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Please send me a copy of your booklet,
"Golf Course Irrigation."

Name _____

Position _____

Name of Course _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ISSUE

PGA 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Herb Graffis reviews the history of the association as revealed in the lives of the hard-working and dedicated men who have become its presidents. He tempers nostalgia with some humorous insights into the "goings-on" that have taken place during the first half century of the PGA's existence.

COMPLETE IRRIGATION

The development of a completely automatic irrigation system which is operated from a central control panel is explained by the man most responsible for its being. Mike Mattwell tells about the intricate connections and color-coding that enable ordinary green employees to control the watering of any and all greens, tees and fairways from one location at St. George's G&CC on Long Island.

A MANAGEMENT 'TEAM'

A West Coast management team has taken over operation of several golf courses with an eye on high profits through the application of sound business principles to golf course management. This article tells how key employees are selected and shows how a new course was built from the ground up.

MUNICIPAL COURSES

These case histories show how two medium-size cities in New England built brand-new municipal courses that filled their citizens' needs while meeting the requirements of climate and location. It is a thorough briefing on planning and construction, with a chart which itemizes the costs for each of the golf courses.

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COVER: THE HOMESTEAD, HOT SPRINGS, VA., BY LEONARD KAMSLER

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You say **BLUE CHIP**[®] means to fertilizer what diamonds meant to me?

That's right, Diamond Jim, just as diamonds were the trademark of your successful salesmanship, the Blue Chip tag on a fertilizer bag is the customer's assurance of a quality product that contains enough of the right kind of nitrogen.

Here's what the Blue Chip tag looks like. Be sure to ask your favorite supplier for a Blue Chip[®] fertilizer . . .



Nitroform[®] ureaform plant food contains 38% nitrogen and is one of the most efficient forms of nitrogen used today in fertilizer mixes. Released for plant use only by soil bacteria—active when growth conditions are right—Nitroform nitrogen is long-lasting and nonburning. Essentially water-insoluble, it will not leach out of the soil, and unused portions carry over as residual nitrogen until the next growing season. A synthetic organic fertilizer, Nitroform is odorless. And, Nitroform requires fewer applications for equivalent nitrogen, and less storage and handling than conventional fertilizers.

Nitroform is recommended for use on turfgrass, ornamentals, trees, and all plants that require sustained nitrogen feeding. It is easy to use and comes in two forms. Granular Blue Chip is applied by mechanical spreaders and is used in the fertilizer mixes that carry the Blue Chip tag. Powder Blue^{*} is the first sprayable ureaform and is used on closely knit turf.



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For more information circle number 102 on card

Swinging around golf

By **HERB GRAFFIS**

News of the Golf World in brief



The USGA has substantially quickened play in the National Open with two local rules to speed action on the putting green . . . Thus, in play by threes, first-round time was reduced from 5:27 in 1965 to 4:16 in 1966, and the second round from 5:24 to 4:15. In play by twos, the third round elapsed time dropped from 4:26 to 3:40 and the fourth round from 4:13 to 3:29 . . . The playoff between **Casper** and **Palmer** took 3 hours and five minutes before a gallery of 12,059.

There was much room for improvement. Consider that in 1955 the first round of play by threes, with 162 players, took four hours and 27 minutes for the last group . . . In 1965, with a field of 150 the last three took five hours and 27 minutes . . . There also was an hour's slower play by the last two in the fourth round of the 1965 National Open, compared to the three hours and 13 minutes of the last two in the 1955 National Open . . . The example of this slow play partially accounts for a shortage of golf courses and certainly is a factor discouraging many from playing golf and spending their money for the game.

One alibi for the crawl of the stars is that they're playing for such big money (coming from the sort of people slow play is driving from golf.) . . . This whine never scored with golf writers who had to bat out a few hundred words of deathless prose to make an edition and do the job in about the time the slow motion boys are lining up a putt . . . At championships for many years I've never seen any evidence that taking

tediously long time improved results.

The big laugh in the USGA figures shows the last couple in the 1965 Senior Women's played their third and last championship round in three hours and 24 minutes; 49 minutes faster than the last group in the National Open . . . Don't tell me the pro stars play like old ladies . . . Some pro stars don't show that much life.

It would be interesting to have clubs furtively time rounds of their men and women players to see if women golfers at the private clubs are making the ordinary men players look as bad as the pro experts look compared to the lively gait of the expert women.

Fritz Hall is pro at the new Madeline Island Golf Links, La Pointe, Wis., recently opened exclusive island course in Lake Superior . . . Course was built by **Robert Trent Jones** . . . Fritz says the country is a blessing on your eyes . . . Pheasants and deer share it with a few golfers . . . In November when Indian Creek CC opens at Miami Beach, Hall will return there with **Jack White** on the pro staff . . . **George Lake**, in his 30th year as pro at Long Beach, Calif., Recreation Park, is the only golf professional designated as a "landmark" by the *National Geographic* . . . In the May issue of that great magazine there was a map of California on which there was Lake George marked a bit northeast of Long Beach . . . **Malcolm Epley**, Long Beach columnist, who knows most of what's important around Long Beach, discovered Lake George on the map and made inquiries . . . It developed that Lake, George, was a prominent feature

Continued on page 87



GRAU'S Answers to Turf Questions

By FRED V. GRAU

WHY IS IT...

That a new Penncross green in Tennessee, where bentgrasses deserve every advantage, is in trouble because the outside expert, well paid, failed to blend the peat properly? The peat is in a layer about 2" from the top, forming nearly a perfect seal.

That golf clubs, in letting a contract to an outsider to rebuild a green (or several), do not include a performance clause to the effect that, if the work is done poorly, the contractor shall return and perform the entire operation again at his own expense?

That every so often a reminder is necessary that hydrated lime is a great "pick-me-up" in Helminth weather for ailing bent greens? (Many superintendents will recall the good results they had when they sprayed a mixture of one-half to one pound of hydrated lime and two pounds of a powdered urea-form in five gallons of water to 1,000 square feet. Even in 95° weather and high humidity the treatment stopped Helminthosporium leafspot and the grass started to grow again.)

That we tend to forget that the greatest tool in weed control is *fertilizer*? (In South Carolina we saw beautiful weed-free Sunturf Bermuda turf while all around were weeds and more weeds. The only difference was fertilizer.)

That the free advice and assistance of the State Extension Service is not called upon frequently? True, the extension specialists may not know *all* the answers (no one does), but the more

they are asked for opinions, the more they will strive to *find* the answers. Our taxes pay for the service; why throw away a service we've paid for?

That it is so difficult to impart a clear understanding of fertilizers, how they work and how they best should be used? (It would seem that blind unquestioning allegiance to any one material is not in harmony with progress through better understanding. Graduates of turfgrass schools have superior training for using and understanding fertilizers. Even so, they are at a disadvantage when the only materials offered on the market are *mixtures* which do not fit the nutrient needs of their turf.)

That, when phosphorus in the soil is so high as to be off the scale, fertilizer vendors continue to recommend and sell mixtures that contain phosphorus?

That superintendents are loath to tell others about the helpful things that they do to make turf management easier?

That scientists, too, often fail to publish results that could mean so much to superintendents who are hungry for information?

Q. The least of my problems is growing grass. My need is for help in solving the labor problem. (Maryland)

A. This is an involved question and a bit out of my line. This entire problem must be dealt with by superintendents and others now and in the future. Local conditions alter circumstances so greatly that a statement here would be useless. •