

Complete Earth Moving Job on Burbank Project

By CHUCK CURTIS

The largest-scale earth moving job for golf construction in the memory of William F. Bell, West Coast course architect, is now being completed at Burbank, Calif., for a municipal course.

The land is the rugged Verdugo Hills, north and east of Burbank along the edge of San Fernando Valley. Joseph De Bell gave the city 100 acres with the proviso that it be used for golf and nothing else. So an 18-hole course will be constructed there although original surveys indicated it was totally unusable for this purpose.

A record 3,100,000 cu. yds. of earth is being moved, sliced off the tops and sides of hills and compacted into gulleys to provide fairway space. Part of the project has been construction or enlarging of check dams for flood control purposes and the preparation of open storm drains with large rocks grouted into place.

Contracts totalling \$1,100,000 were let to two grading companies, J. A. Payton of Riverside and Silva and Hill of L. A. Separate contracts will provide for the land-scaping and preparation of fairways. Total cost is still expected to be well below the value of the course in land-scarce San Fernando Valley.

Voters Approve Project

Construction is being financed under a \$10,000,000 capital improvement project which was approved by the voters. Thus the money will come from tax revenues rather than from bonds.

William S. Barrett, assistant city engineer for Burbank, prepared a plaster cast of the area before the course was designed. Then, following some original fairway designs by Architect Bell, he prepared another model of the visualized golf course.

City Engineer Clayton W. Paige, City Manager Arnold Bennett, and Ervin Spindel, senior civil engineer for Burbank who has been in charge of construction on the site, have been largely instrumental



Flood control areas (through center of picture), check dam, (rear), and carved hills mark site of De Bell GC being cut out of Verdugo Hills, Burbank, Calif.

in the project, which is expected to be open for play by July, 1958. Another who aided the plan was William H. (Bill) Johnson, the city of Los Angeles golf course designing and maintenance expert. Yardage of the course will be 6010.

Course Measuring Job for Engineering Students

If your club is in a college or university town you may be able to make arrangements with the engineering school to have course lengths and areas accurately measured. The measuring makes a good practical field exercise for students of surveying.

Few courses have areas of greens, tees, fairways, traps and rough measured for guidance of course supt., green chmn. and his committee.

In measuring distances of holes, be guided by USGA instructions covering "computation of par and bogey" which read: "Each hole should be measured horizontally from the middle of the tee area to be used to the center of the green, following the line of play planned by the architect in laying out the hole. Thus in a hole with a bend, the line at the elbow point should be centered in the fairway in accordance with the architect's intention."

October—Golfers' Month

This is a good time for Northern pros to remind their members that statistics for the last three years show that there are from 20 to 25 days in October that are excellent for golf.

Superintendents like these, with that disease prevention has been



BOB POLLOCK

In the 36 years Bob Pollock was superintendent at Llanerch Country Club, Manoa, Penna., he helped build the original club, plus three separate nine-hole courses. In 1920, he also helped build the Grosseisle Country Club, Wyandotte, Michigan. His leadership brought better insect and disease control and new strains of grasses to Llanerch. Retired in 1956 on pension, Bob now serves the club as consultant.



BILL BASKIN

During his 32 years of experience, Bill Baskin was superintendent of the Manufacturers Golf and Country Club, Oreland, Penna., for 16 years and of Cedarbrook Country Club, Cheltenham, Penna., for 10 years. Bill also spent six years helping build many courses, some with architect Donald Ross. Retired in 1956 on pension, Bill is now consultant for the Manufacturers Golf and Country Club.



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JOE RYAN

In his 35 years of service, Joe Ryan was superintendent of the Rolling Green Golf Club, Philadelphia, Penna., for 31 years and of the Town and Country Club, Bethesda, Md., for four years. He served the G.C.S.A. as a director and a president, and also the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents as president. Joe was retired on pension from Rolling Green Golf Club in 1956.



JOE VALENTINE

For 50 years, Joe Valentine has been superintendent of Merion Golf Club, Merion, Penna. During that time he has introduced improved insect and disease control practices, sound management procedures and better equipment. Because of these advances, the turf at the club today is in better condition for normal play than it was in 1916 for the U.S.G.A. championship tournament held there.

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These superintendents and many others all over the country rely on Du Pont Turf Fungicides to keep brown patch, dollar spot and snow mold from taking over greens. They've found the most effective way to control these diseases is to prevent them

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DU PONT VPM SOIL FUMIGANT . . . use Du Pont VPM before seeding new greens, tees and nurseries to kill germinating weed seeds. VPM is convenient and easy to use, no tarpaulins needed.

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Samples are on their way to you now or will be shortly. Ask your Acushnet salesman about the whole deal — and get your order in quickly to assure an adequate supply for a Merry Christmas for you and your club members. Acushnet Process Sales Co., New Bedford, Mass.

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A Bluegrass Seeding Operation



Pixtone picker cleared area.



Left section of field is cleared of stone; right isn't.



Bill Hoeft used 50-50 mixture of pre-germinated Kentucky and Merion, seeded at 40 lbs. per acre.



BILL Hoeft started a bluegrass nursery from seed in the fall of 1956 at Hales Corners, Wis. Seeding was in September. Good coverage was obtained by the following May. A 50-50 mixture of pre-germinated Kentucky and Merion blue grass seed was used at 40 lbs. per acre.

The field was plowed and disced first. It was rather stony so a Pixtone stone picker was used to clear the surface. This machine is made in Bridgeport, Conn. Stone removal was surprisingly good.

Dried activated sludge was applied at 2 tons per acre before seeding.

Pre-germination was accomplished by mixing the seed with two to three times its volume of Vermiculite fines. The mixture was dampened with water and kept that way for five days before seeding. Just before seeding the damp combination of seed and Vermiculite was mixed with dry



Hoeft's stand in May, 1957, before mowing.

activated sludge. This mixture flowed freely through a Brillion grass seeder, which was used for seeding. The Brillion seeder has a seed hopper mounted above two cultipacker type rollers. They press the seed into the soil, leaving a corrugated surface.

Water was available and applied as needed through a portable system.

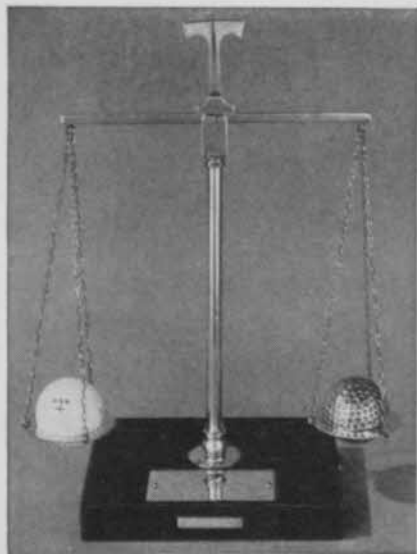
By early May of this year there was a uniform cover of grass. The plan is to defer the sale of sod until fall. In the meantime the grass is being cut regularly with a hammermill type mower.

Brillion seeder spouts deliver seed between two corrugated rollers.

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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.



WIVES of supts. occasionally are mentioned in connection with banquets, husband accepting honors, husband taking on more work as officer in an association,

A Word to the Wives Is Not Sufficient; They Deserve a Volume

or "is survived by . . ." In this brief message we are going to pay tribute to the silent partners of the guys who get the job done with the help of their wives.

When the going is rough, and when it seems as though the whole world is against you and the easiest thing would be to say "the hell with it" and walk off the job and leave the headaches for the next poor sucker, who is it that gives with the moral support, the guidance and the courage to carry on and see it thru? Is it the green chmn., club pres., the players or the pro? All of us know the answer! The wife is the "Rock of Gibraltar."

On those 24-hour deals when the greens are scalding out and the supt. has to sit up nights with his "sick cats," who is it that keeps the supper hot until all hours? It is about time we gave recognition to the long-suffering gals who have learned to take it on the chin and come back for more. They've been overlooked too long!

Most of us male animals would just as soon go around in the sloppy clothes of comfort. Someone has to keep us spruced up and give us a reason for looking decent. That freshly-laundered shirt and the sharp-pressed trousers surely make a better impression than those grimy togs we'd likely be wearing if it were not for someone's checking up on us. Someone has said that

clothes make the man but surely it is woman who makes the man think the kind he is to wear.

At least once a year we like to attend the GCSA national convention and mingle with our fellow man. How much better it is to have the better half along to help us enjoy the affair to the fullest. Chances are we feel a lot better the next morning and for several mornings thereafter, too.

Eulogizing the "Mrs. Supt." isn't exactly up our alley but somewhere, somehow the wives deserve a lot more credit than they get for the important part they play in the success that comes to their husbands. Who else is so likely to give with the unvarnished truth whether it be praise or a dressing down that is needed?

So — a word to the wives — no matter how quiet and unobtrusive you may be, no matter how shy and retiring you are, all of us know and applaud the great job you have done and are doing, uncomplainingly accepting the irregularity of your husband's hours and helping him to succeed in his life's work. Maybe someday someone will engrave a plaque or a medal with words and phrases that will give credit where credit is due. Until then we'll carry those words and phrases in our hearts. Maybe you prefer that to a medal, anyway!

Disease Carriers

Q. Will you please inform me whether or not it is possible for the players to carry disease of fungus on their shoes from fairways to greens? Can the disease be spread in this manner? (N. Y.)

A. Yes, it is possible for disease organisms to be carried from one place to the other in many different ways. The shoes of players are only one small way in which these fungi are distributed. You will find that animals of all

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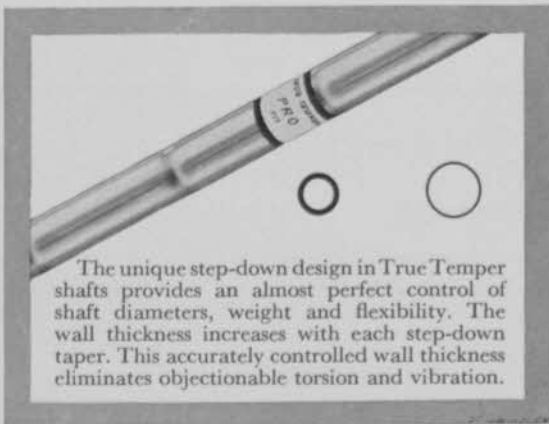
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