

I note that you sign your name as the president of The Golf Course Superintendents Association of New England. I hope that this was an error on your part and that your letter expressed your opinion as an individual and not as spokesman for my many friends in your area who accepted my article as it was written—some candid remarks with the best interests of all golf course superintendents in mind.

*Bill Smart  
Powelton Club  
Newburgh, N.Y.*

### Another Rebuttal

*Dear Sir:*

In rebuttal to "An open letter to a superintendent" by the gentleman from New England in the June issue;

It is evident that the president from New England has not been in the Middle-West or West, and has not had the misfortune to contend with a pro who had just completed his apprentice training—at a PGA school where turf management is taught. Neither has he had the opportunity of working with a manager or city manager who are experts in all fields, or greens chairmen who have nothing to do but to make a superintendent's job miserable. (Keep in mind that the superintendent is well qualified.) Also, they do not recognize the title of superintendent, but insist on calling you a greenskeeper. And if you don't hold yourself in abeyance and anonymity, you won't have a job a week.

To quote a statement by Mr. Caranci; "In this day and age, the golf course superintendent is sick and tired of hearing about the pitfalls of his profession." (I just wonder who creates these pitfalls). I'm inclined to believe that the president from New England has undoubtedly very pleasant surroundings. But, if he were to spend one week in our area, he would be in sympathy with "Anonymous." And he would also become anonymous—a necessity to the retention of a career in the golf business.

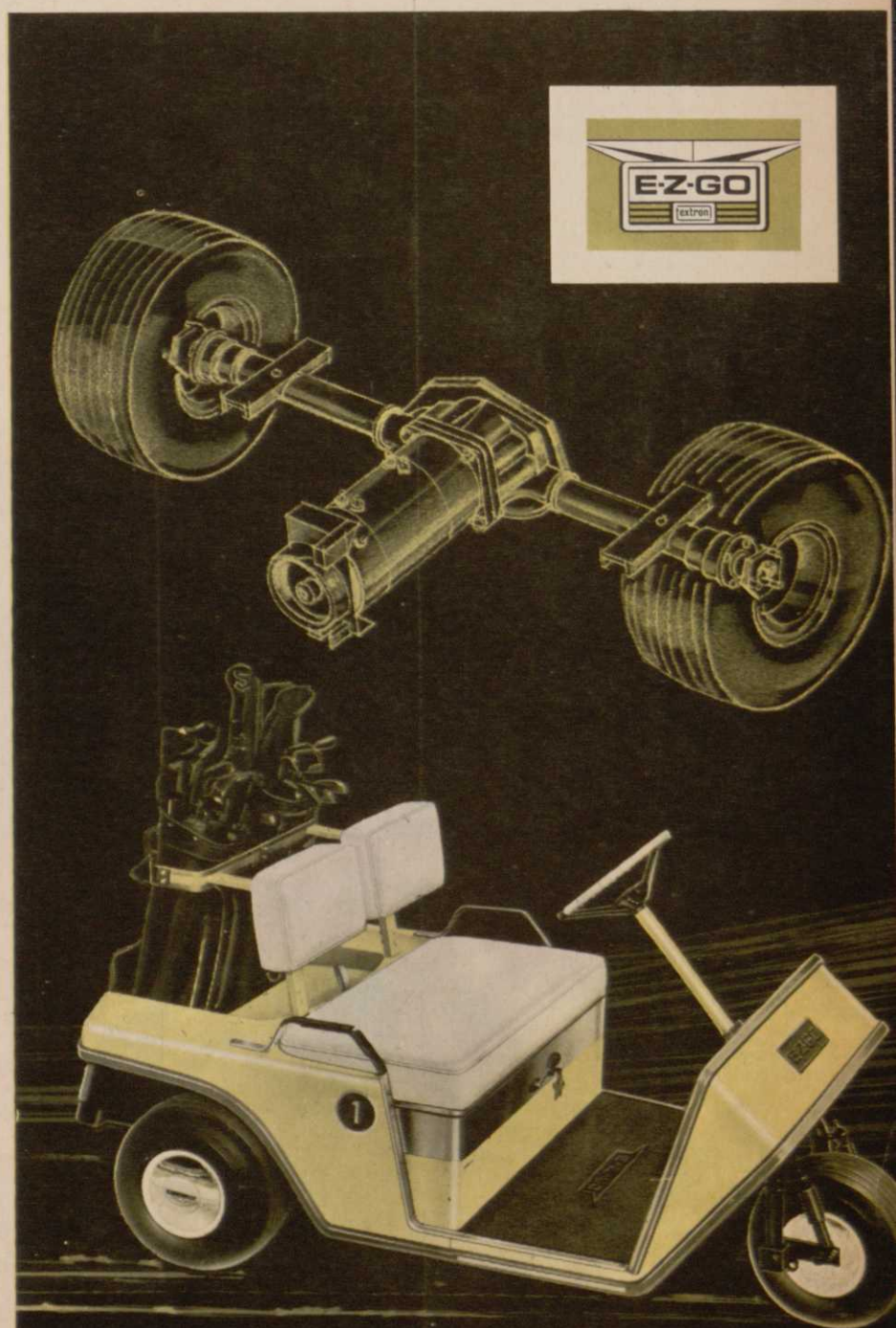
I can offer you all the proof you desire. I, too, am a president of a local, and have been actively engaged for over a score of years in this confused profession. And it's getting more complex day by day. I envy you and your area. I would gladly pack up and move to an area where there is freedom for a man to let others know of his beliefs and ideas without danger of repression or the necessity of becoming anonymous.

*Ray Hall, President  
Minnesota Golf Course  
Superintendents Association*

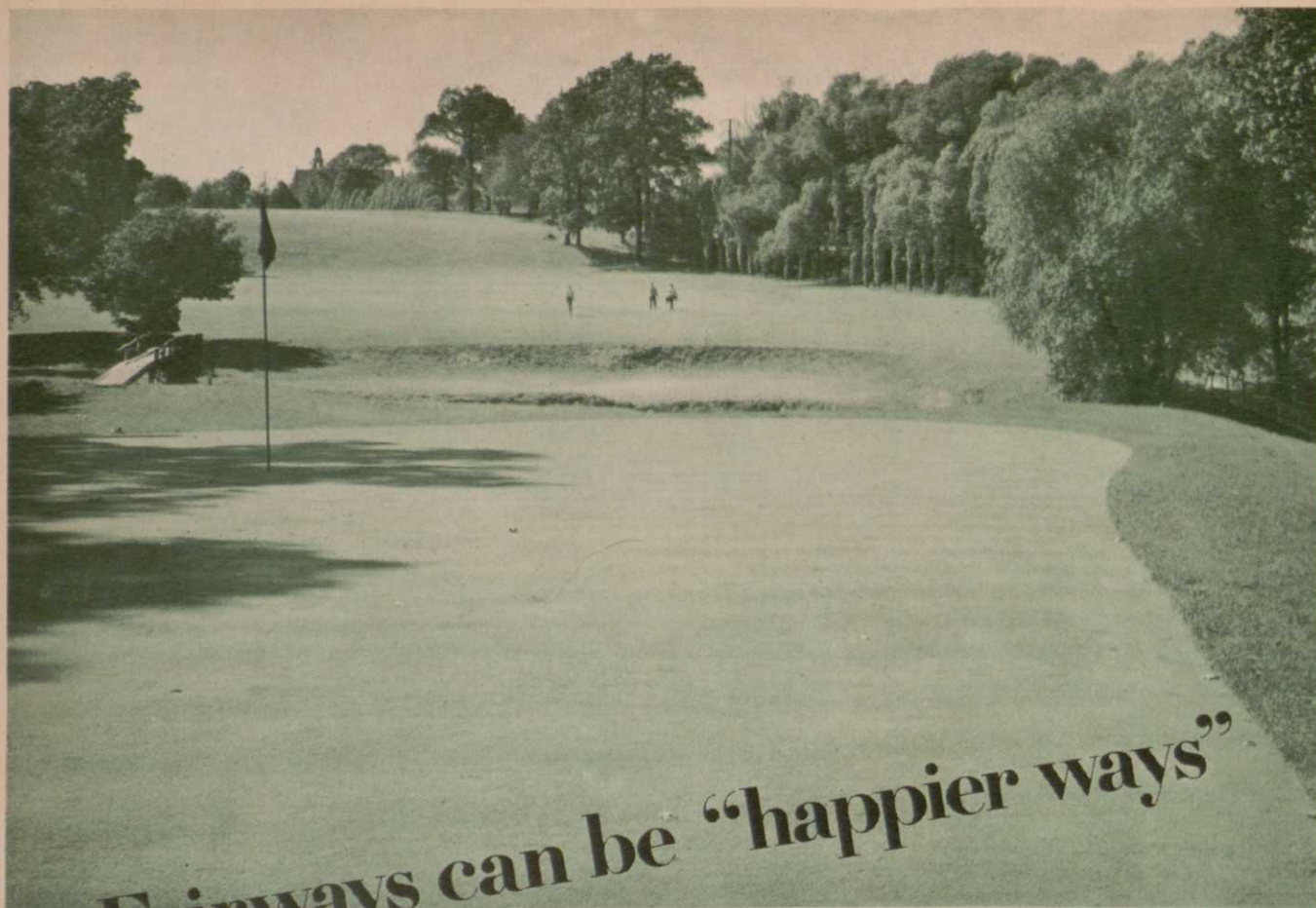
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# Swinging around golf

by Herb Graffis



## Problem: Getting jobs & jobless together

**D**ifficulty of recruiting golf course employees who can be trained to work and stay on the job is increasing while government "experts" cope with the problem of getting hard-core unemployables earning . . . To have a Poor Folks encampment getting newspaper space for showboating demagogues while near-by golf courses and other places are looking for men to hire doesn't make sense.

The late Craig Wood, a National Open and Masters winner whose attractive personality, good looks and genuine "class" especially impressed big businessmen was the first of the professionals to get into substantial business enterprises other than golf promotions of various sorts . . . Craig had automobile agencies and with Bill McNulty got into the golf apparel business . . . Craig's golf shirts were the first to tip off shirtmakers to marketing possibilities of playing golf pros' names . . . By spending large amounts in advertising the shirt makers have made the merchandising value of the pro names proportionate to the money spent in advertising . . . The pro names without paid advertising wouldn't sell much.

Golf was further identified as the national game of the United States by the 1968 National Golf Day statement of President Johnson . . . The presidential letter concluded with congratulations to the PGA for conducting National Golf Day . . . Early reports indicated more pros were successfully active in this year's National Golf Day operation than in any of the event's previous

16 years and more golfers at private, public and fee courses contributed the \$1 per than previously had figured in the annual presentation of the affair. Unique in sports, the event has raised more than \$1,250,000 for caddie scholarships, turf research, golf as therapy for casualties of war and industry and other educational and welfare activities.

National Golf Day and caddie scholarship contributions of golfers are something in which golfers can take great pride.

Caddie scholars seem to be champions of the scholarship winners, not only in collegiate performance but in their superior over-all mental capacity, maturity, self-discipline and poise during a period when so many campus kiddies have been in bubbleheaded misbehavior and so many collegiate authorities have exhibited incapacity.

Florida West Coast Golf Course Supts. Assn. which has been an immensely valuable factor in establishing high standards of course condition despite tough growing and budget conditions now has an area chapter of its own kin, the Everglades GCSA, headed by Supt. Bob Sanderson, Port Charlotte GC . . . The newly organized group meets on the first Tuesday of each month . . . With tourists absent and last winter's tourist revenue providing funds for needed course work the Florida West Coast supts. have heavy summer work programs involving a great deal of improvement.

John M. Shippen, one of the first American-born pros, who died recently in a Newark (N.J.) nursing home at the age of 90, was of Indian-Negro parentage and came into golf as workman on the Shinnecock Hills golf

course . . . His first job as a pro was as pro-greenkeeper at the Maidstone Club in East Hampton, N.Y., when he graduated from caddie ranks. He played in six National Opens with his first effort being in 1896 when he tied for fifth . . . In each Open he listed under a different label; John Shippen, John W., Jack, J.W., etc . . . We had a job tracking him for a golfing story some years back . . . Charley Thom, veteran pro, John Brennan, Long Island golf writer, and others tried to track down Shippen but Frank Strafacci was the one who stuck to the job and located Shippen's relatives, then the old boy himself, who was teaching at a small New Jersey club with mostly Negro members . . . He was barely making eating money . . . Reference in the Shippen obituary to Theodore Havemeyer, first pres., USGA, threatening to call off the 1896 National Open at Shinnecock Hills unless the other pros allowed him to play was one of those fictions that amused those who'd learned the facts years ago.

New Mexico State University students in computer science classes and using computer equipment at the White Sands Missile Range kept score in great detail on NM State's intercollegiate tourney last April and during the 71st National Collegiate AA championship June 17-22 . . . With all the computerized scorekeeping there has been in the National Open and other tournaments the de Vincenzo score screw-up in the Masters never can be excused . . . Since Charley Bartlett, for many years golf writer for the Chicago Tribune, died and his box score showing putts, greens reached in par, rough and bunkers visited,

Continued on page 17

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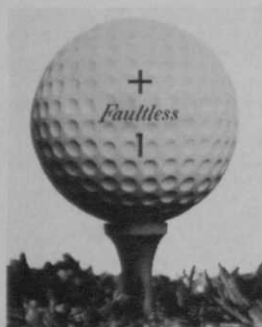
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# Lee Trevino signs with Faultless



Lee Trevino isn't what you'd call a shy, reserved type of guy.

So it shouldn't come as a great surprise to learn that the loquacious U. S. Open champ had a lot to say about the new Faultless Professional *Plus* solid ball after playing it.

But the important thing is not how much he said, but what he said.

A few excerpts:

"It's as long as—or longer than—any-

thing I've ever played . . . Faultless is definitely straighter, more accurate . . . it'll probably be one of the number one balls on the tourney trail . . . I know all I have to do is to win one to prove it."

If Lee is going to be playing the Professional *Plus*, why shouldn't you?

Because, like he says, "It's a funny ball . . . the cups seem to keep getting in its way all the time."



The Faultless Division of Abbott Laboratories, Ashland, Ohio

For more information circle number 167 on card



is no longer presented, it is difficult to tell just what goes on in a championship round of golf.

Again, congratulations to the Women's Metropolitan GA, 1968 Tournament Schedule . . . In giving its calendar of women's and junior events, information on WMGA official personnel, officials' duties, handicap information, rules, etc., the Met women do a job very few men's associations equal.

Grand party for a grand guy when George J. Hermann was honored at a testimonial dinner given by officers and directors of the Athletic Goods Mfrs. Assn., the National Golf Foundation, Athletic Institute, Golf Ball Mfrs. Assn. and National Assn. of Golf Ball Mfrs., at Drake Hotel, Chicago . . . George has been sec. and treas. for most of those associations since they were organized . . . He's done a wonderful job for them with figures and his judgment . . . Now he has retired . . . He has been succeeded by Art Goettler.

Two record fields this year . . . USGA Open record was 3,038 (previous record was 1967's 2,651) and PGA championship 1,494 . . . John R. Darrah designed a completely new 18 for London (Ky.) CC replacing original 18 . . . Darrah also has planned new 18 for Morris (Ill.) CC . . . He's finishing nine additional holes for Back Acres CC, Senatobia, Miss., near Memphis, Tenn., and Arispie Lake CC, at Princeton, Ill., with a nine-hole course and other recreation and residential facilities.

Florida golf clubs are getting organized to protect themselves against destructive taxation . . . And to think of the millions upon millions of dollars of revenue from residential and vacation players golf brings into Florida!

O.J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc., July 8 meeting at Clauson's Inn and CC, Cape Cod, formally reports continued substantial progress in the phases of golf turf development financed by the memorial to the late great guy who did so much for golf by help-

ing to bring the course supts., the chairmen, the state experiment station scientists and the Green Section experts together . . . Orville Clapper is pres. of the Noer Foundation; Frank I. Shuman, 1528 Belfield Ave., Philadelphia, 19141 is sec. and Charles Wilson, PO Box 2079, Milwaukee, 53201, is research director.

Sometimes I wonder, if the research on how to improve the playing of golf were as soundly organized and conducted as the golf turf research, would most of us be playing in the mid-80s and playing more?

There's talk around Chicago about the possibility of getting the offices of the Chicago District Golf Assn., the National Golf Foundation, the Golf Course Supts. Assn., the Illinois section PGA, Midwestern div. of USGA Green Section, Midwest GCSA, Midwest Turf Foundation and a golf research and reference library and museum in one building. □



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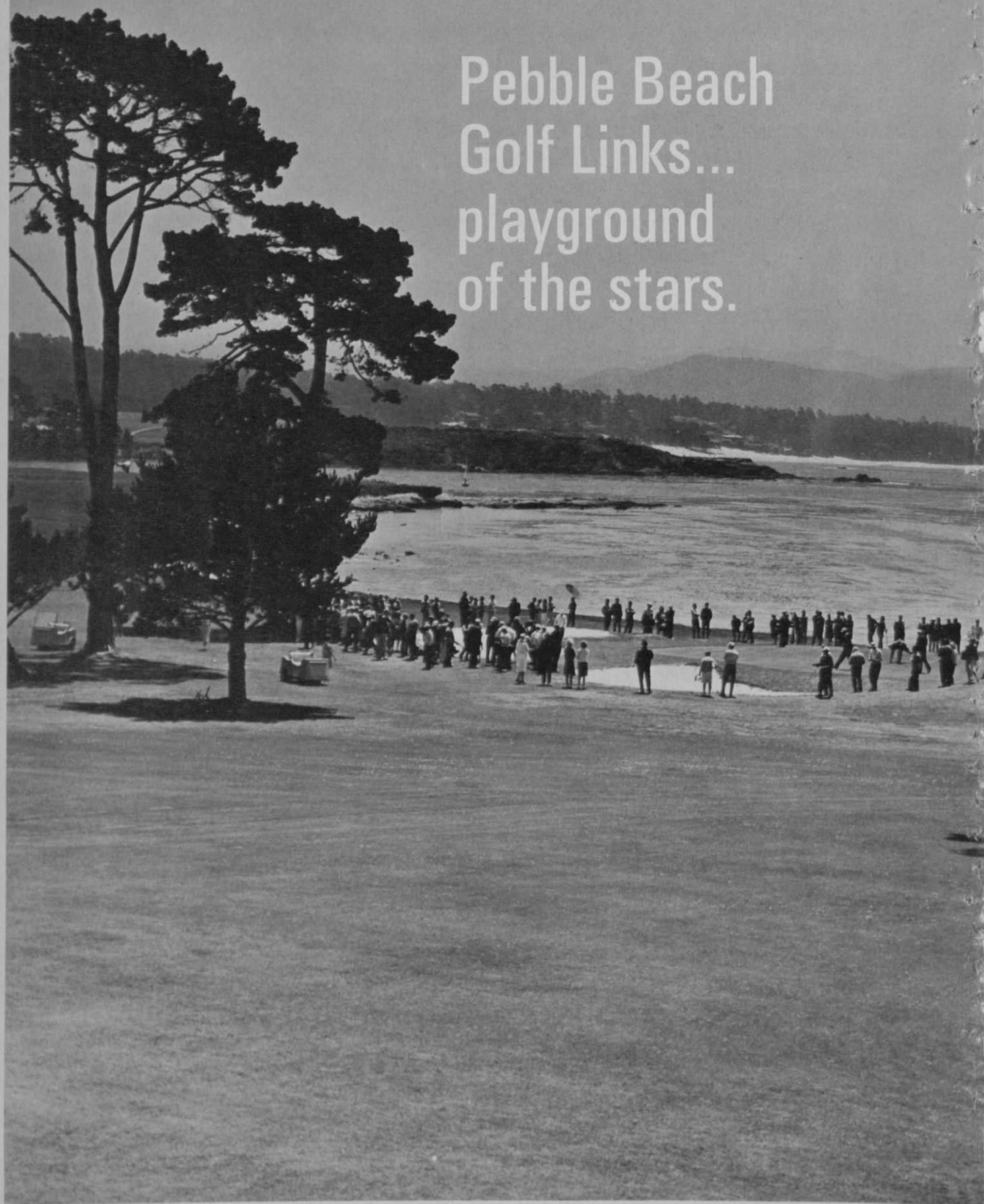
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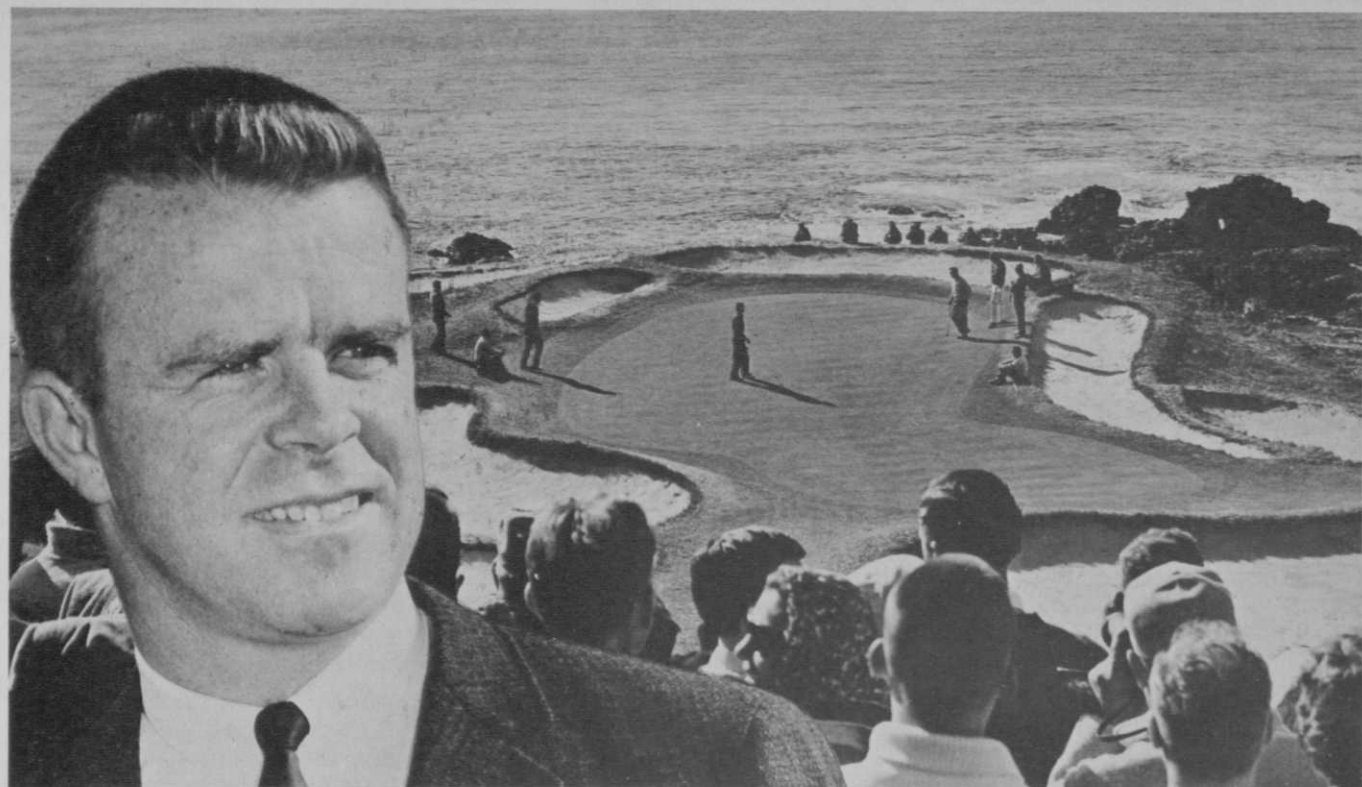
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TIPS FROM A SUPERINTENDENT  
#3 OF A SERIES

# Pebble Beach Golf Links... playground of the stars.







BY ROGER LARSON, Superintendent, Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill, and Del Monte Golf Courses (Owned by the Del Monte Properties Co.)

This is the week of the big one. The annual Bing Crosby Tournament here at Pebble Beach. The participants have been arriving all week, going through the course, getting reacquainted.

Most have been here before, of course. Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Billy Casper and the rest of the really great golf pros. They like to check the land, refamiliarize themselves with the terrain, the grasses, the traps, the roughs.

This course doesn't change much, year to year. It's kept in tournament condition at all times. However, we do spend eight to ten months making sure it will be in perfect shape for this event, and for the State Amateur.

The Crosby is televised each year, so two-thirds of the TV cables are permanently installed, with the remaining third put in each time. The camera crews and technicians have been here for several days now, getting things ready for the big weekend.

Handling the huge gallery of forty to fifty thousand people is a tremendous job. The grass takes a great deal of punishment, and it has to be repaired. But this is a very popular event, and it draws the crowds. They love to watch celebrities like Bing Crosby, Ray Bolger, Jim Backus, and especially when Dean Martin and Phil Harris get together and clown around.

On the big day, a number of factors affect the game, especially the wind.

Here at the ocean's edge, the wind can be powerful. It has even pulled the sand out of the traps at times. The trees we have, live oaks, cypress and Monterey Pine, aren't enough to cut the wind.

The weather is always a factor, but it is usually very reliable. We've had only three postponements since 1941, when the first Crosby took place here. From the end of November through the end of March, it's the rainy season. We need practically no irrigation during this period. But from April to November, all we get is an occasional freak shower, so we're pretty dependent upon our irrigation system.

We recently did some expansion on it. The cast iron mains, installed in 1918, were in excellent condition. Most were left where they were; others were moved to new locations. They looked as good as new. Our records showed that, for the fifty years of service, we've had only two small leaks. Considering the fact that the system is used more or less continuously for eight months out of the year, I'd say that's an outstanding job.

And the grasses depend on it.

We use seaside bent on the greens, poa annua, fescue and ryes on the fairways, poa annua and native grasses on the roughs. The sandy loam retains moisture well, and I'd say we have no particular problems with growing things here. We use fertilizer in monthly applications, as needed.

It's been a bit cool the past day or so. Windy. And raining. One of those three postponements I mentioned was caused by snow. But that was a freak. One in a million. With all these people, with all this equipment here, it won't happen this year. I hope.

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For more information circle number 234 on card

# Answers to turf questions

by Fred V. Grau



## Getting ready for the metric system

The time is approaching when all of us must be concerned with metric measurements and conversion from English to metric and vice versa. The table below is for reference. Every superintendent should file this copy of GOLFDOM. The material is reprinted from SOIL SCIENCE PROCEEDINGS, Soil Science Society of America, Vol. 32, No. 2, March-April 1968.

Conversion Factors for English and Metric Units

To convert column 1 into column 2 multiply by	Column 1	Column 2	To convert column 2 into column 1 multiply by
Length			
0.621	kilometer, km	mile, mi	1.609
1.094	meter, m	yard, yd	0.914
0.394	centimeter, cm	inch, in	2.54
Area			
0.386	kilometer <sup>2</sup> , km <sup>2</sup>	mile <sup>2</sup> , mi <sup>2</sup>	2.590
247.1	kilometer <sup>2</sup> , km <sup>2</sup>	acre, acre	0.00405
2.471	hectare, ha	acre, acre	0.405
Volume			
0.00973	meter <sup>3</sup> , m <sup>3</sup>	acre-inch	102.8
3.532	hectoliter, hl	cubic foot, ft <sup>3</sup>	0.2832
2.838	hectoliter, hl	bushel, bu	0.352
0.0284	liter	bushel, bu	35.24
1.057	liter	quart (liquid), qt	0.946
Mass			
1.102	ton (metric)	ton (English)	0.9072
2.205	quintal, q	hundredweight, cwt(short)	0.454
2.205	kilogram, kg	pound, lb	0.454
0.035	gram, g	ounce (avdp), oz	28.35
Pressure			
14.22	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>	lb/inch <sup>2</sup> , psi	0.0703
0.968	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>	atmospheres, atm	1.033
0.9807	kg/cm <sup>2</sup>	bar	1.0197
Yield or Rate			
0.446	ton(metric) / hectare	ton (English) / acre	2.240
0.891	kg/ha	lb/acre	1.12
0.891	quintal/ hectare	hundredweight/ acre	1.12
0.87	hectoliter/ ha, hl/ha	bu/acre	1.15
Temperature			
$\left[\frac{9}{5}^{\circ}\text{C}\right] + 32$	Celsius, C	Fahrenheit, F	$\frac{5}{9} (^{\circ}\text{F} - 32)$
	-17.8°	0°	
	0°	32°	
	20°	68°	
	100°	212°	

Now let us take an example. Many putting greens are mowed at 1/4 inch. What does that mean in metric units? (column 2)

1/4 inch x 2.54 = .6350 centimeters.

In 1 cm there are 100 millimeters, so —.6350 cm is equal to 63.5 mm.

Most ordinary student rulers are

marked off in inches and in millimeters for an easy conversion. For 3/16-inch cut the guide would be set at 48 mm. It is quite a jump from 3/16 inch (48 mm.) to 1/4 inch (63.5 mm.). The metric scale will permit more precise and more gradual changes in height of cut.

One hundred in the shade would mean 37.7 degrees Celsius (C.). Zero degrees C. is just freezing.

All turf papers now published in scientific journals state measurements in metric. Students of turf must be able to convert in order to understand. This, then, is a challenge to all superintendents and their organizations. Let the business session now and then be concerned with a drill on conversion factors. It will be much easier when the day comes that metric is standard the world over.

Q.—Do you have any suggestions for developing some sort of horticultural feature for our golf club? We read about the planting of oak trees at Oak Hill in Rochester, N.Y. We would appreciate a few ideas.

(Indiana)

A.—Over the years we have seen many examples of "feature" planting at golf clubs. Right now I recall the beautiful entrance planting at Rolling Green near Media, Pa. Joe Ryan, president emeritus of G.C.S.A.A., was responsible. He also planted many dogwoods along fairways. Chestnut trees became a "feature" at Rolling Green.

Warren Bidwell, Jim Haines and Ray Gerber have distinguished themselves by creating magnificent flower gardens around the clubhouse and the course. Others have followed their lead, sorry I can't name them all.

In Pittsburgh, Tom Snee and Walter Leix have created beauty spots out of rough eyesores by planting ground covers that require no maintenance.

A feature at Fred Waring's Shawnee-On-Delaware is a huge ginkgo tree, one of the finest I've seen.

At Cedar Rapids there is a green built (so they say) over an Indian burial mound where the inhabitants are still standing upright.

At Augusta National each fairway is bordered by some adapted flowering plant (azalea, yucca, dogwood, etc.).

These are only a few examples. State trees and state wildflowers could be features on many courses. One of my

Continued