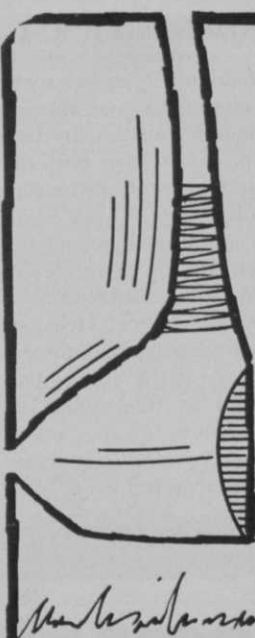


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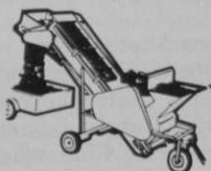
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## SUPERINTENDENT AT K. C.

Continued from page 26

potential superintendents, improvement of relations with employers and the superintendents' economic position by bettered press contacts, closer work with the USGA Green Section and state turf scientists and the switch of the GCSA headquarters to a Chicago suburb where the organization's machinery is centrally located for service to GCSA members.

The host of the conference, Heart of America GCSA, missed no chance to present a lively program for the superintendents' wives as well as thoroughly attending to the business arrangements. Enjoying the hospitality and the working facilities were a registered 2,142. The count included:

Members	679
Ladies	306
Exhibitors	484
Guests	583

Victor Oakley, management consultant began the business program with the observation that a successful enterprise depends on three elements: organize, deputize, supervise. He outlined the solutions of committee and staff management, saying that five usually was the ideal number for a committee. He stressed exchange of information and brought out that many executives with much more business experience than superintendents have failed because of inability or failure to communicate. Oakley, widely experienced in corporation management counsel, was on the program by arrangement with GOLFDOM.

### Telling Golfers Supt's. Story

Dr. Elliot C. Roberts, prof. agronomy and horticulture, Iowa State University, went into helpful detail about informing golfers about the course. Club officials and members want results and what the plan is to produce the desired conditions or to correct undesirable conditions ought to be told to them so they'll be with the superintendent. Records and reports can tell the superintendent's story much better than they usually do, Roberts noted. He showed slides using the poster sheets printed by Program Aids Co., 550 Garden Ave., Mount Vernon, N. Y., on which features of golf course operation were typed and displayed on bulletin boards

Continued on page 134



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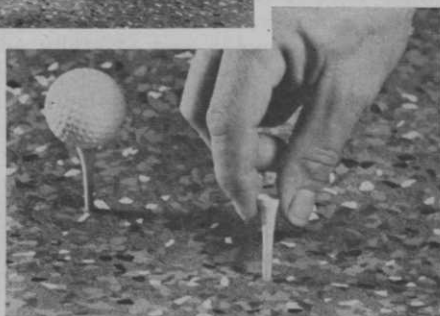
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## SUPERINTENDENT AT K. C.

Continued from page 134

in lockerrooms. The messages cited such information as a hummingbird's nest near a tree, a change in fairway mowing length due to warm weather and a bridge unsafe for golf cars.

Norman E. Westfall, superintendent at Wakonda Club, Des Moines, Iowa, in getting maximum of work done with minimum waste of labor has the simple basic plan that begins operating at the end of each workday when he goes over the following day's work schedule with his assistant and briefs the men on what they're to do the next day. All machinery is checked and serviced at the end of each workday so that it's ready for use when work starts. The canny Westfall is a great educator. He insists that each job be done thoroughly and carefully and correctly, rather than necessarily swiftly.

He emphasized that the spraying assignment is the one that must be supervised closest and insists that a new product must not be used full scale on his course until it's been well tested on a

small spot to see if it will do the job you want it to do.

Westfall starts his larger improvement jobs on what he calls a "work day," a day when the members know the course will be open but playing conditions won't be ideal. He advised: "If you want a top golf course you must acquaint your men with the job even if it means getting out yourself and showing them just how it should be done."

Herman D. Siler, superintendent at Shady Acres CC, Springfield, Mo., conducting the Monday afternoon education session, presented Maurice C. Cameron as the type of assistant every superintendent wants. Cameron started with his uncle, Sherwood Moore of Winged Foot, and after four years with him spent four years with Edward J. Casey at Baltusrol, prior to becoming superintendent at Elmwood CC, White Plains, N. Y. Cameron said that as apprenticeship is the period for learning the student should be the first to admit mistakes and find a correction before "time, grass or something else is lost." He noted that knowledge required in operating a golf course is

Continued on page 136

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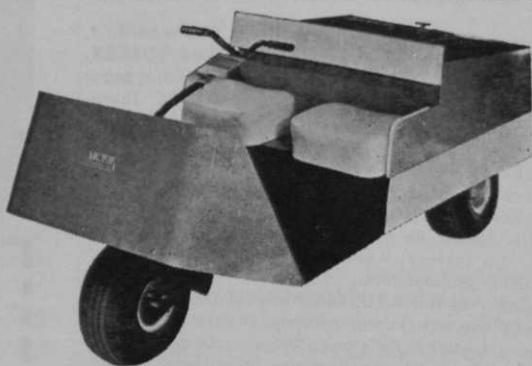
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**SUPERINTENDENT AT K. C.**

Continued from page 134

widely varied, listing car path construction and maintenance, tree maintenance, plumbing, petunia growing, caring for Shetland ponies, valve grinding, chemical application, construction methods and fence building as well as the growing and harvesting of a grass crop, as some of his jobs.

Cameron reflected that the college man goes to the superintendent for practical training then when the superintendent rounds out the young man's education the youngster graduates to a superintendent job of his own and his teacher has to start his school all over. It's tough on the superintendent, Cameron admitted but the foremost men in the profession are willing to continue the procedure.

**First 40 Years the Hardest?**

Paul Weiss, Sr., superintendent Lehigh CC, Allentown, Pa., related highlights of the first 40 years of the GCSA and illustrated his chronicle with slides. The fluent elder Weiss, one of the organization's 30 presidents is a pioneer from the time when the present GCSA had the first of its four names, the National Association of Greenkeepers of America. The organizing meeting was at Sylvania CC, in suburban Toledo, Ohio, in Sept. 1926. English-born John Morley, who became greenkeeper of the Youngstown (Ohio) CC in 1915 after serving clubs as manager, was the Greenkeepers' first president. John MacGregor of the Chicago Golf Club succeeded him. W. J. Sansom of Canada followed MacGregor, then came Fred Burkhardt of Westwood CC, Cleveland. Burkhardt was the one who started the equipment and materials exhibitions which became the vital factor in financing the association. He had the assistance of Frank Ermer, greenkeeper at Hawthorn Valley CC, Cleveland. The 1936 show had 39 exhibitors.

Of the 77 charter members of the association 38 are living. Morley died in 1946, age 79.

The first convention of the organization was held in 1927. GOLFDOM had been started and vigorously boosted the greenkeepers group, boldly forecasting that eventually clubs would pay greenkeepers' expenses to their conventions as

Continued on page 138

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**SUPERINTENDENT AT K. C.**  
Continued from page 136

a highly productive investment of club money. Weiss cited GOLFDOM articles on cost accounting, complete hoseless watering systems, chemical weed control, organizing and training labor and numerous GOLFDOM articles by O. J. Noer as significant advances of the course management profession. Weiss also told of the beginning of the association's organ, Greenkeepers' Reporter, with the cheerful and spirited Gertrude Farley as editor and, as publisher and angel, a Cleveland green chairman named Powers.

**Tells Course Builder's Problems**

Robert V. Mitchell, superintendent at Sunset CC, St. Louis, Mo., brought on Charles E. Maddox, Jr. to start the Tuesday program. Maddox is associated with his father in golf course construction. Young Chuck's talk related the responsibilities of architect, builder, maintenance manager and course owners and set forth the factors of planning, weather, interest charges, and unforeseen extra-cost items that mean millions of dollars wasted or saved each year in course construction. He presented the ABCs that even some men experienced in golf work may forget with the result of costly headaches. Maddox outlined salient features of site selection and the advantages and disadvantages of the full blueprint plan of course design and the partially blueprinted plan which allows flexibility on the site.

Maddox emphasized: "The golf course builder, to meet the seasonal limits, must have more than adequate reserves of proper machinery, skilled golf course construction manpower, and good supervision. The builder must be prepared to spend extraordinary effort to counteract adverse weather conditions, unusual and difficult working conditions requiring unique construction methods. At all times stringent quality control is the order of the day. One of the most important tasks of the architect and builder is proper scheduling and assignment of capacities to meet a correct finishing date."

Robert F. Moote, superintendent, Oakdale G&CC, Downsview, Ont., Can., followed Maddox with a practical outline

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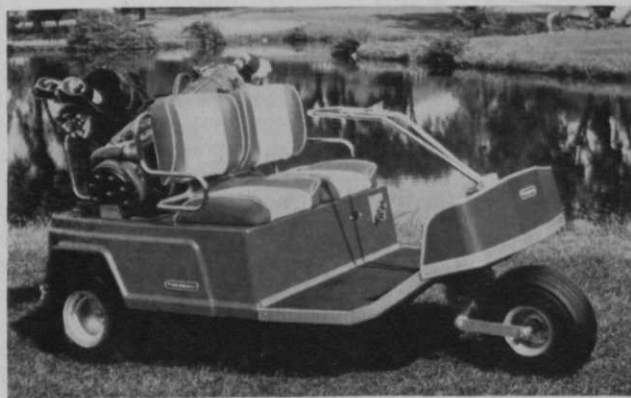


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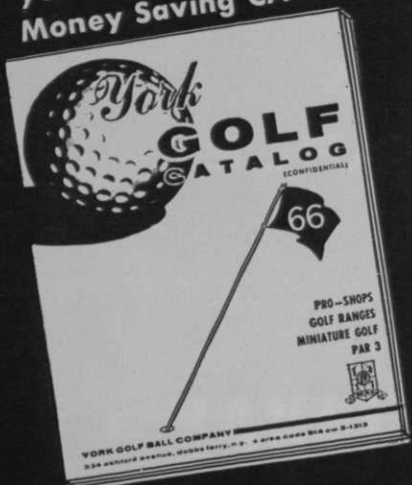
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## SUPERINTENDENT AT K. C.

Continued from page 138

of construction methods for alteration work or enlarging existing courses. He stressed thorough planning to minimize interference with play, to make utmost use of trained course labor available and to correctly schedule use of outside labor required. Equipment availability and prompt delivery of material for use also were essentials Moote mentioned. Accurate maps for work and records and accurate cost records were other requirements cited.

### Slit Trenches for Drainage

Ted Woehrle, superintendent Beverly CC, Chicago, described drainage troubles that had existed since 1908 when the course was built on the clay soil common in the Chicago area. The club built a \$65,000 storm sewer system with 70 catch basins in 1948. In the next 15 years lateral tile lines were added. The system worked well until 1964 when heavy rains and hot weather resulted in thatch that continued wet. Pythium did the rest.

Woehrle recalled that in 1960 Roy Nelson, superintendent at Ravisloe CC, some miles south of Beverly, installed slit trenches or "French drains" to speed drainage in very wet areas. Woehrle checked with Nelson, then got the answer. Woehrle dug narrow trenches about two to three inches wide through the wettest areas and connected the slit trenches to drain lines when possible. Trenches were backfilled with pea gravel to the surface. Some settling occurred and gravel was added to fill to the top. In two to three weeks grass covered the slit trenches. Gravel must not be covered with sod or the purpose of the trench is defeated. Gravel must come all the way to the top. Good results were obtained by simply running the slit trenches into the rough. Neither Nelson nor Woehrle used calcined clay on top of the gravel, as some superintendents do.

A colored sound film, "This Garden England" that ran about a half hour was enthusiastically praised by superintendents as the most beautiful landscape film they'd ever seen. It was presented by the International Minerals and Chemical Corp. representatives Walter J. Marston and William D. Haven. The film is

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