



Seniors Golf Association officers at Rogue Valley are (l to r): Lloyd Selby, director; Robert J. Wells, who wrote this article, president; Glen Fabrick, secretary-treasurer; and A. S. Weiant, director. William Tallis, director, was not present when this photo was taken.

families. It costs \$7.50 per month for a social membership.

Vacations Planned for It

The 36-year-old Southern Oregon championship is held at Rogue Valley each year. It draws entries from all over the West and essentially is a gathering at which people relax and have fun. Many people from upstate take their vacations to be on hand for the event, which is annually staged during the last week in August through Labor Day. Last year, there were 432 entries.

The Seniors tournament at Rogue Valley had been run year in and year out, but in rather haphazard fashion. The entry list was small and very little interest was shown in the event. In the spring of 1961, Bill Clark, the club's tournament chairman, asked me to take over as chairman of the Seniors tournament committee.

After accepting, I gave the situation a good deal of thought. There was no reason, I decided, why the Seniors tournament had to lag. It should be built up to

something approximating the Southern Oregon championship because there were plenty of older golfers who would take an interest in it if they were stirred up a little.

Organization Needed

The first thing that occurred to me was that a Seniors tournament should be run by Seniors. This called for an organization of older golfers at the club. I passed this thought along to Rogue Valley's club manager, Jim Dunlevy and Ron Caperna, the professional. They endorsed it 100 per cent, and we went to work.

Time was short. It was now going into June and the Seniors was to be played in July. Dunlevy provided a list of all playing members over 50. With the help of my wife, I got in touch with all the players on the list and asked them to attend a Seniors organization meeting on June 21. About 35 of the 80 men who were contacted showed up. That wasn't bad for a starter — in fact, it was excellent. That night the Rogue Valley Seniors or-



Rogue Valley's rambling clubhouse as seen from the first fairway.

ganization was launched.

The 35 men who showed up that night are now charter members of an organization that we believe to be the only one of its kind in the U.S. — a Seniors organization within the membership of the club itself, complete with a board of directors and a full roster of officers. Today we have 85 members, each of whom pays dues of \$15 per year. For this they receive 3 very fine dinners at the club each year, a sweepstakes each month from March thru October and a free entry into the Seniors tournament.

Three Age Brackets

All sweepstakes and tournaments are played in three age brackets: A—50 to 55; AA—55 to 60; AAA—60 and up. In the Seniors championship there is competition for four large trophies. One is for the grand championship, played on a scratch basis, and one each for the three age brackets. The latter are played on a handicap basis.

The Seniors championship tournament in 1964 drew 54 entries, a decided improvement over the years when there was no organization. Now in its fourth year, the Seniors club can now be considered a successful working club within a club. The original board of directors was responsible for the excellent manner in

which the club was organized.

The advantages of this type of club are obvious. Seniors at Rogue Valley now participate in the largest number of events in the club. They have a much better opportunity of playing with men of their own age. They get to know one another better. For the newcomer over 50, the Seniors club is a terrific boon. It would take the new member a long time to become as well acquainted as he does through this organization. It's the only thing that is exclusive at Rogue Valley. A person can't get in until he is 50. You'd be surprised at how many new members we get when that 50th anniversary rolls around.

Offer to Help

Dedicated men are the secret behind most successful organizations. We have at least one who kind of lives for the Seniors organization. His name is Glen Fabrick. He has been secretary-treasurer of the club since it was organized and there isn't any inconvenience that Glen won't countenance in doing something to help the Seniors group. What is more, Fabrick and myself offer a permanent invitation to members of other clubs to come to Rogue Valley and see how we run our Seniors organization. If this isn't convenient, we

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**Turf Management Improves
As Golf Fever Sweeps
Hawaii and the Far East**

By O. J. NOER

Golf has been popular in the Hawaiian Islands for a long time. The most recent courses there are the Royal Kaanapali on Maui, and the just completed Mauna Kea course on the big island of Hawaii. Both are Robert Trent Jones creations. Other courses are in prospect.

The better courses in Honolulu have bent greens and Bermuda on the tees and fairways. Tees are being converted to Tifgreen(328). Regulations make it difficult to introduce new grasses. Plant introductions are quarantined for a year. Care at the Experiment Station is costly. It is said to have cost the club that introduced Tifgreen about \$2500.

In Japan the interest in golf is fantastic. Many new courses have been built since the end of the war. More are needed to accommodate the many new players. Because of intensive land usage, golf space is limited.

Golf interest is on the increase in the Philippine Islands. A new course has just been completed on the outskirts of Manila. Another is in the course of construction at Tarlac, and other are contemplated.

My December trip, to Hawaii, Japan, the Philippines and Hong Kong was of three weeks duration. It was made with Robert Trent Jones. The main purpose was to be at Royal Kaanapali during the Canada Cup matches, then to the big island of Hawaii where the Palmer, Nick-

Left) Gary Player hits tee shot on No. 3 at Mauna Kea in Hawaii in Big Three match. (Below) So much business was anticipated at downtown Tokyo driving range that it was built with a second deck.



Architect who has something against golfers may have designed this par 3 hole at Kasumigaseki in Tokyo.

laus and Player matches, for television showing in March, were to be played on the Mauna Kea course, just completed by Jones for Laurence Rockefeller. The Philippine visit was to check the progress of the new Jones course built at Tarlac, mid-way between Manila and Baguio.

Tokyo and Hong Kong were interim stops where we became acquainted with soil and turf conditions on courses there.

Bermuda Kept in Check

Turf at the Royal Kaanapali course on Maui island consists of Seaside on the greens, down to the base of the slopes, and out onto the apron in front. This was done to hold the Bermuda in check. Even so, sprigs are carried into the greens by equipment and by players. The clubs in Honolulu make weekly inspections, and hand weed any Bermuda that encroaches on the bent turf. The fairways and tees at Kaanapali are Tifgreen(328).

Originally the tees were planted with a Uganda strain of Bermudagrass. It proved unsatisfactory and is being replaced with Tifgreen. The Canada cup contestants played on that part of the tees. In October a truck load of grass was removed from each tee. The thatch was that bad. It was done by heavy cross verticutting, followed by cross close mowing. Surfaces were brown but fertilization brought the turf back. From then on, a 30-inch power mower was used, with a catcher, to cut the tees. It was set at 5/16 of an inch. Surfaces were perfect for play during the

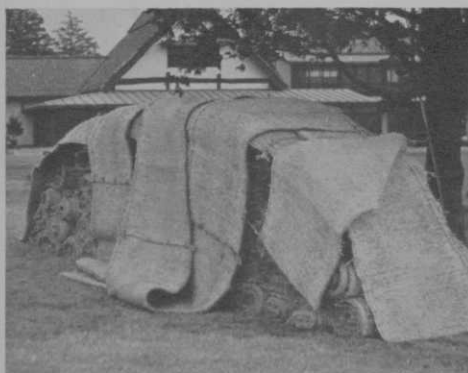




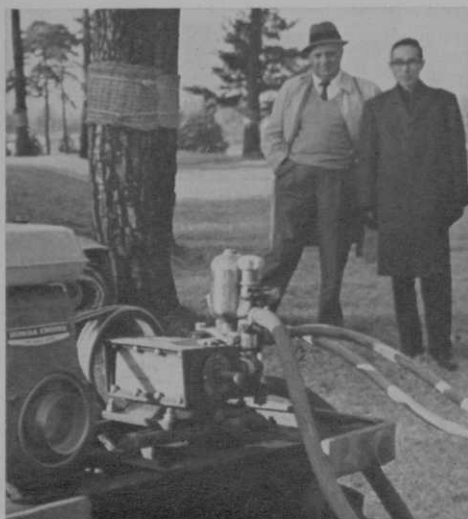
O. J. Noer had photo taken with girl caddie and Mr. Shiokawa, supt. at Kasumigaseki.



Heavy duty plastic covers a green at Kasumigaseki that is kept out of play during winter months.



Rice straw mats are used to cover turf at Koganei in Japan to protect it from frost damage.



Architect Robert Trent Jones and Japanese club manager are shown examining a spray rig.

matches. Divots are less of a problem with close mowing that produces a tight turf.

Iron Chlorosis A Problem

Iron chlorosis is a problem at Kaanapali (and at Mauna Kea) because the soil is alkaline and much of it contains calcium carbonate, as such. To prevent loss of grass, ferrous sulfate has been used regularly on the tees, fairways and greens.

Dollarspot was rampant on the greens in the summer. Corrosive-sublimate mixtures were not available, but Kromad, along with a change in nitrogen feeding, solved the problem. Sod webworms and cut worms required regular treatments with appropriate insecticides. It was necessary to curb Rhodesgrass scale. Overall treatments were made on the tees, and spot treatments on infested areas in the fairways.

Crushed Volcanic Rock Soil

The spectacular Mauna Kea course is located along the Pacific ocean on Parker ranch property. In most fairways, soil was manufactured by crushing volcanic rock. The tees and greens are Tifgreen(328). Fairways are seeded to Arizona hulled Bermuda grass seed. The greens and tees were sprig planted from a nursery established on the property. Some were developed in less than two months.

The soils at Mauna Kea are alkaline. A fertilizer mixture, (16-8-8) containing 2 units of sulfur and 150 pounds of ferrous

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Something Has to Give

Courses are deteriorating because of the stalemate between golfers and the ground crew . . . There has to be a time for play and a time for getting maintenance work done

By **JAMES E. THOMAS**

Supt., Army Navy CC,
Arlington, Va.

Those of us at country clubs where the play is very heavy, are confronted with a baffling problem. It is becoming more difficult each season to maintain our courses in top playing condition. This especially holds true where tees and greens are involved.

At many clubs where there is a large amount of play, foot and cart traffic is bound to cause deterioration of turf around restricted areas. This condition is not brought about by a lack of knowhow on the part of the man in charge. It is mainly due to the difficulty encountered by the greensmaster in not being able to exercise his knowledge or, to provide when needed, preventative maintenance at the proper time and place.

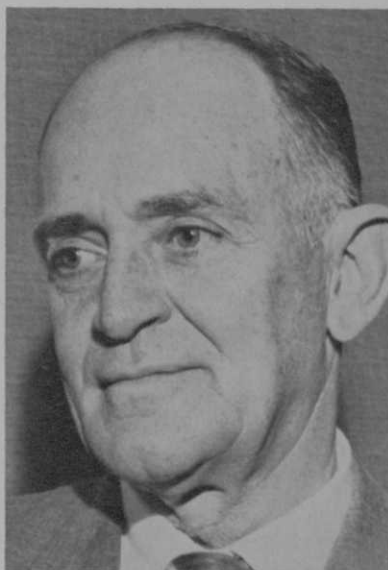
Costly Interruptions

Golfers in their enthusiasm for the game are on the course all day. Activity is what we expect and like to see. It is our living. Yet, as play tends to swell every year, the accomplishment of routine work such as mowing, verticutting, aerifying and topdressing, becomes tougher to handle. At bottleneck spots where play is heaviest, work cannot be done without numerous interruptions. A great deal of costly lost time results. Many of the curative measures essential to a healthy state of turf growth have to be foregone.

The stress placed on sod by excessive

and continuous traffic during inclement and adverse weather conditions has to be quickly met and corrected. If this is not done, turf can deteriorate rapidly. "A stitch in time often saves nine" cannot be overemphasized when applied to the upkeep of a course, But often it is hard to adhere to this maxim since play is almost constant during daylight hours. Two-way interference frequently exists around greens and tees when work is attempted at those locations. It results in both workmen and players being stymied by each other.

If a course falls apart because of the lack of attention, golfers soon become



Jimmy Thomas
... scheduling is needed.

displeased with the supt. In most cases the contributing factors are wear and tear brought about by continued overuse of golf facilities. These can be remedied if the groundsmen have ample opportunity to carry out normal work procedures.

Taken Out of Service

Let's look beyond our field. Highways do not stand up under constant heavy usage. If original construction was faulty, a proper base not prepared, good surface and internal drainage not provided for, the need for repairs and reconstruction frequently occurs. The high-

