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Wedell Wood (2nd from right, above) and (right, below) gets Eugene CC sweepstakes players off to a refreshing start. Portable cooler makes a big hit with golfers.

Pro Breaks the Ice with Refreshments

When Wendell Wood, pro at Eugene (Ore.) CC, set the stage for his first stag day this season he decided to give bottles of ice cold Coca-Cola as a starter-offer.

He reasoned like this: The initial event after a long winter is always a little bit stiff. The degree of success of the first club tournament of the season pretty much sets the pace for events to come. A few free Cokes should account for a good beginning.

"It did," Wood says. "The idea went over big with members. We had a lot of favorable comment. Our first stag day got off to a great start."

Wood moved a portable cooler to a bench next to the partnership sweepstakes registration stand. Cases were set up for empties. On the sweepstakes bulletin board Wood wrote: "Coke for everyone." About 140 members turned out for the event.

"The promotion was tops," Wood says. "We gave away between four and five cases. I know of no other way to accomplish so much at such a small cost."

Brennan Leaves C of C for Wheaties Sport Post

John H. (Jerry) Brennan, youth and sports director for the U. S. Junior Chamber of Commerce, has been named executive secy. for Wheaties Sports Fedn.



Bob Richards, Olympic pole vaulting champion, is director of the Federation, organized by General Mills to stimulate sports and recreation for every member of the American family in addition to a vigorous competitive athletic program for the nation.

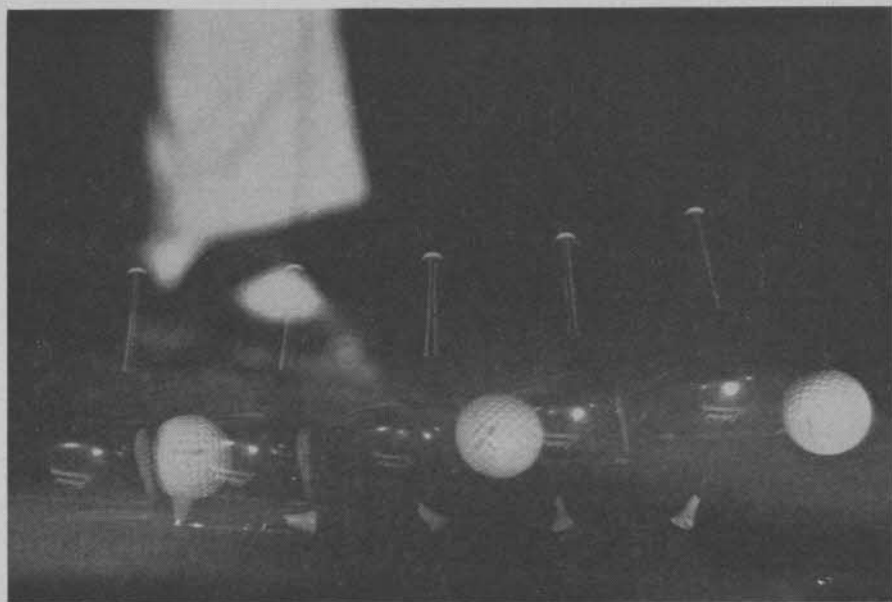
Brennan is moving from Tulsa, Okla., to Minneapolis to assume his new post.

The Wheaties Sports Federation is working in close coordination with the Jaycee organization in launching this mass participation sports program.

Brennan, 30, a graduate of Rockhurst College in Kansas City, has directed the Junior Chamber of Commerce sports program which had 1,300,000 youths participating including 45,000 in golf activity.

Skimpy Research Funds

American industry's annual expenditure for research is estimated at one per cent of corporate income. On the other hand, golf turf research is estimated to be about 1/300th of 1 per cent of the annual maintenance cost of golf courses.



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*patent #2,822,175

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How We Saved the Turf at North Hempstead

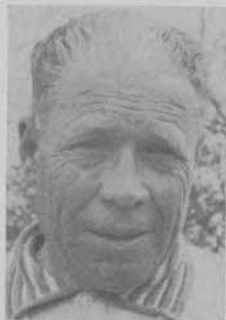
By JOE SYLVESTER

Pro-Supt., North Hempstead CC,
Port Washington, Long Island, N. Y.

OUR greens have had a long history of summer burn-out that are now kept at a dense, rich green all summer.

When I came to North Hempstead CC in 1948, after 35 year's experience in this area, the turf was in really poor condition. Every summer the greens and tees would burn out and lose turf. Members often referred to the club as a "spring and fall course."

In 35 years, a fellow learns how to handle most situations in maintaining a course, but during the past nine years nothing we did at North Hempstead kept us from losing turf on the greens and tees. We tried extensive aerifying and cultivation, new chemicals, different fertilizing programs. And, of course, we did a lot of



Joe Sylvester

hand watering. All our efforts were to no avail. We still had a "spring and fall course."

Much of our trouble was due to shallow rooting. In 1956, we read in *GOLFDOM* about the results being obtained with the new non-ionic wetting agent, Aqua-Gro. Here was a new technique that sounded as if it might help! The quick, deep penetration of "wetter water" should encourage deeper roots. Freer availability of water should bring our turf through the summer.

In early June, 1957, the greens were already starting to burn out, showing the usual dry, brown patches of dormant turf. We bought a supply of Aqua-Gro and sprayed greens, collars and approaches on June 22 with the recommended dosage of 8 ozs. to 1,000 sq. ft. The results were amazing! The treated areas took water much faster. We noticed that the soil was more uniformly wet. Actually, in less than 48 hours, the improvement in the grass on the greens was noticeable. By mid-July the greens had completely recovered with no evidence of brown, dormant areas. The greens had regained their early spring vigor and were in excellent shape throughout the rest of the summer!

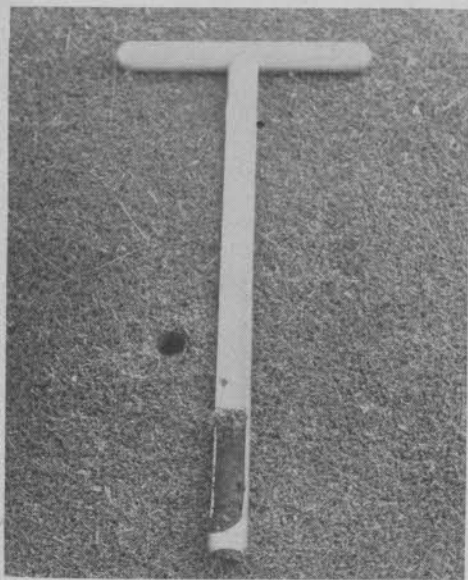
Many of the greens have mounds which were particularly hard to water, requiring considerable labor for hand-watering. After the first application of Aqua-Gro, the men noticed a definite softening of the mounds. They took water quickly and their maintenance became much easier.

Softer, Easier to Walk On

The fact that we had such good turf on our greens through the summer brought many favorable comments and questions from members. We knew then that our problem was solved. Using Aqua-Gro as a maintenance tool, we would no longer have only a "spring and fall course."

With results obtained on the greens by mid-July, we decided to spray our tees and high knolls on the fairways. Results were equally successful. We felt that treated areas were more effectively watered by our sprinkling system because the turf recovered. Actually, all the treated

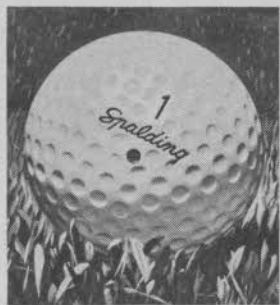
(Continued on page 88)



Roots this year are twice as deep as they would normally be.



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Eighteen 10 x 14-in. oil paintings of Southern Hills CC, Tulsa, by Joe Seibert, asst. to Press Maxwell, Dallas golf course architect, went on exhibition on June 1 in the display window of a downtown Tulsa office building. They are to remain until after the USGA Open is completed on June 14. Here is Seibert's conception of what the tough, Par 4 12th hole looks like to a golfer playing an approach. Seibert, a geology major while at Tulsa University, got interested in golf architecture while in service. He was assigned to the task of helping to replace Ft. Leonard Wood's sand greens with the grass variety and went to work for Maxwell in 1957.

10,318 Courses in 37 Countries Represented at World Amateur

When a worldwide committee which is directing the World Amateur golf team championship met in Washington early in May to make plans for the first tournament which will be played in October at St. Andrews, Scotland, several interesting things were brought out about the world golf situation.

Thirty-seven countries were represented at the meeting. A total of 10,318 courses are located in the countries from which the delegates hailed. Seven of these countries claim to have 100 or more courses: Australia (1500); British Isles (1500); Canada (400); Japan (100); New Zealand (341); South Africa (250); U. S. (5,600).

If you're under the impression that golf is utterly foreign to China, you are wrong. The country has two courses, meaning they are located on Formosa. The same is true of Finland, which has 4; Ceylon with 4; Egypt with 7 and Thailand with 9. Some countries where you'd expect more golf would be played boast of relatively few courses. They are: Austria (7); Norway (8) and Portugal (7). Norway's neighbor, Sweden, has 48 courses, on the other hand. There are 15 in Denmark.

Eight countries represented by South American delegates have 185 courses while Mexico has 35.

The trophy for the World Amateur will be named in honor of Pres. Eisenhower. The 1960 championship will be played in U. S. The team matches are planned so they won't interfere with any existing matches such as the Walker Cup and the Americas Cup.

At the May meeting it was indicated that from 30 to 36 countries will have players at St. Andrews in October. This

came as something of a surprise since it was estimated that probably no more than 15 countries would be able to send golfers to the first championship.

Chen Yih of the Republic of China told delegates to the meeting that golf is just getting off the ground in his country and it probably will have to send a team of duffers. Yih, at present, is busy translating the Rules of Golf into Chinese and is running into a great deal of difficulty. Part of the translation is impossible so the Chinese version of the rule book will have to include pictures.

Sarazen to England for Senior Playoff

Norman Sutton, who won the British Senior PGA championship in April, and Gene Sarazen, American Senior PGA titleholder, will play their international match at Prenton GC, Cheshire, Eng., June 25. It was originally scheduled for June 21 but was set back four days because Sarazen will play in the USGA Open. Sarazen won the right to meet the British player by winning the PGA Senior tournament held in Dunedin, Fla. in January. Wm. Teacher & Son, Ltd. of Glasgow co-sponsored the American tournament and also is providing Sarazen \$1,500 for his trip to England. Al Watrous won the Teacher's international match in 1957.

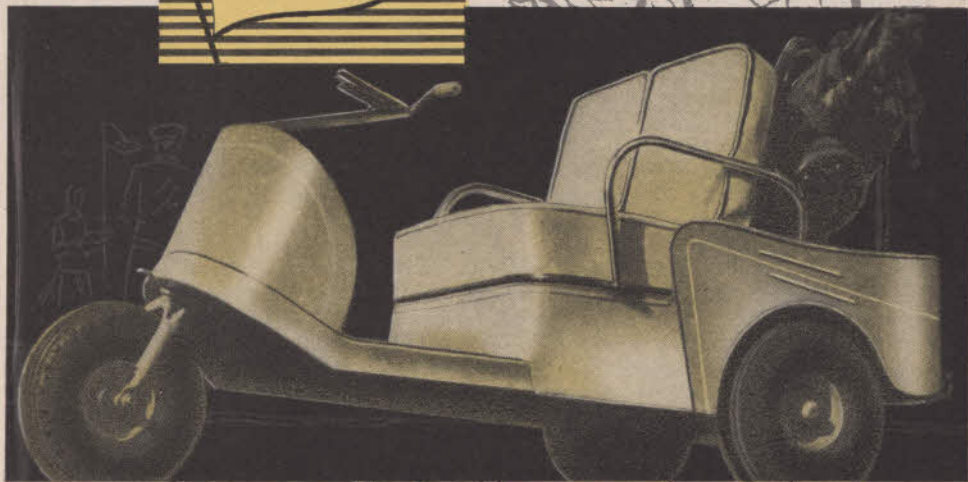
After competing in the British Open which follows the Seniors' event, Sarazen will visit Belgium to act as a representative of this country in the Belgian Open which will be played during the Brussels World's Fair. He is doing this at the request of the State department. This is Sarazen's 36th year in professional golf.

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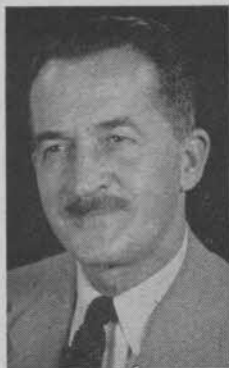
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Grau's Answers to Turf Questions



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.

Don't Drown the Grass

TIME was when I made very positive statements to the effect that "most of our turf troubles are caused by too much water." Bob Hagan of California took issue with me and wrote that the statement would be more nearly accurate if it said, "Most of our turf troubles are caused by too little water too often". I am sure that there are cases where both statements are correct. At any rate, the misuse of water is a serious offense and is one that demands much attention.

Recently I visited a course where soil cores indicated perfect soil moisture. At least, it looked perfect to me. The grass was starving for nitrogen but I considered that the green would not need water for three or four days. We proceeded around the course and upon our return saw that every green was being flooded so that excess water ran off in streams and filled every depression on every green and approach. Upon analyzing the situation I realized the greensmen believed that the yellow color of the grass was due to lack of water — actually it was due to nitrogen starvation.

The symptoms often are confused and are quite similar. In this case nitrogen would be cheap compared to the high cost of frequent watering and the subsequent damage to the turf. The grass had no

roots below the first half-inch of surface soil. The grass had no resistance to diseases or insects and no ability to take wear and tear. Recovery from injuries was extremely slow.

Watering such as I have described creates weed problems (poa annua, chickweed, pearlwort, goosegrass). When poa invades there is general consternation and the belief is prevalent that "poa is crowding out good grasses." Actually, the good grasses were to the point where they had no ability to resist poa or anything else. "But," I hear, "if I stop watering my poa I'll lose it and I can't afford to do that. I've got to keep it looking good."

One of the unseen results of water mismanagement is the effect on the bacteria. Constant saturation forces air out of the spaces in the soil. Without air the good bacteria drown—they simply can't operate. The fungi (disease-producing) have a "field day." That means spray for disease, boys. Without air the grass roots can absorb neither water nor plant nutrients—so the the grass wilts and starves. Encouraging bacteria is of the utmost importance now with so much fertilizer being used that demands good aeration for steady controlled release.

One of the common excuses for using lots of water (or too little too often) is that "the greens are hard." Water used as a "soil softener" can easily result in even harder surfaces which demand more water to "soften," them which makes them still harder and — whoa!! Let's stop this vicious cycle right now.

Greens can be encouraged to hold a shot even when the soil is dry by (1) more adequate feeding so that there is a constant uniform supply of nutrients from controlled-release materials. Well-fed grass tends to build a desirable cushion which will hold a shot. (2) Better aeration by occasional use of machines and by the improvement of the physical condition of the soil through the use of sand. (3) Teaching players how to hit a shot to a *firm* green.

Firm turf plays much better than soft sloppy turf. Greater accuracy and control are possible and the results achieved give greater satisfaction.

• • •

Hard and Soft Greens

Q. I have read with considerable interest your bulletins on the subject of growing grass. We are having considerable trouble here with our Highland bent greens and I would like your advice on one point. I have noted your theory about not watering grass too often. I have al-