





Closeup of a typical semi-sod slab.



Semi-sod and ordinary sprigs after three weeks growth. Area below pencil was planted by semi-sod method.

high sand content topping material using a mechanical spreader set to give about 3/16 ins. depth. This heavier topping is justified in greater livability of sprigs, and to even the surface irregularities caused by the slabs of semi-sod. The usual practice of watering thru the establishment stage is followed.

Increases Turf "Take"

Semi-sod, because of its already developed root system, advances growth by an estimated two weeks. It sends out runners sooner and thereby covers faster. Over twice as much grass lives when semi-sod is used than when sprigs alone are used. In areas where "gully-washers" are encountered, it is sometimes necessary to replant greens which have been sprigged in the usual manner, but not when semi-sod is used. Most seed beds contain high

organic content for moisture and nutrient absorption and to make the greens hold a shot during the first year. Watering is heavy to keep sprigs from drying out. So conditions are ripe for fungus attack on weak-rooted sprigs. The semi-sod sprigs are much more capable of resisting attack, as was actually proved in the San Antonio CC planting. Sometimes planting of new or remodeled greens is delayed until the growing season for Tifgreen is nearly over. Here two weeks can make a difference between a good base turf for winter or nothing but a spotted mess.

The nice part of it is that your nursery plot comes right back. Just top dress heavily, fertilize, and get ready for another cutting in about three weeks.

Joseph S. Finger is a course architect and consulting engineer who makes his headquarters in Bellaire, Tex.

British Golf Society Offers Play Privileges to U.S. Golfers

Residents of U. S., who may be planning visits to Great Britain, are invited to become overseas members of the Golf Society of Great Britain. A small fee of five guineas (about \$15) is charged for three years and persons who subscribe become honorary members of 14 distinguished British golf clubs with full social and playing rights. The Society was founded in 1955 as a non-profit organization with the purpose of encouraging the social side of the game on an international scale.

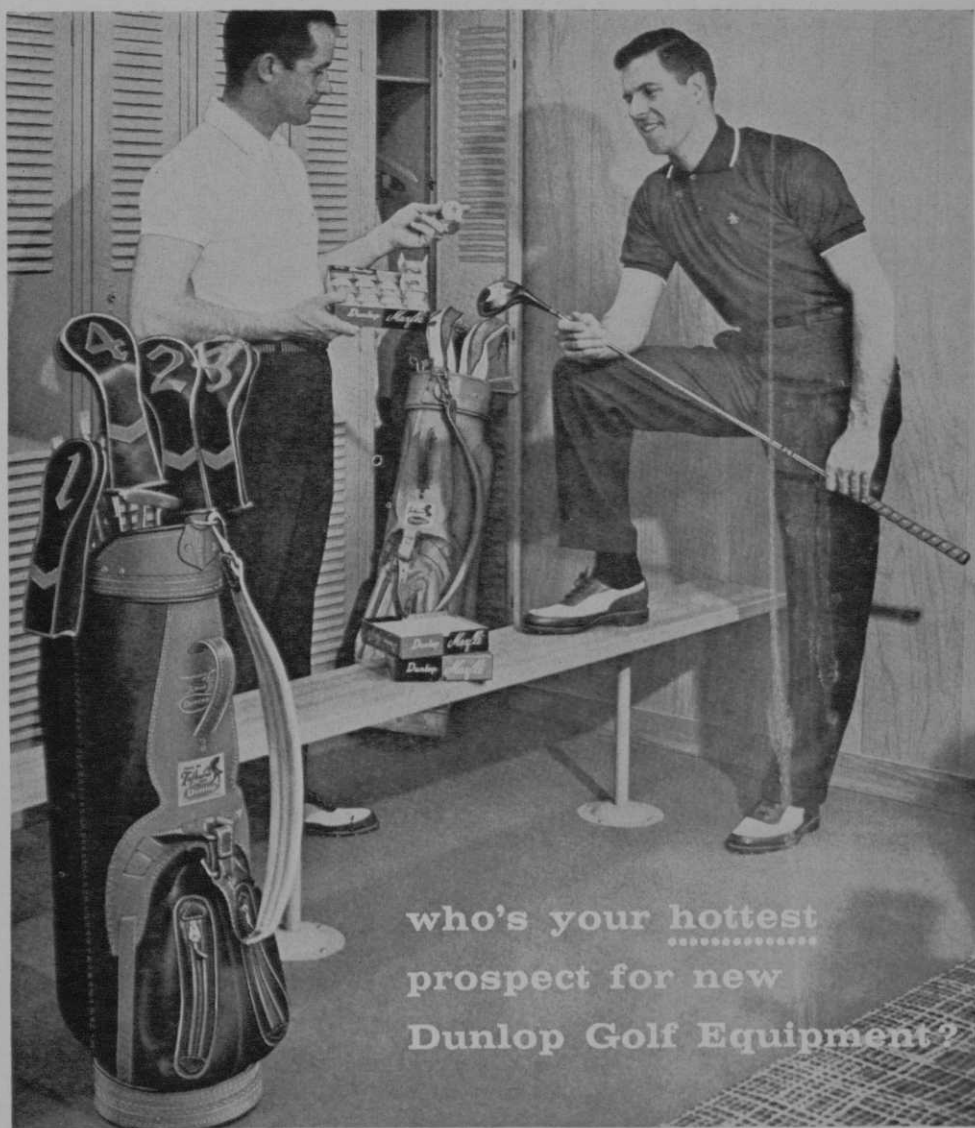
Last year the Golf Society made a contribution to the World Amateur tournament and it has given financial support to Walker Cup and Curtis Cup Teams.

British golf clubs that participate in the Golf Society program include Broadstone, Prince's, Gleneagles and Turnberry.

Subscriptions can be sent to, or information obtained from Lt. Gen. Sir Geoffrey Howard, Chmn., Golf Society of Great Britain, Sandilands, Sandwich Bay, Kent, Eng.

Renner with USGA

Robert C. (Bob) Renner, formerly tournament director for the ladies PGA, was named a tournament executive by the USGA, taking over his new post Sept. 1. He will work, primarily on preparations for eight national championships and four international team events sponsored by the association. Renner, onetime assistant sports editor of a Ft. Wayne, Ind., newspaper, makes his home in Pontiac, Mich.



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Turn to Golf to Make Club Solvent

By **WALT GAMAGE**
Palo Alto (Calif.) Times

Golf is credited with solving the landscaping and financial problems for the officials of the Redwood City (Calif.) Elks Club.

Upon receiving their charter from the Grand Lodge of the Elks four years ago, members of the Redwood City chapter purchased an old estate covering 30 acres in the foothills north of the Stanford University campus.

The estate included a large house which was converted into a clubhouse. The surrounding acreage was dotted with walnut trees but for the most part was covered by dense growth since the grounds had been unattended since World War II.

Not unlike other new organizations, the Redwood City Elks were short on funds.

Faced with a problem of putting the club on a sound financial footing the officers also searched for an economical way to beautify the clubhouse grounds.

Someone came up with the idea of building a golf course on the acreage. Ellis Van Gorder, long-time supt. of the Stanford University course, was asked to survey the area to see if the idea was feasible.

Van Gorder drew up a rough sketch of a nine-hole par three course which completely surrounded the clubhouse.

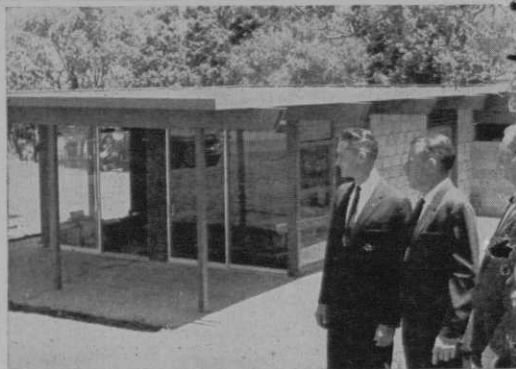
The estimate for building the layout, including a pro shop, was set at \$84,000. This sum was underwritten by a group of members within the club in a spirited fund-raising campaign.

When the debt is paid off, profits from the course will go into the general fund.

Van Gorder turned over the completed course to the club officers last July. The layout measures 1,200 yards and covers approximately 20 acres. Longest hole is 220 yards.

Clyde Crippen, pres. of the fund raising group, reports that the course has been in the black for the two months it has been in operation.

Scotty McBeath left the Sunken Gardens short course in Sunnyvale, Calif., to take over the post as head pro. Scotty was one of the outstanding amateur golfers in Northern California before turning pro.



Small, compact pro shop is ideal for Par 3. Club pres. Clyde Crippen, Harry Vreeburg and Pro Scotty McBeath (right) find much to recommend it.



Fifth green at Redwood City Elks club course overlooks Palo Alto and San Jose.

Six Veterans, Four Newcomers on U.S. Ryder Cup Team

Six veterans and four newcomers make up the U.S. Ryder Cup team that will meet Great Britain's best, Nov. 7-8, at Eldorado CC, Palm Desert, Calif. This year's matches will bring the two teams together for the 13th time. U.S. has won nine matches and the British three, their last victory coming in 1957 at Lindrick.

U.S. players who performed with previous Ryder Cup teams are Jack Burke, Jr., Dow Finsterwald, Doug Ford, Cary Middlecoff, Sam Snead and Art Wall, Jr. Newcomers are Julius Boros, Jay Hebert, Bob Rosburg and Mike Souchak.

The PGA executive committee selects the team on the basis of Ryder Cup points accumulated over a two-year period. Snead will be playing in his seventh Ryder matches, high for the U.S., while Burke will be making his fifth appearance. Ford and Middlecoff have played with two U.S. teams and Finsterwald and Wall one.

Snead captains the U. S. team.

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Frank Pace, Jr. (left), pres. of International Golf Assn., and W. G. Walkley, chmn. of Australian IGA, discuss plans for 1959 International Championship and Canada Cup matches, which will be played in Australia, Nov. 18-21. British and American players who take part in these competitions will have a busy November. After playing in Ryder Cup matches early in the month, they will go to Australia to take part in the Ampol tournament in Sydney which precedes the International matches. Sam Snead and Cary Middlecoff, Ryder Cup team members, will represent U. S. in the IGA competitions.

Swinging Around Golf

(Continued from page 36)

Denver Press Club members and its manager, Jimmy Fillas, are planning VIP welcome for press covering 1960 National Open . . . Howard Crocker, jr. and Porky Oliver have opened Twilight GC, 9 hole Par-3 course, with range and miniature course and mighty attractive little clubhouse at 1090 S. Oneida, Denver.

Very little change will be made in Cherry Hills CC for 1960 National Open . . . The 207 yd. 8th, the 190 yd. 12th and the 160 yd. 15th will be lengthened . . . The 1960 Open business is being handled out of general headquarters in penthouse on the Lanai Bldg., 800 Washington st., Denver 18 . . . Gen. Chmn. H. R. (Potts) Bergland, and the committee opened shop there Jan. 5th . . . Bergland, a lumber magnate, has his teammates operating his lumber and other interests while he applies himself to the Open.

A putting green is on the roof outside the Open office but neither Bergland nor his secretary, Polly Maultsby, a 10 handicap golfer, gets time for putting practice . . . The program for the 60th National Open will differ from programs of recent years which club members, advertisers and others criticized as being conducted on the racket basis rather than as an operation becoming the club and the USGA . . . The advertising, or sponsored pages,

will be sold at \$1000 each and no agency, sales or promotion commissions will be paid.

Pro Carl Hoff at Nippersink Lodge GC, Genoa, Wis., put over the third annual Nippersink Open as lively resort promotion . . . Bobby Brue, ranking Wisconsin amateur, turns pro . . . World Championship Golf TV program will shoot four of its events at Olympia Fields CC (Chicago dist.) as publicity for 1961 PGA championship which will be played at the club.

Charlie Pace engaged as course supt., Royal Palm Yacht & CC being constructed at Boca Raton, Fla. . . . Fran Truitt's lighted 56th st. Golf center, Indianapolis, Ind., which opened June 26, is having a grand first season . . . Truitt is a widely known Indiana amateur . . . Kansas City Open accident in which eight were injured when driverless automobile rolled 240 yards from parking lot down 9th fairway reminds us that luck alone explains why there haven't been more parking accidents at golf tournaments . . . Dow Finsterwald won the KC affair with a par from Don Fairfield in a sudden-death play-off . . . Several years back the K. C. Open was scene of a tragedy when lightning killed spectators.

Mary Ann Doctor, 15-year old daughter of Steve, pro at Shackamaxon CC, Scotch Plains, N. J., won 1959 New Jersey girls' championship at Essex Falls CC from field of 75 . . . Jim Taylor, since 1925 pro at Mountain Ridge CC, West Caldwell, N. J., is becoming the club's pro emeritus

(Please turn to page 82)



Old familiar faces are being re-introduced to Saturday afternoon's millions of golf followers in All Star golf which will be a weekly event on ABC-TV from Oct. 10 until April. Among them are Gary Player, Jimmy Demaret, the new commentator, and Sam Snead, who appeared as regularly as Matt Dillon or Paladin last year, winning 13 matches in a row. This is the third year for All Star golf. It is again being sponsored by Miller Brewing Co., Milwaukee, and Reynolds Metal Co.

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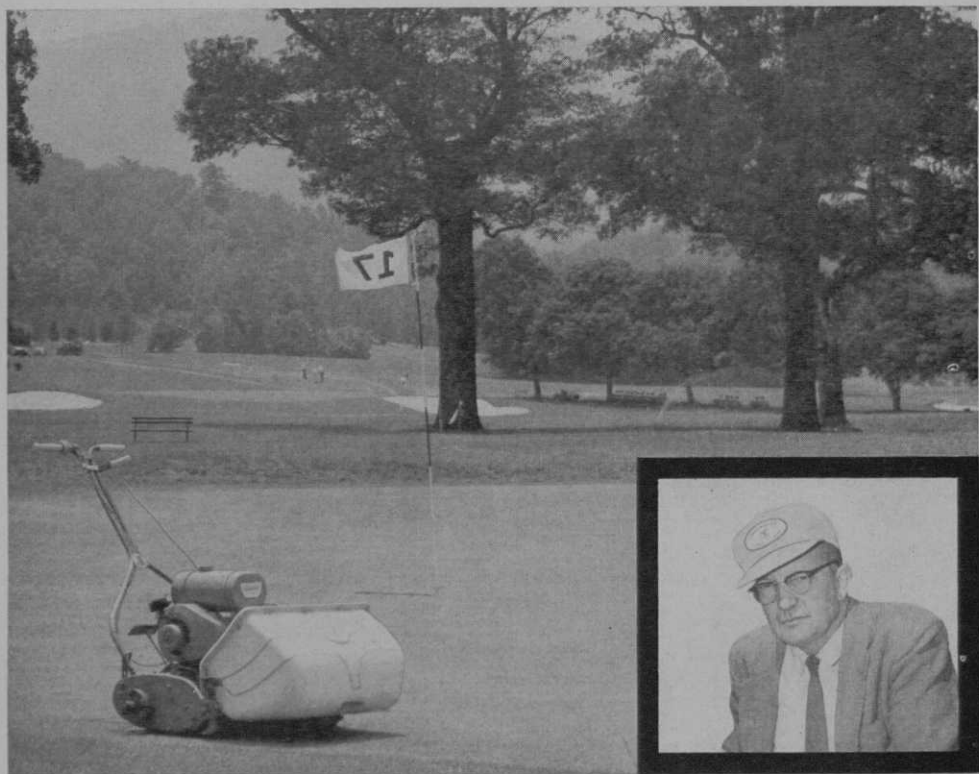
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