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means there is only one type of car to service and maintain. To handle the cars, Beverly has spent nearly \$6,000 for electrical charging units and their outdoor storage cabinets and asphalt pathways. This expenditure is being written off over a three year period from car income.

Beverly quickly abandoned the idea of confining cars to rough areas. Caddies must be employed by car users and since the caddies are required to carry the bags, this restrains drivers to cruising at a walking pace. The supt. is given authority to close the course to cars. Persons who violate vehicle regulations, Podesta said, get a letter of warning from the golf car committee, while minor infractions are handled verbally. Incidentally only one letter has been sent out in the two years that Beverly has had cars.

The following rules, printed on decals and posted on each car, prevail at Beverly: (1) Cars are not to be driven within 10 yards of greens; (2) They are to be kept off tees; (3) Brakes are to be locked on inclines if car is to be unattended; (4) Don't make sharp turns at high speed or on downslopes: (5) Avoid carrying clubs or dangling feet while riding.

Supt. Bob Williams, who moved from Beverly to Chicago's Bob o' Link in March, pointed out that cars can cause soil compaction, grass damage in heavily travelled areas, tire ruts if used while the ground is wet, tearing of turf by quick turning, spinning of wheels and quick stopping and starting. He said this damage may be partly offset by an additional aerification every year and by increased use of fertilizer. It is Williams' observation that watered bent fairways can take traffic of 25 to 30 cars daily.

#### Damage Overexaggerated?

Williams also stated that supposed damage caused by cars may be somewhat overexaggerated. The reason: A caddie, carrying a bag, exerts twice as much pressure per sq. in. on turf as a car and a workman or a golfer about 75 per cent more. A tractor, however, exerts only about half as much pressure or weight as the average golf car. Williams also pointed out that at Beverly, walking golfers play ten times as many rounds as riding ones and that possibly far more than a fair share of damage is being charged to the cars.

At Aurora, according to E. C. Brown, the club feels that cars can be better controlled if owned individually. It is felt that under this arrangement, the owner handles the car more carefully because he doesn't

#### **Golf Day Handicaps**

Men amateurs who match their scores against those of Tommy Bolt and Dow Finsterwald in the annual National Golf Day debate will, of course, play their normal handicaps. Women will be permitted to use their regular handicaps less seven strokes. Golfers without handicaps can play the Calloway system in which scores of the four worst holes are deducted from the gross to give the net. Golf Day is June 6 but players can submit their official rounds any time between May 31 and June 6.

want to damage his own property, and, as a result, the course itself is not as badly mauled as it is when car rental conditions prevail. Brown expressed the opinion that if speed is controlled, cars won't be much of a menace, either to other players or the turf.

Carl Hopphan, Aurora's supt., who has authority to rule cars off the course when weather or other conditions aren't right, feels that blacktopped paths are the answer to handling car traffic. Tests made at Aurora definitely showed that blacktop roadways are preferable to sod pathways. Hopphan added that in case of light or moderate rain, it isn't always necessary to put the "No Golf Car" sign out but low spots in the fairways and roughs should be roped off or placed off limits so that they are protected from damage.

Members Underwrite Garage Cost

All cars at Olympia Fields are privately owned, according to Arthur Millas of the green committee. Each car is garaged, but before a new garage or addition is built, 12 persons have to agree to underwrite its construction cost, which is around \$3,800. Cars cannot be owned in partnership and generally they can be used only by the member and his wife. One full time employee takes care of most of the maintenance work. His salary, and that of a man who helps him in the summertime, are paid by car owners.

Members at Olympia who are 50 or older and need a car to play golf are permitted to own them. Millas said he thought the age restriction would be lowered this year.

Gordon Brinkworth, Olmpia's supt., declared that it is the duty of the greenmaster to provide the best possible conditions for car operation. At Olympia, Brink-(Continued on page 107)

# 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.

#### The Fine Supporting Role of Fred Williams

Two men in the turfgrass profession recently have come to the time to pause. H. Burton Musser and Fred H. Williams started serving their respective institutions in 1922. Both will terminate active service

in 1959. The accomplishments of Prof. Musser may be seen on the turfgrass areas of the nation wherever his improved grasses are grown. The book "Turf Management" of which he is the author, may be found in the li-



Fred Williams

brary of every dedicated turf man. Not so well known is the story of Fred H. Williams. His contributions to turf have been in a "supporting role". His accomplishments may be classed as "vicarious" in that he has lived and worked only to bring help and knowledge to others. The world of turf owes a great debt to this shy and wonderful man.

During the 37 years of devoted service to the USGA green section illness has claimed but seven days of his time. Dur-

ing these years he has worked under these men: Dr. C. V. Piper, Dr. Russell A. Oak-ley, Harvey Westover, Dr. John Monteith, Jr., Dr. Fanny Fern Davis, Dr. Fred V. Grau and C. K. Hallowell. As executive secy. he has given unstintingly of his amazing energy and consummate skill.

Outside of office hours, Fred has devoted much time to working with young people in athletics. He has remained single, but has spent more time helping boys to find themselves through Sunday school and in sports than most fathers. His tremendous success in athletics can be attributed to a thorough apprenticeship in playing, officiating, managing, coaching and scouting. He has conducted basketball tournaments, baseball schools and clinics. Fred himself is an accomplished bowler. It's characteristic of him to give credit to the other fellow by saying, "You have a ten-strike there.'

#### **Owns 10,000 Books**

Among the many hobbies which he pursues in his "spare time," Fred loves books best. His library of over 10,000 volumes, none donated, boasts a diverse classification. It is believed that he has the largest individual collection of books on sports, chess and psychology in the Mid-Atlantic area. Many books have been donated to those in need - no youngster ever has been turned away from his shelves. Some of us remember the hurricane of 1947 which soaked 250 volumes of Fred's precious books. Not a book was lost but it took weeks to dry each page by hanging the books on a clothesline. His love of literature and his generosity in helping youngsters are only two indications of the depth and warmth of this man.

His years of service have covered all but one year of the life of the USGA green section. The game owes as much to Fred H. Williams as to any scientist with whom he has worked.

#### **Bermuda in Bluegrass**

Q. We have an area of bluegrass fairway that is becoming infested with volunteer Bermudagrass. How can we eradicate this Bermuda and keep it from spreading? (Ill.)

A. Two materials are effective in destroying unwanted Bermudagrass; Vapam and Dowfume. Replanting may be done about three weeks after treatment with Vapam, in 2-3 days following treatment with Dowfume. Vapam may be applied with sprinkling cans. Dowfume requires a cover. Follow manufacturer's directions.

Some golf clubs near you have decided that (Continued on Page 109)

## Fore & Aft Operation Saves Time on Range

Shortly before his fatal illness in February, Pete Thomas gave the information for this article to GOLFDOM as part of an interview in which he reviewed some of the more successful features of golf range operation.

By combining mowing and ball picking operations, Pete Thomas, owner of a range near Hillside, Ill., estimates that he saves more than 200 man hours of work during a season and at least twice that amount in wages. The operation, which Thomas conceived early last season, is handled simply enough. Pete hitches a three-unit picker to the front of his tractor and a five gang mower to the rear by slightly throttling down the speed of the machine, accomplishes both picking and mowing jobs in a minimum of time.

Since he mows twice a week and it takes a little over three hours to cover his 18-acre range, Thomas, who operates about 30 weeks a year, figures he annually saves at least 200 hours. The secret of the dual accomplishment, says the Riverside man, is dense turf.

"We've done a little testing on areas where turf is thin or practically non-existent," says Thomas, "and results were poor. But in places where the turf is dense enough to kind of tee up the balls both picker and mower work perfectly. We occasionally cut up a few balls by striking them with mower blades as we make turns, but in view of the money we save in combining operations we can well afford the loss."

Another big advantage in handling the picking and mowing jobs simultaneously, Thomas points out, is that play doesn't have to be suspended as invariably is the case when a range is being mowed. Pete never has tried to figure out how much revenue may be lost due to interruption of play during mowing, but if there is much activity at a range in the morning when this job ordinarily is handled, it could amount to a fairly sizeable amount.

When Thomas took over the range, which he leases from the adjoining Fresh Meadow GC, in 1954, he was confronted with 18 acres of weeds and grassless plots. Since that time he has planted 2,-000 lbs. of grass seed, used about 35 tons of fertilizer and a small lakefull of herbicide to give his acreage that green, velvety look that a course supt. loves to show to a green chmn. Pete, a veteran of 30odd years in the golf business, is a graduate of the University of Massachusetts winter school and an expert turf man.

There are a few other features about the operation of the Pete Thomas range that others in the business would do well to copy. He has 400 ft. of automatic tees and another 400 ft. for teeing off the turf. In the latter area, he encourages the sluggers to move around quite freely so as not to confine their damage to one small strip of turf. He does a solid business in the sale of new and used clubs though rather wide newspaper advertising and by encouraging players to test clubs in differ-



Picker ahead, mower behind double up operations

ent lengths and flexes so they can determine what clubs fit their swings. A sign in his shop, prominently displayed behind the cash register, encourages this testing and apparently sells quite a few golf sticks for Pete. At any rate, he expanded his sales room last fall.

Thomas has an inventory of 20,000 balls in continuous circulation. Balls are graded every day because he is well convinced that if his patrons find too many clunkers in their baskets it won't be long before they are doing their practice swings at ranges other than his. Every ball that is picked goes through the washer, but whenever possible, Thomas holds off harvesting them until late at night when the dew is on the ground and Nature provides a free wash job.

Finch Lewis, Thomas' pro instructor, is kept busy at least 12 or 14 hours a day during the busy season giving lessons. There has been steady improvement in this end of the business over the years. Part of this may be because under a sign telling golfers that Lewis, a PGA member, is the range pro, is a second sign. It reads: "Go Ahead and Do It Yourself. Louse It up Good!" Eventually, many a person who has loused it up catches the hint and comes to Lewis to be de-loused.



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Winter short course graduates of University of Massachusetts

#### 24 Men Get Turf Diplomas from U. of Massachusetts

Twenty-four men from 10 central and northeastern states graduated Mar. 5 from the Winter short course in Turf Management at the University of Massachusetts. The course, founded in 1927 by Prof. L. S. Dickinson, now has over 500 graduates. Herb Graffis, editor of Golfdom, gave the graduation address prior to the awarding of diplomas at the conference banquet. Graffis stressed the importance of sound business management practices on the part of the supt. as well as by the golf club management. Graffis, O. J. Noer, agronomist for the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission and Miss Jessie Anderson of the University of Massachusetts were honored at the Conference for their outstanding work on behalf of turf management through the years.

#### 325 at Conference

The 325 attending the conference heard papers on "Weed Control" by John Gallagher of Amchem Products, Inc.; "Microorganisms as they Affect Turfgrass Management" by Dr. Frank Howard, University of Rhode Island; "Insect Pests of Ornamentals Occurring on Golf Courses' by John Schread, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and "Soil Testing and the Interpretation of Results for Turfgrass Management" by William G. Colby and Bertram Gersten of the University of Massachusetts. O. J. Noer dis-cussed "The Inventive Genius of the Turfgrass Superintendent"; Al Radko of the USGA green section reviewed the 1958 season in light of its effect on 1959 maintenance practices and Joseph Troll, University of Massachusetts moderated a panel on "Growing Turf on a Low Maintenance Budget.

#### You'll Find It Listed in BUYERS' SERVICE • P. 125

#### Eastern Superintendents Form Metropolitan GCSA

Supts. in Westchester county, N. Y., South Connecticut, Long Island and parts of New Jersey have formed what is known as the Metropolitan GCSA. Monthly meetings at various members' clubs will be held at which leading turf authorities will be asked to speak. A tournament schedule in which supts. and chmn. and supts. and pros will compete is being drawn up.

Officers of the new organization are: Robert St. Thomas, Sunningdale CC, Scarsdale, pres.; Lloyd Stott, Woodway CC, Darien, Conn., vp; Ray Twombly, Old Oaks CC, Purchase. N. Y., secy.; and Al Pentenero, Quaker Ridge CC, Scarsdale, treas. Directors are: Sherwood Moore, Winged Foot, Mamaroneck; Molly Strazza, Round Hill CC, Greenwich, Conn.; Kay Oviam, Woodmere (L. I.) CC; and Henry Mitchell, Lake Success GC, Great Neck, L. I. Percy C. Tumber is p.r. chmn.

#### **Canadian Open on Film**

Available from Seagram Distillers, Inc., Chrysler Bldg., New York City, are films of the 1958 Canadian Open golf championship. The tournament was filmed by Crawley Films, Ltd., Ottawa, Can., on the new commercial Ektachrome stock and the colors are claimed to be brilliant. Wes Ellis, Jr., San Antonio, Tex., won the 1958 Canadian Open with a 267.

This was the eighth consecutive year that Crawley had filmed the Open for Seagram. Prints of previous films also are available.

#### Luxford Helps Juniors

Maurie Luxford, chmn. of Bing Crosby's tournament since it started, is Pepsi-Cola's adviser on junior golf program which is being expanded beyond the tournament stage to include local programs directed by pros.



Overall view of BrodKast Spreader with Bob Williams alongside round rotary plate.

#### **Quick Way to Fertilize Fairways**

At Beverly CC in Chicago, Bob Williams fertilizes all 18 fairways in less than a day. He uses a BrodKast Spreader. The machine is of the whirlwind type, but of vastly improved design. It will spread as little as 50 lbs. per acre uniformly in a strip 40 ft. wide. On the average fairway three trips lengthwise are made and the job is done.

Fertilizer drops on to a revolving plate in each end of the spreader. Rate of flow is regulated by a sliding gate which has a scale so the operator can re-set the machine once it is calibrated for a particular product.

#### TURF TIPS from O. J. Noer

#### **Updegraff Green Spiker**

Wes Updegraff likes to use a spike discer as routine practice on greens at Oak Park (III.) CC. Spiking helps overcome compaction in the top surface inch of soil caused by existing power greens mowers. Updegraff removes the reel from a Park Special mower and replaces it with the spike disc unit. There are two sets of discs. One of the side casters is mounted in the center for transport. It slips out of place when the machine is tilted. There are four weights above the spike discs to insure deep penetration of the spikes.

Bob Williams recently moved from Beverly to Bob-o-Link CC in Chicago.



There are four weights above the spiker to insure deep spiking.



O. J. Noer shows closeup view of BrodKast Spreader with hopper open to show interior mechanism, whirlwind type rotary plate, sliding gate for regulating rate of flow.



Wes Updegraff beside his power green spiker with side caster in center for transport.



Spiker ready for action after removing the transport caster.



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#### 537 Persons Attend 3-Day Midwest Turf Conference

With 537 persons registering, attendance records for the Midwest Regional turf conference, held March 2-4 at Purdue University, Lafayette, Ind., were easily



Leon Howard, College Station, Tex., Ralph Engel, Rutgers U. and W. H. Daniel of Purdue at Midwest turf meeting.

broken. The greater part of the three-day meeting was held in Purdue's new Memorial Center which has a disappearing stage, luxuriously upholstered seats and a superb public address system along with many other ultra modern appointments.

Forty speakers and panelists appeared on the education programs which covered turf research, a discussion of general turf practices, golf course maintenance, Southern grasses and Northern grasses. Probably the greatest concentrated attack was made on the crabgrass problem. There was considerable discussion of several preemergent control products. One of the more popular talks was made by Leon Howard of College Station, Tex., who explained the principles involved in making analyses of putting green mixtures.

Supts. and others interested in turf were able to take advantage of a "repeated tours" system for viewing Purdue greenhouse experiments and repeated tours of the University campus also were made available. The annual banquet was held on the evening of Mar. 3rd.

During the conference it was announced that Purdue's Field Days will be held Sept. 14-15. Next year's spring turf conference will be held Mar. 7-9. At the annual Midwest Regional meeting, John McCoy, supt. at Cincinnati CC, was elected pres. of the organization. Vp is Robert Mitchell, supt. of Sunset CC, St. Louis, and executive secy. is W. H. Daniel, Purdue agronomist.