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go according to schedule, he may have an 18-hole lighted layout at the end of five years. Total length of his planned first nine, which has been named Whitehaven Links, is 640 yards. Holes will range in length from 55 to 90 yards. Whitehaven Links not only solved English's physical fitness program but also what to do after his retirement which is to come in two or three years.

RCGA Reports Steady Increase in Member Clubs

The Royal Canadian GA realized an excess of revenue over expenses of \$1,027 in 1961. Total revenue amounted to more than \$51,000, about \$3,500 less than it had been the previous year, and net revenue was approximately \$7,000 lower than it had been in 1960. Surplus at the end of the year amounted to about \$39,000.

A report of the membership and public relations committee of the RCGA shows that membership fees paid to the Association have increased by about 50 per cent in the last four years. There were 512 clubs in the Association in 1961 as compared to 470 in 1960. Clubs now

in the RCGA have total membership of about 77,000.

Retained as Director

C. E. Robinson, who resigned about a year ago as secretary-manager of the RCGA was retained as director of the green section. The Association played a part in the conducting of three turf-grass conferences in 1961. In its report, the section cited the work of Cy Creed, supt. at Niakawa CC, Winnipeg, for bringing his course into such sterling condition for the Canadian Open despite extremely adverse conditions.

Canada's National Golf Week in 1961 was conducted by Provincial Golf Associations. The Quebec GA had gross revenue of \$5,605 and the Ontario GA, \$3,133, to lead the provincial organizations in raising the money for various Canadian golf projects.

Other developments that were cited in the RCGA report include: Enlargement of the handicap system to cover 9-hole play on 9-hole courses; Cooperation by the Association in translating the Rules of Golf into French; and retention of consulting engineers by the rules committee for testing golf balls for minimum size and maximum weight.

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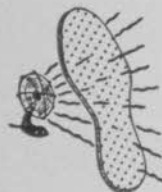
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Toughest Part of the Job

Pity the Poor Men Who Put Finishing Touch on the Course

By **ROBERT A. SIMMONS**

Golf Course Architect
Kokomo, Indiana

After many years of building and designing golf courses, I have come to the conclusion that the unsung heroes of golf are the men or committees who accept the responsibility of finishing a course after the construction people have departed.

I've seen nature throw every trick in her black book at these people and watched them work from daylight till dark overcoming the troubles they fall heir to.

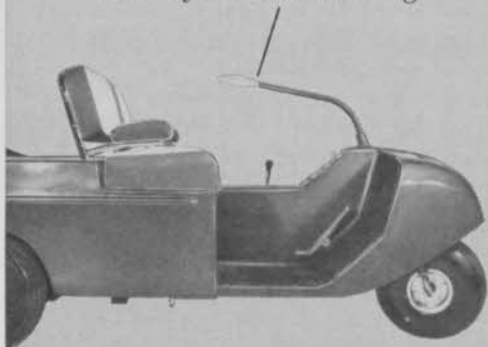
I have seen droughts that have lasted for months and rains that continued until many fairways were flooded. I've seen cloudbursts wash out greens and hurricanes blow down hundreds of trees. Too often, unseasonal cold spells have frozen out newly germinated grass.

There are other handicaps for which you can't blame nature. For example, installing a water system in the desert in the summer months or through solid rock, or trying to grow grass on fairways where there is four inches of topsoil over salty sand pumped out of the ocean. I've even seen people insist that a supt. try to grow grass in the dormant season.

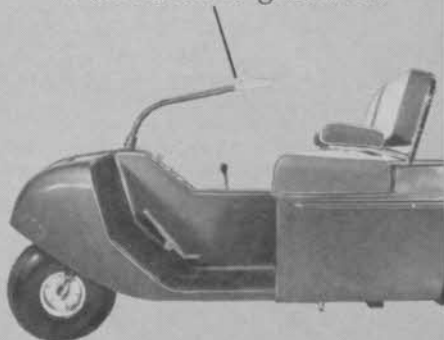
Complication In Watering

At Moon Valley in the desert near Phoenix, Ariz., I saw Jim Snyder, the supt., work in June, July, and August installing the most complicated, and the best, sprinkling system I have ever seen on a course. The way his course is laid out there are to be homes along each fairway. The course is watered from one property line across the rough, fairway, and opposite rough to the other property line. Every square foot of the course is watered. Three separate water lines run through each fairway. Eight and six-

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inch lines are installed down the center of the fairway, and four-inch lines along each side.

Snyder's job was further complicated by the kind of pipe that was used. It was a concrete pipe with a steel jacket around it. It is an excellent pipe but caused fitting problems. Whenever a cut had to be made, the steel jacket had to be cut so the pipe would be the correct length. Then it had to be welded together again before being dropped into place.

I completed construction of Cypress Lake CC course in Fort Meyers, Fla., the last week in April and a committee took over the responsibility of installing the water system and seeding and putting the

finishing touches on the course.

Trenches Had to be Blasted

Installing this system was complicated by outcroppings of rock and made necessary the use of dynamite in digging every foot of the fairway trenches. This, of course took much time. Rock was blown all over the course and had to be cleaned up. This being the growing season in Florida, weeds took over before the water could be turned on. Ormand Bermuda was planted on the fairways, and Tifton 328 on the greens, but before planting could be started, the weeds had to be cut and cleaned out. This did much damage to contours that had to be repaired and delayed further the finishing of the

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the Cypress Lake course.

That wasn't the end of the trouble. As the work was completed, hurricane Donna came blowing around the southern tip of Florida and turned north up the west coast. The core of the hurricane blew directly over the course. Hundreds of trees were blown down and several fairways were flooded. After the water receded and the debris cleaned up the dormant season was coming on. But after much hard work and perseverance the job was completed, grass was grown and the course was ready for play for the winter season.

At the Royal Montreal GC we had only one problem but a serious one. We were building a 45 hole golf course and had promised to get it built and seeded

in one short Canadian summer. We had every piece of equipment that we could possibly use, all of the manpower we could keep busy and all the material we could get. I was in charge of all earth-moving and shaping of greens, tees, bunkers and contouring. The water system was being installed by the Atlas Co. of Montreal. Harry Owens, the course supt. who has been at Royal Montreal for 38 years, was in charge of all topsoiling, preparation of fairways, fertilizing and seeding.

At one time during construction we had 34 pieces of bulldozer type equipment working, and counting trucks, pumps, tractors, stone pickers, we had a total of 150 pieces of motorized equipment in action.

As soon as I could complete the shap-

“ Course Owner says: “Without GOLFDOM I really don't know of any way we could have made contact with so many fine business concerns . . . ” **John Duerr, Pomeroy GC, Pomeroy, Ohio.**

Club President: “We rely on GOLFDOM's articles, news of new developments, new ideas, equipment sources . . . our course super uses issues of GOLFDOM regularly.” **Sam Khoury, Oglebay GC, Elm Grove, West Virginia.**

From A Pro-Supt.: “I don't think any business or industry has as fine a trade journal as golf has in GOLFDOM. It is a most valuable source of information on golf merchandise and equipment.” **Harry Rubendall, Freeport CC, Freeport, Illinois.**

Greenkeeper reports: “GOLFDOM has been a big help to me thru the opinions of many greenkeepers and pros and their experiences with different kinds of machinery, seed, weed control etc.” **Rolla T. Pillsbury, Rangeley Lakes GC, Rangeley, Maine.**

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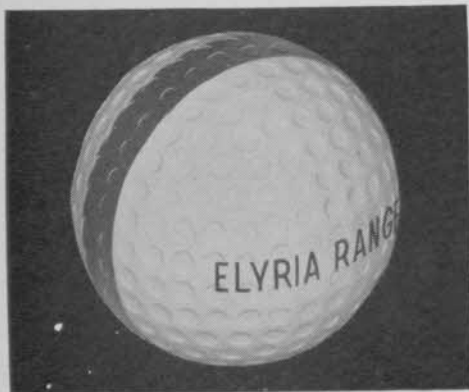
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ing of a hole, Atlas would come along with the water and Harry would follow with the topsoil. As quickly as the water could be turned on, he would do the seeding. All topsoil for the greens was prepared and stored in a central pile. When it was hauled to the green site, Harry had it dumped off to the side and hauled on with wheelbarrows when necessary. Grading was by hand.

The fairways there were so full of stones it was nearly impossible to take a step without stepping on one and the only way to get them clean was to pick the stones by hand. More than 100 men handpicked them from a single fairway at a time, and then went over it as many as five times picking up every stone down to the size of a marble.

Topsoil Four Miles Away

We built the Lyford Cay course at Nassau in the Bahamas on solid rock. All greens, bunkers, contours, etc., were built out of the rock. The only topsoil on the island had to be hauled four miles to cover the entire course. I did all the finishing of this course and actually did most of it three times. Just as I finished seeding in January, 1958, we had an unseasonal hurricane and got four inches of rain in two hours. We had anticipated heavy rainfall and had dug four-foot-deep conversion ditches at the bottom of the hill to catch the water coming down and take it around the golf course and out to sea. But there was too much rain in such a short time and it ran over the ditches and flooded the golf course and washed most of the soil and seed out to sea. We had just completed the work again and on March 10 we had a three-inch rain in 25 minutes. Soil and seed were gone again.

When I was halfway finished with the seeding the next time, Jim Yancey came over as supt. and I turned the job over to him and caught the next plane to Florida. Water at Lyford Cay is furnished by windmills pumping into a reservoir and from there it is pumped to the course. It always is in short supply. Yancy personally supervised the sprinkling 24 hours a day, directing the moving of the sprinklers and the length of time that they were kept at each location. In just a few short months the course was being recognized as the finest in that part of the world, thanks to Jim's care in the post building period.