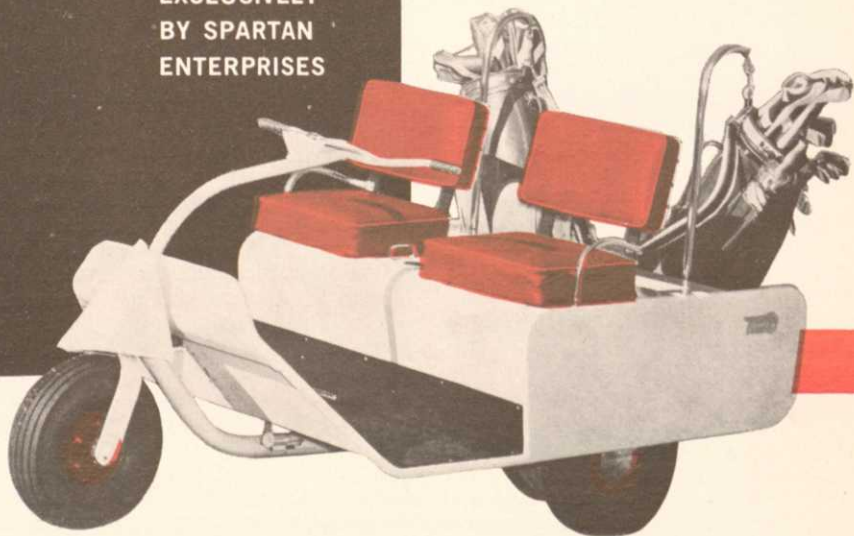


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Speakers at the first forum of public course administrators, held in conjunction with the GCSA show, were (l to r): Guy Bellitt, Southern Cal. PGA; Charles Pinney, El Centro, Calif.; Bill Sherman, National Golf Fdn.; Gene Reid, Tucson, Ariz.; Don Makie, San Diego, and Dick Sincerbeau, Flint, Mich.

moting longevity among employees: Tell them what is expected of them; Don't withhold praise or a raise; Try to develop versatility among the men in your crew; and, Always be on the lookout for latent ability.

Matter of Adjustment

Art Snyder, a transplanted Pennsylvanian who moved to Arizona about eight years ago, said there is quite a difference in eastern and southwestern maintenance practices. When a fellow makes the move, said Art, he has to quickly learn how to adjust to 120 deg. temperatures, lack of rainfall and constant play or it won't be long before he is heading north again. The soil situation, too, can be puzzling because there is a great variety of it. None of it is promising because of its sticky, sandy or salty makeup.

Yet, said Art, fine and common Bermuda grasses can be grown in the desert country if a supt. sticks to the rules. Seaside and pennecross are proving themselves, although the latter produces no better than a fair root system and still is pretty much in the test stage. But bents, Art concluded, have an advantage over Bermuda: they aren't nearly as susceptible to disease.

Putnam's Sunken Garden

Ken Putnam described a wholesale re-sodding job that is now going on at his Seattle GC. More than 50 acres of fairways have been completed and there are nearly that many that remain to be worked over. The course was built on virgin timberland and the depressions left by removal of tree stumps never were proper-

ly compacted. In recent years the place had become one big sunken garden.

Using film, Putnam showed how a supt. tackles a project of this kind. Great quantities of rock had to be removed, topdressing hauled in and concentrated doses of lime and fertilizer applied. The sodding operation is carried out with the aid of a fork lift and large pallets on which 1 1/4 in. sod sheets are piled in 12-inch decks. It is possible to cover from one to one and one-half acres in a week. The original cost of the project was \$500 an acre, but as Putnam and his crew became a little more adept at the work, they reduced this to about \$450.

Stolon Planting Methods

Ray Jensen, who started the Southern Turf Nurseries about 12 years ago and has made important contributions to the development of Bermudagrass, used slides in illustrating planting methods. A stolon planter with a single roller and double-row cutting discs that his firm developed, is capable of sowing 8 to 10 acres a day with an eight man crew. The front disc is heavier than the back one to insure pressing the stolons deep into the soil, and when the soil is hard to penetrate, weights can be attached to the machine.

Jensen told how he once experimented with a tobacco planter in laying stolons, but it was so unwieldy that his crew could cover only two acres a day with it. He unwisely stayed with the machine in handling a stolonizing job for an entire course and is still writing off the loss. That was the last of experiments of this kind.



It's unanimous... *Certain-teed "K&M" is OK!* Above (kneeling, l to r) Joe Tagnon, Golf Course Superintendent, Ashbourne Country Club, and Al Crebbs, President, Farm & Golf Course Supply Company; (standing, l to r): Ed Hennessey, Certain-teed Sales Representative and Martin Sharpe, Chairman Greens Committee, Ashbourne Country Club.

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tighter the coupling, which also shrugs off the most obstinate roots.

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For hand planting, the Southern Turf owner recommends spotting the stolons about 18 inches apart. Whenever a stolonizing job is undertaken, whether by hand or machine Jensen suggested that these things be kept in mind: The bed should be well cultivated; a generous application of quick-acting fertilizer should be made; a weed control program should be started immediately; and post-planting irrigation should be on the heavy side.

Maintenance in Mexico

One of the convention's prize speakers turned out to be Carlton Gipson, a one-time Texas soil scientist who, two years ago, moved south of the border to supervise the maintenance of a Mexico City course. Gipson said that the art of green-keeping is still in its infancy in Mexico. One of the drawbacks, paradoxically, is

Turf Dates

Mar. 12-14 — Turfgrass short course, Iowa State U., Ames.

Mar. 21-22 — Michigan Turfgrass Conference, Mich. State U., East Lansing.

Mar. 27-29 — Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

that a supt. has too many men to supervise. Courses may have as many as 40 to 85 grounds employees.

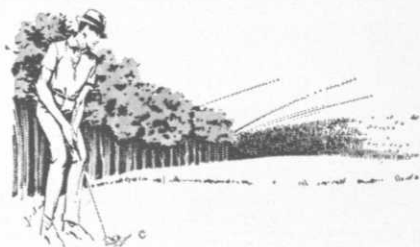
They constitute a formidable hand-weeding crew, but they don't understand the intricacies of machinery and find more ways to throwing it out of adjustment than an army of master mechanics could hope to correct.

Courses in and around Mexico City generally are good ones but the same can't be said of those in the outlying areas. Fifty per cent of the country, Gipson pointed out, is arid or semi-arid and there is also much alluvial clay. The various Bermudas are best adapted to the Mexican soil, although bents such as Seaside and Penn-cross could survive in the central part of the country. Poa, however, thrives and has a tendency to crowd out bentgrass, and for that reason it is intensely cultivated. Mexico's answer to crabgrass is elephant grass.

Gipson said that seed, much fertilizer, and replacement parts for machinery have to be imported. A fellow has to develop a sixth sense in ordering these things for enough ahead to have them on hand when they are really needed because it takes a

(Continued on page 167)

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Gene Littler approaches the second hole at Pine Valley, N.J.

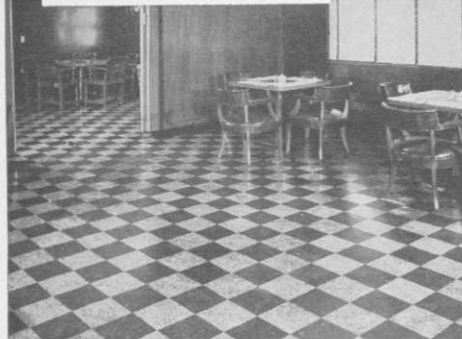
SHELL'S WONDERFUL WORLD OF GOLF

| COURSE | COMPETING PROFESSIONALS | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| *Wentworth (London) | Jerry Barber | Dai Rees |
| Banff (Canada) | Jack Burke, Jr. | Stan Leonard |
| St. Andrews (Scotland) | Gene Sarazen | Henry Cotton |
| Kasumigaseki (Tokyo) | Bob Rosburg | "Pete" Nakamura |
| Pine Valley (U.S.A.) | Gene Littler | Byron Nelson |
| Olgiata (Rome) | Ken Venturi | Ugo Grappasoni |
| Royal Melbourne (Australia) | Gary Player | Peter Thomson |
| Jockey Club (Buenos Aires) | Mike Souchak | Roberto De Vicenzo |
| St. Cloud (Paris) | Jay Hebert | Flory Van Donck |
| Royal Hong Kong | Ted Kroll | Chen Ching-po |
| Gavea (Rio de Janeiro) | Bill Casper, Jr. | Mario Gonzales |

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**Green Chairmen Forum
at GCSA Convention**

Clubs Drag Feet In Seeking Relief from Excise Tax Burden

Where the money will come from to pay for the increasing demands and costs of golf was a major concern of green chairmen at the forum held for them during the GCSA conference in San Diego.

Emanuel Levy, green chairman, Brentwood CC, Los Angeles and chairman of the forum, pointed out that only 1,703 of the 6,521 conventional courses in the U.S. are private 18-hole clubs, and that there are 3,618 9-hole clubs, leaving 2,903 18-hole courses in private, semi-private and public operation. Levy remarked that the tendency is to regard all golf clubs as having the financial character of the richest private clubs instead of regarding the golf business picture factually. The Brentwood official has extensive interests in bowling establishments and from that experience contributed the warning that golf examine its business position with caution as well as with optimism.

Asks Drive for Fair Taxes

Frank G. Hathaway, president and general manager of Los Angeles A.C. and Riviera CC, and sec.-treas., National Club Assn., told the club "tax story," pinching for Walter Slowinski, tax law authority and counsel for the GCSA and Club Managers Assn. of America.

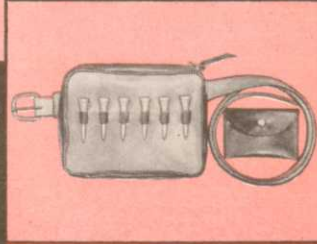
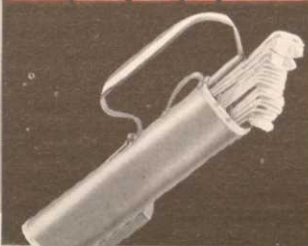
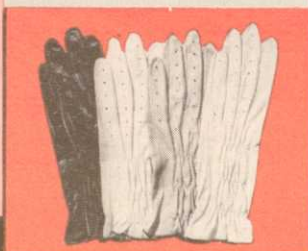
Hathaway was one of those few who has spent his own time and money in going to Washington and lobbying for a fair tax load on clubs and members. He noted that country and city clubs, horse and dog tracks, pay 20 per cent excise taxes. Night clubs, furs, jewelry and toilet articles pay 10 per cent tax. Golf and city clubs, rather than the ways and means committee of Congress, he said, are to blame for continuance of the 20 per cent tax load. The clubs haven't put up any sort of a case for themselves, individually or through their associations, in getting the tax burden reduced.

Clubs rode as freeloaders on the CMAA tax relief campaign begun by former CMAA president, Dick Daley, and oper-

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ated by the CMAA Executive secretary and its tax counsel and lobbyist, Slowinski. After observing the weakness of the clubs' effort in Washington, Hathaway and others organized the National Club Assn. to specialize in matters pertaining to taxes and other legislation.

The National Club Assn. is a non-profit organization with office at 1028 Connecticut ave., N.W., Washington 6. Golf club and association officials will be sent details of the NCA organization, plans and dues, upon request.

A New Big Business

Herb Graffis, GOLFDOM editor, observed that golf now is really two games: one the game played for fun by about 6,000,000 Americans who spend all but a very small fraction of the amount annually spent in the game's big business. The other game is that of tournament and exhibition golf built upon the interest and support of the ordinary players. There is a tendency to confuse the two games, he noted.

The result is that expensive course construction and maintenance are carried on for low handicap amateurs who pay a small percentage of the costs, and for

tournament professionals who pay no initiation fees or dues whatever. This tendency also appears to be evident in official concern about ball distance, Graffis remarked, and added that he had not heard of any alarm about ball distance being voiced by average golfers.

The old and the new in golf course maintenance, Graffis continued, were pretty clearly separated by 2-4-D, which inaugurated the chemical control era in turf management and, in general, a scientific attitude in operations on the part of the supt.

Graffis said that the golf car and bag cart have brought a new era into the golf business. He expressed the belief that the day of extravagant clubhouse construction has ended. GOLFDOM'S editor remarked that the most progressive people in the golf business are those who look at the duffers as their Number One source of support.

Border Looks Ahead

Elmer Border, veteran supt at Las Posas, CC, Camarillo, Calif., viewed course maintenance progress as being somewhat handicapped by the long life of maintenance equipment. He believes that if man-