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weeks ago to win a high school conference tournament at Darlington (S. C.) CC . . . That 62 beat the record by six strokes . . . Randy's younger brother, Russell, had a 150 for the tournament.

R. I. General Assembly approves bill authorizing referendum for \$1 million bond issue for course and recreation area in Providence county . . . Voters will vote 'Yes' or 'No' in Nov. . . . Buffalo University considering adding second 18 and lighted 9-hole Par 3 present 18 . . . 30,000 rounds were played on present course in 1959 and play is up 300 per cent so far this year . . . Williamsport, Pa., drawing up plans for 18-hole muni, expandable to 36 . . . City's present 9 is being played to capacity . . . Miami, Fla. to start work soon on first 9 of 18-hole municipal course . . . Dade County (Miami) has one-fifth of Florida's population but only 1-17th of its courses . . . But two courses now are being built and four are in planning stage . . . At present there are 11 playable courses in the county.

Start construction soon on 9-hole Meadowbrook CC course in Raleigh, N. C. . . . It is a Negro club and will have clubhouse, pool, boating and tennis facilities . . .

(Continued on page 60)

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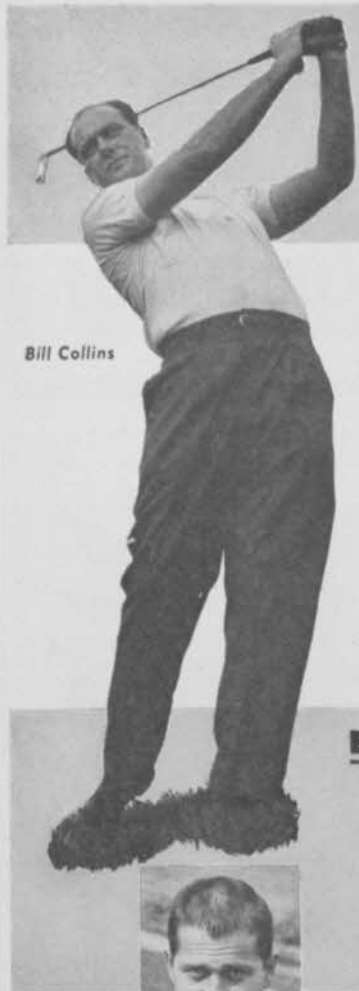
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The day-to-day experiences of these golfing greats, their observations and their criticisms are fed to our club designers and manufacturing engineers. The result of this effort—the finest golf clubs that skill, experience and know-how can produce—the 1960 Power-Bilts! Display them proudly. Recommend them with confidence.

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Vote on California Tax Law May Have Nationwide Import

*State Golf Associations Conduct Campaign
to Revise Course Assessment Policy*

By **TOM McMAHON**

A very important vote is coming up Nov. 8th in California that could lead to the establishment of new policies for the assessment of golf courses throughout the country.

On the above date, California residents will vote on Proposition 6 which provides that the state's golf courses shall be assessed on the basis of their actual use as courses rather than on "their highest and most profitable use."

The California GA and independent associations in both the northern and southern parts of the state are organizing a campaign to generate support for this measure. On a larger scale, it is thought that Proposition 6 will have nationwide significance because, if approved by the voters, it may serve as a model for other states in their course assessment policies.

Cite Public Importance

The California campaign is based on the public importance and social value of golf courses. The aid of Chambers of Commerce and other civic organizations as well as the newspapers is being enlisted in an effort to return a favorable vote on Proposition 6. Large commercial and industrial organizations also are being asked to bring to the attention of their em-

ployees the value and wisdom of a "Yes" vote on the proposition. Nine reasons why courses shouldn't be taxed practically out of existence are being advanced by the association. They are:

(1) Maintenance of open areas and green belts at private expense gives the public the benefit of open parks and decontamination of the atmosphere as the result of the action of large planted areas absorbing carbon dioxide, converting it to oxygen, then discharging the oxygen as a purifying agent into the atmosphere.

(2) The elimination of private courses would further aggravate existing serious local governmental revenue problems rather than help them. In some cases, counties or cities have taken over private golf courses on the verge of selling out. This means increased taxpayer expense for many courses previously operated at private expense with simultaneous removal of taxpaying properties from the tax rolls.

Land Values Increased

(3) Golf courses normally increase the value of the surrounding land, resulting in greater tax revenue for local governments. When courses are taxed out of existence, the result frequently is a drop in the value of the adjacent land with diminishing tax returns.

One national magazine has pointed out:

"Short-sighted tax assessors often dun clubs almost as heavily as the surrounding built-up areas, claiming their land has risen in market value. Clubs have had to sell out, and their courses have been bulldozed and built over. The result is that the value of the adjacent development has dropped and eventually so will its tax base."

(4) When courses are wiped out, sufficient land to establish new courses is rare, hard to come by, and located in remote and inaccessible areas.

(5) When courses are erased and not replaced, additional pressure is placed on all existing recreational facilities, both public and private. Such facilities are already badly overcrowded due to rapid population growth.

Two-Year Clause

(6) It has been suggested that Proposition 6 might favor land speculators. Speculators who buy land as individuals or as corporations would not be affected or protected by Proposition 6. Proposition 6 applies only to courses more than two years old, a feature of questionable appeal to the speculative mind.

(7) Courses are an important facility appealing to tourists who bring into Southern California \$645 million, a figure predicted to triple in 20 years.

(8) Both houses of the State Legislature passed this measure by a two-thirds vote.

(9) Courses and their facilities, generally speaking, render a public service to the community. For example, most clubs allow high school and college golf teams to practice on their courses. Their facilities are used for tournament and other recreational purposes which reach far beyond the membership. Clubhouses often are used by the community for business meetings, conventions and social affairs.

Opponents of Proposition 6 maintain that if it were enacted into law it would in effect constitute an exemption or tax subsidy. However, proponents of the proposal have stoutly maintained that they are not asking for a tax exemption, but only for modification of an existing and onerous policy to prevent it from taxing courses out of existence. They back up their stand by pointing out that between 1931 and 1959, California has lost 29 private courses or nearly one-third of its total, largely because of tax pressure. In the meantime, the state's population has easily more than doubled.

The future threat to courses in Cali-



Willie Turnesa, Fred McKenna, pres. of Knollwood CC, Elmsford, N. Y., and Mike Turnesa, the pro there (l to r), figured prominently in staging the \$13,000 Triangle Round Robin for women pros in June. Receipts from the tournament went to the Reinach-Turnesa caddie scholarship fund.

fornia is emphasized by the case of a new multi-million dollar development that is being planned for metropolitan Los Angeles. Kratter Corp. of New York City is expected to erect a 22-story office building, retail stores, supermarkets and a large multiple apartment development between properties occupied by Los Angeles CC and Hillcrest CC. This will create a new "downtown" area in the present location of the 20th Century Fox Studios. Sharp increases in assessments and tax rates on the property will follow. Under present policy, the county assessor will be empowered to sharply increase the tax rates of the two clubs.

Taxed as Recreation Sites

If Proposition 6 is enacted, however, Los Angeles CC and Hillcrest will rightfully continue to be assessed on the basis of their actual use as recreation sites and not at their highest and most profitable use.

In their campaign, the California golf associations will emphasize that the continued existence of courses in rapidly growing metropolitan areas, of which there are many in the state, is in the interest of everybody. There is no doubt that golfers throughout the country will be carefully watching the effects of the associations' campaign, and the results of the Nov. 8 election since it may set a nationwide assessment precedent.

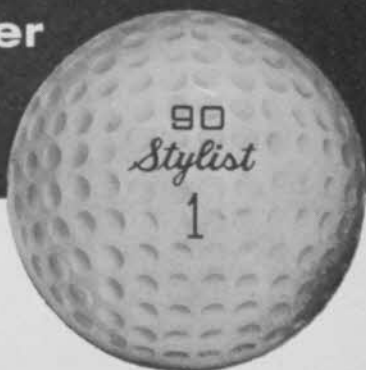
USGA Senior Amateur

Sixth USGA Senior Amateur Championship will be played Sept. 19-24 at Oyster Harbor Club, Osterville, Mass., Sept. 19-24. Entries must be received by the USGA by Aug. 24th. There is no handicap limit.

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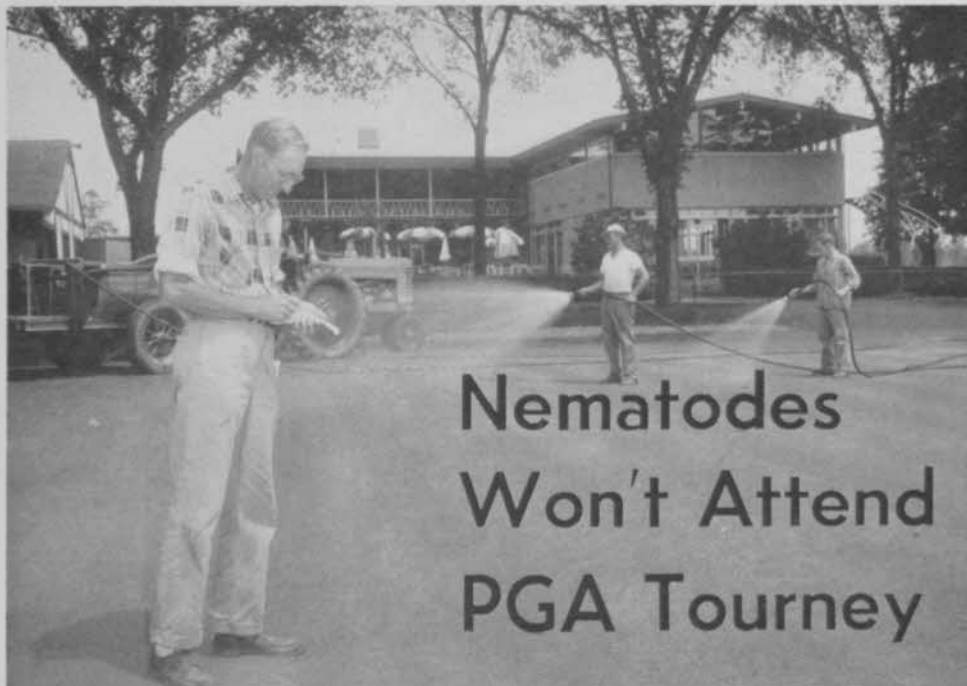
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Nematodes Won't Attend PGA Tourney

... or, at least, that's what Bill Lyons, Firestone supt., hopes after his attack on the microscopic worms that feed on turf roots

Back in the spring of 1959, officers of the Firestone CC, Akron, O. decided to redesign the 30-year old course and bring it up to championship tournament caliber. They called on Robert Trent Jones, recognized dean of course architects, and gave him a free hand in "toughening up the course." The result was 18 holes that promise to be as challenging as any in the country. Now it was up to Bill Lyons, Firestone's supt., to see that the challengers would get every possible break when they played in the 1960 PGA Championship.

From past experience Bill Lyons knew exactly what grass to plant, how to plant it and how to care for it. He also knew that at the end of two years he could expect unexplainable brown spots to appear in the putting greens. Brown spots in turf could be caused by fungus, soil insects, etc. The spots that most concerned Lyons were those caused by relatively unknown pests — nematodes. They are not new. They have plagued farmers for centuries but only recently have been identified.

Nematodes are tiny, thread-like worms that attack the roots of more than 1700

different plants. Most species are so small that they can be seen only under a microscope. Up to now they have been known mostly as agricultural pests but they are becoming recognized as a serious turf problem.

Until the late 1940s very little was known about nematodes. Farmers knew their damage as "root knot," "slow decline," "spreading decline," or simply "tired land." Since the farmer couldn't see what was going on beneath the soil, he had no idea of the nature of his enemy. More often than not, he simply rotated to another crop and planted it until it, too, began to show familiar symptoms of deterioration.

As scientists began to learn more about nematodes, they also found ways of controlling them. In the early '40s, Shell Chemical introduced D-D(R) soil fumigant, a liquid that could be injected into the soil before planting, to kill nematodes.

(Continued on page 80)

In the photo at the top of the page Bill Lyons (foreground), supt. at Firestone CC, checks spraying operation on the 9th green. In background is the club's new clubhouse.

Yessir, I understand they're even working nights out at Escondido. That's where our Golfcraft plant is, you know.

They have to, I guess, to keep up with orders for our 1960 line. Take our putter line, for instance. Frankly...

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And we have to be. You see, Golfcraft offers the finest selection of putters of any manufacturer in the World. There're 20 different models in three basic styles—the blade, the aluminum mallethead, and the brass and aluminum combo. There's even a left-hand combo model.

Then, there's a choice of three types of grip, too... the Regular, the Contour and the Pistol Grip.

Finally, there's the exclusive Glasshaft. No one else has it but Golfcraft. We have it patented, you know (#2822175). The Glasshaft gives you such feel, it's like putting a pair of eyes in your hands.

So, you can see why we're up to here in putters.

We have to be... we're up to here in orders, too!!



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Ridge pro staff moved into its new shop this spring. It was built on site of the old.

For A Sales Transfusion— Try A New Shop

Ridge Country Club is in a kind of Shangri La setting, only a few steps removed from a hustling, main traffic artery in the city of Chicago. When you drive through the club's main gate off 103rd street and find yourself suddenly transplanted from all the hurry and bustle to a leisurely paced setting where there is nothing but beautifully maintained fairways surrounded by pleasant homes, your first impression is that you're in another world.

Many of the Ridge's 300 playing members live in homes adjoining the course.

Since so many are within walking distance of the first tee, and Elmer Schacht's pro shop, the club is thought of as a neighborhood gathering spot rather than as a remotely located country club which, except for weekends, may as well be outside the continental limits. When a Ridge member takes a stroll or walks the dog, chances are very good that he may end up getting in a quick nine holes.

A Golfer's Club

All this rebounds to the benefit of Elmer Schacht, who has been running the pro shop at Ridge since 1943. So does the fact that Ridge is primarily a golfer's club and practically every day of the week from May through September sees some special playing event being staged. With this happy combination of the unscheduled with the scheduled, business at Elmer's club is constantly undergoing a transfusion.

But at the moment, though, Schacht will
(Continued on page 32)

Head pro Elmer Schacht (right) is shown with his assistants, from left: Bill Fitzsimmons, Mike White and Vince Milewski. Bill and Mike are inside men and Vince is in charge of instructions.

