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COVERAGE



← **WITH
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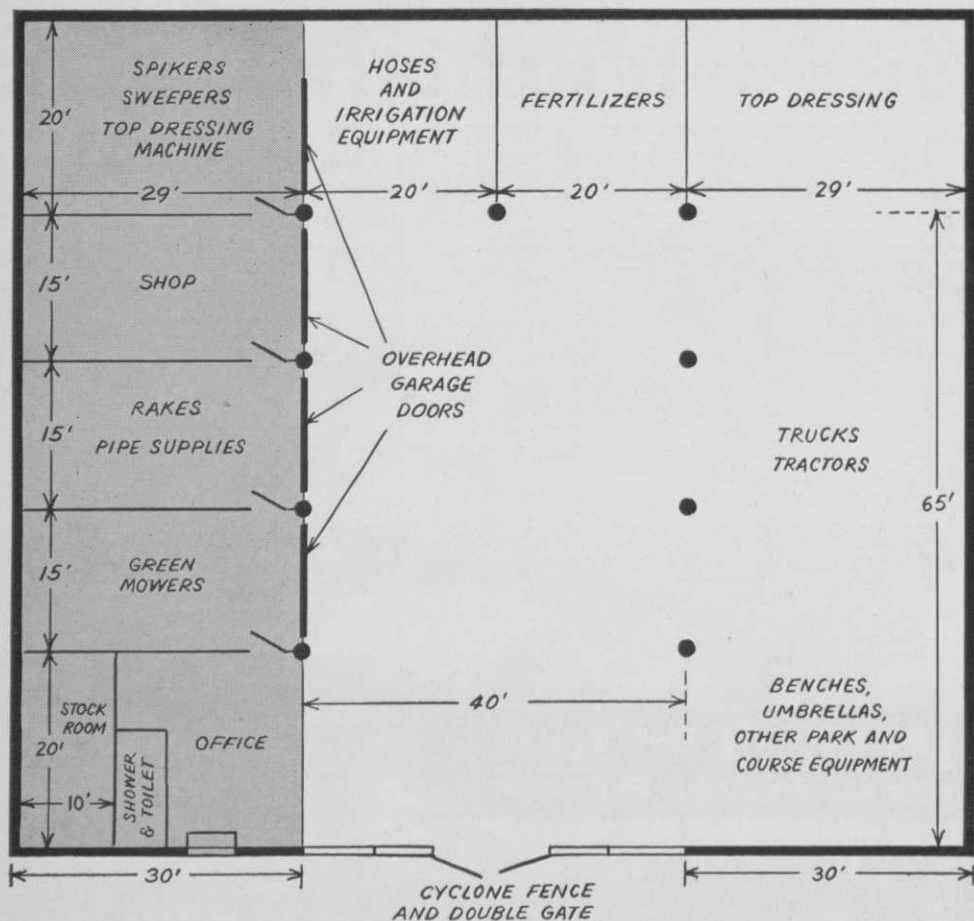
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AQUA-DIAL

The **QUALITY** Line
of Sprinkler Equipment



Court-Type Maintenance Building

In his 30 years in the course maintenance business, Offord Veal, supt. at LaFortune Park GC in Tulsa, has had to contend with just about every kind of an equipment building that man has devised. This includes everything from lean-to's to elongated structures, where everything is always located a mile or so away, to garages with leaky roofs where equipment and material are parked or thrown into a jumble in the center of the building.



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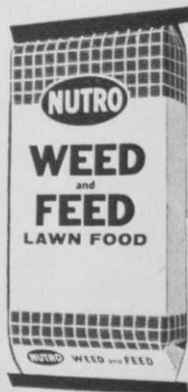
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But five years ago, when the LaFortune course was being built, Veal was able to corner a Tulsa park commissioner and outline for him exactly the kind of a maintenance building he wanted. Veal had his way and the court-type structure seen in the diagram on page 42 is the product of his design.

To put it in Veal's words, a building of this kind is something of a "Lazy Susan arrangement." That doesn't mean that everything is immediately on hand, but at least nothing is much more than 30 to 40 paces away. "It's the only way to build a maintenance building," says the LaFortune supt. "It must save us several million steps a year."

The LaFortune building cost \$37,000 to construct. It is enclosed on only one side, with the other two being made up of stalls in which such as fertilizers and topdressing are stored along with trucks, tractors and miscellaneous equipment from a park which is adjacent to the course.

Concrete Block Building

The entire structure is built of concrete block. The enclosed portion of the building has a 4-inch concrete floor. Four-inch steel columns, spaced at 15 feet intervals, support the steel beamed wood roof which is insulated with tar paper and roofing material. The supporting columns are 12 feet high. The building, both inside and out, is painted white. The court, covering about 2,500 square feet, gives ample room for maneuvering large pieces of equipment such as trucks and tractors.

The shop and storage areas that are in the enclosed area each cover about 450 square feet. There are three overhead lamps in each section and the shop is heated with a portable heater. Overhead doors, about 12 feet wide, front each section.

Offord and his assistant, Charles White, have a 15-man crew that not only maintains the 18-hole course, two practice greens and a 30-tee range but six baseball diamonds and a 30-acre park. Construction work is still going on on the large course and in the last year or so, the LaFortune Park maintenance department has been building a Par 3 which will be completed around Memorial Day.

The 260-acre LaFortune Park represents an investment of more than \$1,000,000, including land and improvements. It is estimated that about \$700,000 has been put into the golf courses, park clubhouse and other facilities. The park was given to the city six years ago by J. A. LaFortune.

The standard course's greens, each of which average about 10,000 square feet, are in Pencross, and U-3 is planted in the fairways. Each green at LaFortune has two holes and foursomes alternate in playing to them. From 250 to 300 rounds are played daily at the Tulsa layout in the busiest part of the season and revenue from golf in 1963 exceeded \$160,000. Twenty-five golf cars are available for the players.

Offord Veal helped supervise the construction of LaFortune. He came to the Tulsa course in 1959 after having spent several years as supt. at Dornick Hills in Ardmore, Okla. Before this he was employed at Indian Hills, also in Tulsa, and at the Highlands course in Billings, Mont.

No. Calif. PGA Committee Heads

Nine committee chairmen were recently confirmed by the Northern Calif. PGA board of directors. The new committee heads are: Manufacturers' Relations, Joe Zakarian of Del Rio CC, Modesto; Junior Golf and Seniors Liaison, Joe Reboli, Richmond G&CC; Assistants, Al Maus, Los Altos G&CC; Publicity, Bob Badger, El Macero CC, Davis; Tournament, Rick Jetter, San Jose; Council of past presidents, Eddie Duino, San Jose; Northern Calif. PGA Advisory, George Gnaou, San Francisco; and Education and Teaching, Dave Mancour, El Dorado Hills.

Publishes Iowa Golfer

Iowa Golfer, a publication devoted to activities of Iowa amateur and professional players, will make its bow with the May issue. It will appear monthly from May through September. Bert McGrane, recently retired golf editor of the Des Moines Register, is the editor and publisher of Iowa Golfer. The annual subscription price is \$2. McGrane is located at 5709 Beaver st. in Des Moines.



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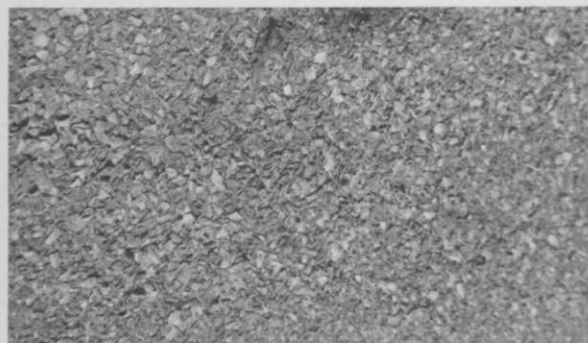


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For Car Path Surfaces

Pecan Paths Sludge Paths Oyster Paths

By O. J. NOER



Here is one of the pecan shell car paths at the Old Warson club in St. Louis. Inset photo shows surface and slight decomposition of buried shells.

Paths for golf cars are becoming more important each year, particularly in concentrated traffic areas. They are being installed especially between and around greens and tees. There comes a time when water and fertilizer cannot grow grass faster than it is destroyed by car wear.

Blacktop has been the most popular cover on the paths because of its lasting qualities. Although expensive, it makes a fine surface for cars, but not for the pedestrian golfer. He wears a path in the turf alongside the blacktop because walking on it is unpleasant underfoot with spiked shoes.

Other Materials Used

Other materials have been used, mostly to reduce the cost of installation. Oyster shells are popular where they are abundant. The shells are put down intact and rolled to produce a level surface. This crushes the shells and makes a very serv-

iceable path. Sludge from rock plants in south Florida is used in the same way. Both are very much cheaper than blacktop.

There are excellent car paths at Old Warson in St. Louis. They consist of pecan shells. The idea for their use came from Oscar Bowman, the supt. A club member markets pecan meats on a large scale. The nuts are brought into St. Louis and cracked in his plant. He has been happy to give Bowman the waste shells.

Walking Is Easy

The paths consist of a 4 to 5 inch layer of pecan shells. Walking on these paths is easy because surfaces are resilient. The shells support the cars without marking up the tires. The oil in the shells seem to hold them in place. There has been almost no decay. The only evidence of this is in the subsurface. There the shells are dark brown to black in color.

Courses in the south, and in parts of

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California, may find the use of nut shells a very fine product for car paths. Walnut and almond shells should do just as well as pecan shells.

Discuss Soil Heating at Purdue Conference

Nearly 600 persons attended the 27th Midwest Regional turf conference Mar. 2-4 at Purdue University. This is the fifth consecutive year that attendance was near the 600 mark.

Plant physiology received major attention at the conference. Talks given by Dr. M. R. Teel, director, American Farm Research Association; Prof. A. C. Leopold, Department of Horticulture, Purdue; J. B. Beard, Department of Plant Science, Michigan State University; and J. M. Latham of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, touched on this subject.

Thatch control in various turf areas occupied a half-day session. Equipment, grass characteristics, the effect of wetting agents and the response to fertilizers were discussed.

H. B. Musser, Prof. Emeritus, Penn State University, and executive director of the Pennsylvania Turfgrass Council presented a key talk: "Nitrogen — Yesterday and Today." He stressed the value of having limited quantities of available nitrogen present at all times for grass utilization.

Use Electric Cable

Soil warming for turf areas (in which an electric cable is used) received first-time attention at any turf conference in the U.S. when it was discussed at Purdue. Three years of work by W. H. Daniel, Purdue turf researcher and John Barrett of the Ag Engineering dept. at Purdue University show that soils can be kept thawed with low heat. It was also explained that with high heat, grass growth can be promoted through the winter.

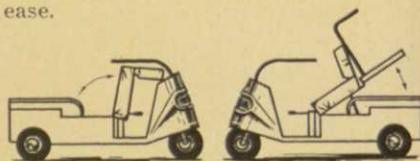
All of the Midwest talks are summarized in a proceedings booklet which will be available within two months. Persons not attending the conference may secure copies for \$1.00 from W. H. Daniel, executive secretary, M.R.T.F., Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

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MSU Reports Big Demand for Club Manager Grads

Job vacancies increase but so does recruiting activity, Placement Bureau officials say

By DONALD F. HARDEN

Assistant Director, Placement Bureau,
Michigan State University

There has been a significant increase in the number of vacancies that have been reported to the Michigan State University (East Lansing) Placement Bureau during the past two years for management positions in golf and country clubs. Eight vacancies were reported in 1961, 30 vacancies in 1962, and 42 vacancies in 1963. The Placement Bureau responded to these vacancies by referring 195 active alumni credentials in 1963, 192 in 1962, and 40 in 1961.

Alumni in the active file are matched to vacancies by Placement Bureau personnel based on the candidate's employment preference, geographical restrictions, age, and minimum salary requirements. The matching process continues until the alumnus notifies the Bureau that he has accepted employment.

The majority of the positions have been with country clubs in the Midwest, although vacancies have been listed from such far away states as Mass., Miss., Tex., N.C., and Calif. A description of the typical job vacancy calls for either a manager or assistant manager for a country club ranging from 150 to 2,300 members. The majority of the clubs reporting vacancies had between 150 and 600 members.

Experience Demands Vary

Openings for managers and assistant managers generally call for club management experience, although some experience in food and beverage areas other than club management is acceptable. Occasionally, positions as managers or assis-

tant managers are listed which do not require experience. Positions for managers, according to Bureau data, not requiring experience have been almost exclusively listed by clubs with less than 250 members. At the same time it should be made clear that many clubs with this membership total require considerable experience. Positions for assistant managers generally require little or no experience.

Salaries appear to be quite lucrative. The median salary is approximately \$10,000 with \$5,772 at the bottom of the scale and \$18,000 the top salary reported during the past three years for club management positions. Included within the total remuneration package for many positions have been additional benefits of meals and living quarters.

Present Lineup

In order that the Bureau might create a clearer picture in terms of the human resources available at Michigan State, the following data is presented:

As of Feb. 1 there were 38 active alumni on file in the hotel, restaurant, and institutional management area. Of that total, eight alumni have activated their credentials in the club management area. Three persons indicate club management to be their first preference, two their second preference, and three their third preference. Six of the eight active alumni are over 30 years of age, and the maximum salary most frequently requested ranges from \$8,500 to \$10,000.

The hotel, restaurant, and institutional Management School, according to the number of senior credentials on file at the Placement Bureau, will graduate 76 persons during the 1963-64 academic year. Of that total nine, or approximately 10 per cent, have indicated an interest in club management. There appears to be a much greater demand for club management personnel than the supply can presently meet, based on the available data for alumni and seniors who have expressed an interest in club management.

Starting Salaries

The average salary for a hotel, restaurant, and institutional management graduating senior in 1963 was \$481 per month. The M.B.A. recipient received