch Keystone of sturdy pearl-gray duck and contrasting embossed black leather trim, the 54-30 has many deluxe features, including an attached hood concealed inside zipper opening on top of clothing pocket. It's nylon lock-stitched throughout.

ANOTHER BIG VALUE

Model KD8H—Here's an 8-inch bag similar in quality and appearance to 54-30 but made of creamy-white, heavy-laminated auto top material trimmed with natural russet strap leather.

Model KD8H, with attached hood . . . Special at \$22.50 retail.

Model KD8, same as above but without hood . . . An exceptional retail value at \$20.00.

Order these models direct from the factory. Also Available direct from factory are all the famous Tufhorse Golf Bags listed in the former 1957 catalog showing Tufhorse models. Your order will receive immediate attention.

Tufhorse

GOLF BAGS

MADE BY
DES MOINES GLOVE & MFG. CO.

DES MOINES, IOWA

and Sales Mgr. Bob Rickey, throwing rocks and rolls at the professor . . . "This Is Your Life, Tom Robbins," was given for education and inspiration of younger members of the staff . . . Herb Graffis did the research and sound on the Robbins biography.

Fifth course at Bethpage Park (NY Met. dist.) will open in May, 1958 . . . Forest Hill Field Club, Bloomfield, N. J., celebrates 60th anniversary by burning its final mortgage (\$71,000) . . . Mortgage paid from \$250,000 subscribed by members . . . Rest will go for clubhouse remodeling

George Bayer, who in recent months has come into his own on the pro circuit, allows he has made as much money in two years playing golf as he would have in eight years as a pro football player . . . Bayer was a grid great at Cincinnati U. . . . Dick Mayer, the Open and World's champion, does a good job of playing the piano . . . Sam Snead quote: "Driving's the last thing a man loses. Putting and chipping go first, then pitch shots."

Los Coyotes CC, now being built in Buena Vista, Calif., will cost 2½ million and be centered in 900-acre residential

(Continued on page 62)

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GOLF SPIKES



The world's finest and best known.

Will not turn or break apart.

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STOUGHTON, MASS.

SOD BY THE ACRE

... Cut faster, cleaner, straighter, easier!

SOD-MASTER POWER SOD CUTTER

featuring the
MEASURE-MATIC DIVIDER

with power walking action

Optional on Sod-Master, the fully-enclosed Measure-Matic automatically measures and cuts off sod strips to desired length. No flop-over or clogging.

SAVE TIME! SAVE MANPOWER!

HAVE BETTER FAIRWAYS, TEES AND GREENS!

Damaged or worn turf is restored quickly and easily with the new SOD-MASTER. It operates so smoothly that the operator merely guides it, as it cuts sod of uniform thickness, with clean edges. Greens superintendents use SOD-MASTER for removing damaged sod, cultivating the sub soil, and cutting new sod.

- ★ ALL CONTROLS MOUNTED ON HANDLE BARS
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- ★ SEALED GEAR CASE; ONLY 5 GREASE FITTINGS

New! Cast Alloy Traction Roller. Long-wearing, non-clogging, sure grip under all earth conditions.

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- ★ Eliminates expensive cross cutting
- ★ Gives you precisely square ends
- ★ Every strip uniform in length



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WINS GEORGE MAY'S
WORLD TITLE

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TORSION-CONTROL
GLASSHAFT*

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Proof positive that
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Assessor Hedges on Giving Tax Relief to San Mateo Clubs

California Bill Opens Door to Lower Course Assessments
But Zoning Technicalities May Defeat Its Purpose

By **ROBERT E. HANNA**

Executive Secy., Northern California Golf Assn.

RIGHT in the middle of an appeal to the San Mateo county assessor and the board of supervisors, sitting as a board of equalization, for a reduction in the assessments levied against the golf and country clubs for 1957-58, the California legislature passed Senate Bill 1637. It is necessary to mention the appeal by the San Mateo golf clubs together with Senate Bill 1637 because the bill provided the background music, so to speak, and the tax appeal carried the melody for it. First let's look at the bill and then see how it is related to the tax appeal.

The bill was introduced in January, 1957, by Senator George Miller (D-Martinez). The original bill was an Agricultural bill designed to provide relief for the farmer from the onslaught of the subdivider. It had been hoped for the last few years that some kind of legislation could be enacted to provide tax relief for California courses. Hope for this year was almost abandoned because the opportunity for such legislation appeared slim and the legislature was nearing the end of its session.

But changes in the Agricultural bill were occasioned by action of some counties, including San Mateo, in boosting course valuations by 200 to 600 per cent. Assemblyman Carl A. Britschgi (R-Redwood City) handled the bill in the assembly for Senator Miller and changes were effected in the bill to include recreational properties. The changes were acceptable to Senator Miller and the bill passed in its final form as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 402.5 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

402.5 In assessing property which is zoned and used exclusively for agricultural or recreational purposes, and as to which there is no reasonable probability of the removal or modification of the zoning restriction within the near future, the assessor shall consider no factors other than those relative to such use.

Dennis Hession, a San Mateo attorney and pres. of the Northern California and California Golf Assns., marshalled the forces of the clubs in California by asking the club presidents to wire Gov. Goodwin J. Knight on behalf of their memberships urging him to sign Senate Bill 1637.

Recreational Zoning Relief

It is obvious from the wording of the bill that recreational zoning is a must before any kind of relief under the bill can be anticipated. Once the bill had passed the legislature, golf and country clubs of San Mateo county headed by Attorney James O'Gara, Jr., pres. of Peninsula G&CC and Dennis Hession, a member of the same club, petitioned the San Mateo county planning commission on June 10, on behalf of golf and country clubs, for a recreational zoning classification in San Mateo county. The chmn. of the commission instructed the commission to take immediate action in the study of this classification.

On July 9, the eve of the hearing of the applications for reduction in the assessments levied against the San Mateo clubs

We're Not Asking for A Break We're Asking You Not to Break Us

The appeal of the high assessments levied against them was carried on by San Mateo clubs in succeeding stages and levels. Each stage was carried out under the assumption that the decision would be unfavorable, but in losing that stage the clubs didn't want to jeopardize succeeding ones.

The first stage involved a direct appeal by the clubs to the assessor which was turned down. Then, an appeal to every public official was made through a personal letter sent by special delivery to the official's home. At the same time statistics were compiled showing how outside groups such as schools, charitable organizations, service clubs, civic groups, etc., make use of golf clubs. These groups were asked to add their weight to the appeal. This appeal was directed toward the assessor and board of supervisors.

Throughout the entire buildup to have the assessment reduced, the San Mateo clubs were careful not to antagonize anyone or to exert undue pressure on any individual. The underlying theme of the campaign was best expressed by James O'Gara, who said: "We're not asking for a break. We're asking you not to break us."

When Gov. Knight signed the Senate bill, the San Mateo group won the war. But when the county assessor refused to rezone, and thus reduce the assessments on the clubs' properties, the battle was lost.

But members of the various San Mateo clubs have been aroused. From here in they'll be working to have their courses rezoned and the burden of heavy and unfair taxation taken off their shoulders. Golf will profit by their efforts!

in May, Gov. Knight signed Senate Bill 1637. The bill will become law early in September, 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature.

On July 10, a formidable case was presented by Hession and O'Gara with the aid of expert testimony based upon inequity in assessments and upon discriminatory taxation in singling out course properties for such large increases in assessed valuation. The board heard the plea and the assessor asked for a continuance to July 17 for a rebuttal, at which time he contended that there was equality in his assessments.

Reasonable Doubt Clause

One of the supervisors asked if the new bill signed by Gov. Knight would affect the status of the 1957-58 tax assessments. The district attorney said that the tax for that year must be paid. He instructed the board that the assessor had determined his assessments based upon his formula of actual cash value and highest possible use of the land as of the first Monday in March and in rendering a decision the board could not take cognizance of the new legislation. Further, he said, "The board was duty bound to uphold the assessor unless there was reasonable doubt concerning the equity of the assessments."

The board of supervisors in its capacity of board of equalization upheld the asses-

sor in his increase in the assessments of the courses of San Mateo county. One of the supervisors in making the motion to uphold the assessor said: "I sincerely hope that the planning commission and the board of supervisors will see fit to rezone these properties as recreational areas. This would enable the clubs to obtain tax relief under the terms of the recently signed Senate Bill 1637."

Courses Were Alerted

The chairman of the board said that he could sympathize with the golf clubs but reminded them that they should have done something in the direction of recreational zoning several years ago. (By way of background, the state board of equalization made a study of San Mateo county in 1952 or 1953 and instructed the assessor to equalize the assessments in the county at that time. That action in itself put the golf courses on notice that their days were numbered. Since then, it was not a question of wanting to get something done so much as the actual doing.)

The increases in the assessments of the eight private and two municipally owned clubs in San Mateo county range from 200 to 600 percent. What does this mean in dollars? To the eight private clubs collectively, it means an increase in their land tax alone of \$60,535.00 over 1956-57. To

(Continued on page 56)