**Beard** Continued from page 65 during this study indicates that the topdressing and cultivation treatments utilized did not give complete control of thatch accumulation. Thus, mechanical removal may be required from time to time.

Observations concerning the occurrence of dry spots as well as water penetration ratings indicate that topdressing, cultivation and liming result in less problems with water penetration. These were the same treatments which resulted in the least amount of thatch accumulation. In addition, cultivation and topdressing improved soil aeration. The degree of improvement in soil aeration was by far the greatest from the topdressing treatment.

Over the 10 year period the highest quality turf resulted from the topdressing treatment. Although cultivation reduced the rate of thatch accumulation, it did not produce a corresponding increase in turfgrass quality similar to topdressing. The cultivation treatments resulted in a certain degree of turfgrass injury which offset the benefits of thatch control. The highest quality turf was produced from the treatment involving the combination of liming, extra nitrogen and topdressing. Although liming and extra nitrogen did not result in a higher turfgrass quality when used alone, there was an increase in turfgrass quality when used in combination with topdressing.

Under the conditions of this test, the wetting agent did not produce any definite improvement in turfgrass quality. The wetting agent did give some improvement in water penetration through dry spots but was only temporary and did not provide a long term solution to the problem. The extra nitrogen treatment resulted in a decrease in dollar spot while the topdressing treatment increased the incidence of dollar spot. The annual bluegrass composition of the bentgrass turf appeared less on the topdressed turf. In general, good overall turfgrass quality was associated with a low organic matter content at the surface and a good moisture relations. 

# HERE'S WHY YOU SHOULD ADD MARS' ONE-MAN GOLF CARS TO YOUR FLEET...



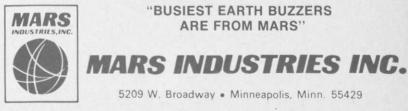
You're missing out on some easy revenue if you don't have Mars one-man golf cars available for rental. Singles, threesomes, and fivesomes are a source of income which you might now be losing.

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For more information circle number 226 on card



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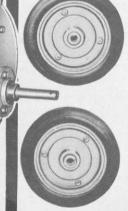
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Lightweight with perfect balance for smoother cutting.

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Power driven, quickon, · quick-off transport wheels — saves time from green to green.

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For more information circle number 225 on card

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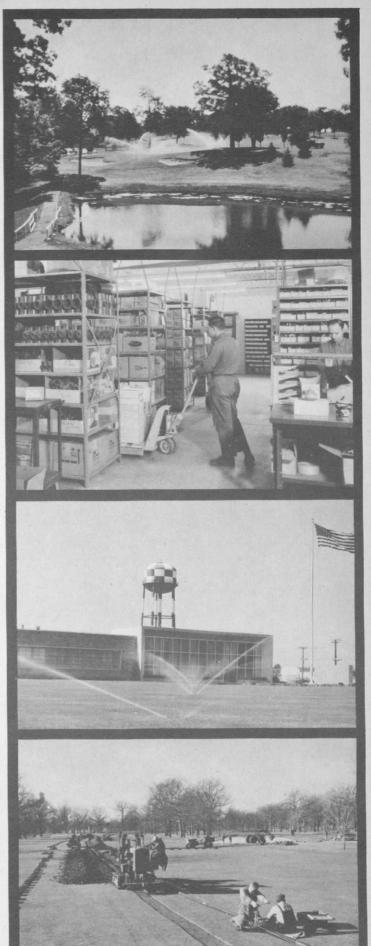
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Buckner Buckner and Johns-Manville materials



# Put a charge in your golf car operation By Don Wilson

President, Lester Equipment, Los Angeles, Calif.

O ptimum results in the operation of battery powered golf car rental fleets are achieved only through a balanced blend of proper golf car facilities, good personnel maintaining the golf cars and good maintenance.

### FACILITIES

While it is realized that many golf courses already have a heavy investment in existing facilities which cannot be modified immediately, it should prove helpful to outline optimum facilities for those that can be improved, and for any new construction. Proximity of golf car storage and maintenance area in relation to the first tee or pro shop and nature of the facilities are of almost equal importance. Proximity assumes much greater importance than suspected when considered in terms of most productive use of key personnel time. In many courses, the distance between the two points is so great that key golf car personnel spend an inordinate amount of their time making up mule trains to tow the cars to the rental point, breaking down the train, and returning to the storage area to repeat the procedure. As a result, the golf car personnel have too little time for vital preventative maintenance of the cars and proper battery care. Many golf courses put emphasis on getting the cars up to the rental point regardless, and too little importance is placed on maintenance.

For year-round operation, in climates which experience a wide range of nighttime temperature

### Utilize proper facilities, quality personnel and good maintenance to boost your fleet's effectiveness

extremes, an enclosed carstorage area is a good investment. Location of this storage area underneath the pro shop has become extremely popular in the past three years because, subject to terrain limitations, it offers economy of both available space and construction costs. As a by-product, this arrangement provides warmer climate for the cars in the winter and cooler temperatures in the hot weather. However, the layout of car storage, charger mounting and installation of electrical outlets for the chargers should be considered carefully within these following guidelines:

- 1. For the long daylight hours of late spring and early summer, the parking of cars should permit ''last-in, lastout'' operation without the maneuvering of a large percentage of cars. Access to exit doors in this storage area is naturally a very critical factor.
- 2. Chargers should be preferably mounted above the cars on shelves or hung from hooks in such a manner that the golf car man has easy access to the charger controls and charger ammeter visibility without climbing all over the cars or ascending a step ladder. In such an arrangement, it should be possible to gain access to all the battery terminals while the batteries are still on charge, even with Surry tops.
- For flexibility in permitting increase of the fleet or temporary additional leased cars

for tournament purposes, the optimum electrical installation employs ducted AC busses routed strategically throughout the car storage area. Additional circuit breakers with outlet receptacles for charger plugs can be inserted readily in such ducted busses when additional outlets are required. In electrical system design, allow for 15 amps minimum per outlet and circuit breakers of not less than 15 amps per single charger outlet.

- 4. In one section of the storage area, allow for a work area with air compressor, work bench, drive-up ramp for work to be performed underneath cars, water outlet for hose attachment and good drainage facilities.
- 5. Provide good cross-ventilation in the car storage area in such a way that it can be reduced in cold weather.

#### PERSONNEL

As in every well-run business operation, personnel is one of the most important factors of success. Most country clubs and golf courses have overlooked the importance of this factor to an amazing extent. Too frequently, the golf car attendent is assigned the additional duty of gathering up balls on the driving range. When such a person is paid too little, he is often found playing "bag-boy" for the tips he can garner. The tendency to assign golf car maintenance responsibility to the junior or apprentice Continued on page 86

# THE SWING IS TO TROJAN

"MILEAGE MASTER" **GOLF CAR BATTERIES** 



More driving power . . .

Lower maintenance cost . . .

Proven dependability over years of rugged service . . . is why more and more of the country's leading golf courses prefer Trojan Mileage Master Electric golf cart batteries.

### **TROJAN BATTERY COMPANY**

724 East 61st Street . Los Angeles, California 90001

For more information circle number 195 on caru

### golf car operation Continued from page 84

pro has merit only as part of his training.

The fallacy of these past and present practices becomes readily apparent when a financial analysis is made of the capital investment and the income potential from an optimized operation. Such analysis should take into consideration refunded rental fees resulting from enroute failures on the course, cost of preventable or reducible parts and battery replacement, and potential lawsuits that might arise from possible accidents attributable to poor maintenance. The most progressive country clubs have confirmed the wisdom of hiring a good key man, paying him well, and according him a position of stature.

At least one manufacturer of golf cars holds maintenance clinics in strategically located cities throughout the United States and also operates at its plant a one week detailed training course for those who can arrange to attend. A club with more than 50 cars could easily justify the transportation and daily living expenses of their key golf car man for participation in such a training course. MAINTENANCE

As a generalization, the batteries are probably the most mistreated parts of the electric golf car. This may be due to the fact that previous exposure of most people to lead-acid batteries is limited to their automotive experience.

However, the design and manufacture of batteries for golf car use is different from automotive types to provide good life under the more severe operating requirements in repeated deep discharge cycling. As a result of this more severe duty cycle, proper battery care is of critical importance. At a recent session of the American Golf Car Manufacturers Association Techical Advisory Committee, battery manufacturers reported that a large percentage of the short battery life cases were due to excessively deep discharge of new batteries and insufficient charge during the long daylight hour days of the year.

This report of the battery manufacturers emphasizes the importance of charging new batteries and older batteries which have not been used for a month or so before they are sent out on the course and limiting the use of new batteries to 18 holes between charges for the first five cycles. It also lends credence to the recommendation for a car storage area layout which permits last-in, last-out operation and points up the importance of rotating cars in use.

In proper care of golf car batteries it is exceedingly important that batteries be checked for water level every week and water added as necessary after they have been charged rather than when they are in a discharged state. The one exception to this rule applies only when electrolytelevel is below the plate separators. In that case, water should be added to cover the separators and watering completed after they are fully charged. Overfilling cells causes loss of acid, not just water, decreasing the specific gravity and thereby reducing available battery power very markedly. When batteries are brand new they appear to need additional water very infrequently, but don't be misled by this initial experience. After they get cycled-in and start aging, water requirement increases steadily throughout their remaining useful life.

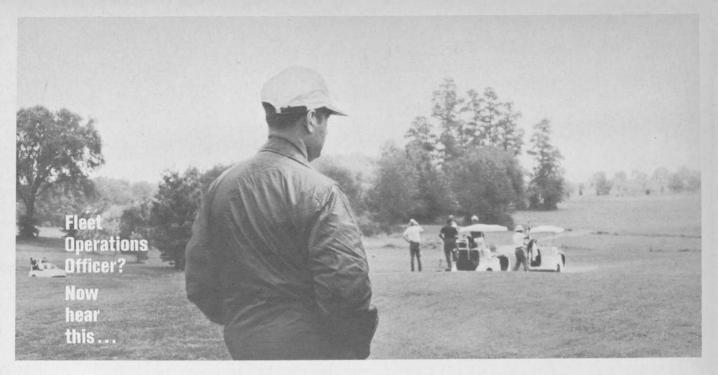
Some fleet operators have been guessing the number of hours for timer setting according to the number of holes the car went instead of following the instructions furnished with the charger. In many such cases this has been a cause of shortened battery life. With the newer types of chargers which compensate automatically for AC supply voltage, the initial charge rate into lightly discharged batteries is relatively low and this charge rate tapers more rapidly than with deeply discharged batteries. However, the speific gravity of the electrolyterises

more slowly under the charge pattern and hence the full charge time is necessary for a full charge with equalization of cells. When all 18 cells of a 36 volt golf car show equal and normal finish charge voltage, overcharging at the low finish rate is preferable to undercharging.

The ampere-hours of power that batteries can deliver and receive from the charger varies directly with the electrolyte temperature. Hence, in periods of cool or cold nights, the cars should not be sent out for as many holes as they go in warm weather. In addition, the cars should be put on charge as soon as they come off of the last rental while the electrolyte is warm and they should be given a 4-6 hour equalization charge once a week.

Batteries and their hold-down devices should be kept clean and dry at all times. Be sure that the charger is ''off'' whenever inserting or removing the charger plug in or from the car. It is good practice to turn every charger on when first opening the car storage area in the morning to ascertain which cars taper down below five amps within 15 minutes. The ammeter should jump up to a high reading initially tapering steadily to a point below five amps. Those that do behave thusly have been fully charged and should be good for 36 holes. Those that don't taper down should be given additional charge until they do taper down to below three amps without the batteries getting exceedingly hot. The number of cycles (discharge-charge) available from a set of batteries varies inversely with the depth of discharge between charges. Thus, if cars are run 45 or 54 holes between charges, a reduced number of cycles life can be expected versus 36 holes between charges.

Lastly, in field experience it has been noted that battery powered golf cars are being used more intensively than previously. In a more intensive operation a lesser number of months of battery life should be expected, but the net income of a fleet operation should be higher.



# Now you can <u>reduce</u> your golf car maintenance man-hour overhead/<u>save</u> on battery replacements/<u>cut</u> your losses and <u>increase</u> your fleet-operations profits. Because...

**POWER WATCH** is the first solid-state, <u>fully automatic</u> battery charger. Built-in circuit breaker; no moving parts. Fully guaranteed. Safe.

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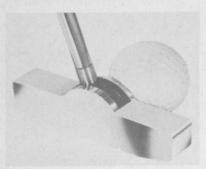
This is it! POWER WATCH—the finest, most versatile charger / monitor designed and engineered for golf car batteries. Compact: 6½" x 7½" x 11½" — 24 lbs.

# New products



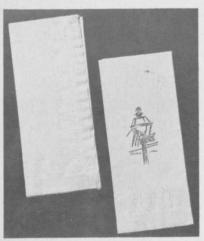
**Turf-Vac** introduces a hand-held vacuum hose designed for use with the Turf-Vac GPU grounds sweeper. The hose is six inches in diameter, 10 feet long (longer lengths available on special order) and is made of steel-lined fiber.

For more information circle number 127 on card



Northland's Gifts offers Select-A- Putt, a putter that can be adjusted to almost any angle, used right-or left-handed. It comes in standard 34" length and has an unconditional money back guarantee. Price: \$19.95 postpaid.

For more information circle number 101 on card



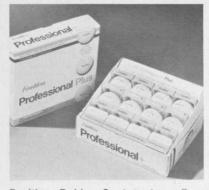
Smith-Lee Co., Inc., introduces a  $20^{\prime\prime} \times 17^{\prime\prime}$  four-ply dinner napkin embossed with the traditional eagle. Available in white and gold, plain or print.

For more information circle number 102 on card



Smithco, Inc., announces two new twowheel vehicle trailers which have a capacity of 16 cubic feet and 23 cubic feet, respectively. Both have ramptype tail gates and hitches that will fit most mobile carriers.

For more information circle number 103 on card



Faultless Rubber Co. introduces Professional Plus, a higher velocity, onepiece ball tailored for tournament play. According to the manufacturer, it is cut-proof, scuff-proof and has solid ball accuracy. Retail: \$1.25.

For more information circle number 104 on card



United States Ceramic Tile Co., has introduced new spicy "earthtone" for their mosaic tiles. These unglazed tiles are durable and slip resistant. Patterns are available in "Indian red," "cork tan," "chestnut brown," "bamboo," plus a matte glazed "ivory." All tiles provide years of lowmaintence service, as well as distinctive colors that won't fade or deteriorate, according to the company.

For more information circle number 105 on card



Eastern Sambar, Inc., imports and distributes Sabaru Sambar, light (under 1,000 lbs.) maintenance truck. Features include wide space cargo bed, side gate, independent suspension, turning radius of 13.1 feet and rear engine. Price:\$1,395.

For more information circle number 106 on card



John Deere & Co. offers two backhoes, the 9250 and 9400, which have faster cycle times, more strength, deeper digging depths and new bucket designs, according to the manufacturer. The 9250 is an IEMC-rated, 131/2 foot backhoe, designed for the JD300 and JD400 loaders. Specifications include a 2,000-pound vertical load lifting capacity, a 6,750-pound digging force and a 180-degree arc swing. The 9250 features an automatic hydraulic swing brake, hydraulic hoses routed inside the boom, a dipperstick and a choice of nine buckets, ranging from 12" to 36" and from 1.6 to 7.2 cubic foot capacity.

For more information circle number 107 on card

York Modern Corp., has designed a landscape rake that combines rake, scarifier and grading blade. Designed for use with any tractor having a standard three-point hitch and extra hydraulic valve control package, the "professional" model reportedly enables users to complete more earthworking projects in less time and with less effort.

For more information circle number 108 on card



**Courier Communications, Inc.,** introduces a five-watt, six channel handheld CB transceiver. The CWT-50 features three advanced integrated circuits with 15 transistors, antenna with power-boost loading coil, diecast metal enclosure with separate mike and speaker, variable squelch, battery indicator, RF-power meter and optional AC power supply for convertion into a base station. Weighing 2 3/4 pounds, it comes equipped with earphone, hand and shoulder straps. For more information circle number 109 on card



Allsop Automatic, Inc., manufactures the Shoe-In line of shoe trees. The Traveler holds a pair of shoes, comes in black or white and retails for \$5. The Valet, a wall tree, retails for \$5. The four-unit Lazy Susan is 14" high and contains a storage compartment for polishing gear. Price: \$25, Also available is a vinyl carrying bag in black, red or beige which retails for \$6.

For more information circle number 110 on card

Simplicity Manufacturing Co., has developed a new rotary trailing grass mower which combines the work of three machines. The new mower combination unit includes, one Simplicity Landlord or Sovereign tractor, containing a 48" rotary mower, pulling two 48" trailing mowers.

For more information circle number 111 on card Continued on page 90 "The highest income producing facility in which any golf club owner can invest."

Refer Beard President,

Lakeside Golf & Golfomat Club, Fort Wayne, Indiana

GOLFOMAT.

An ingenious electronic simulator permits actual play on world famous courses, indoors, day and night, 12 months a year. Player hits regulation, free-flying ball; uses every club in the bag.

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For more information circle number 239 on card





**New products** 

Continued



Warn Mfg. Co. adds to its line the Model 800 Portable Winch. Weighing 21 pounds, it pulls with a strength of 800 pounds on a single line, is belt-driven and pulls 17 feet of line a minute. Powering the winch is a one hp, two-cycle gasoline engine.

For more information circle number 112 on card

**Gold Crest, Ltd.** has created a threedimensional gold and silver bullion initial alphabet crest—an added sales item for the pro shop. Both men's and women's styles are available in standard crest size and a smaller  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " size. The woman's crest is studded in pearls, and the smaller size can be worn on sweaters. The man can order his initial in sweater or cap size also. These crests now can augment present sales of your country club crest.

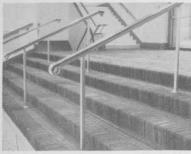
For more information circle number 113 on card

Bunton Company, Inc. has announced an optional attachment for its heavyduty, self-propelled, rotary power mowers. The attachment features toetouch, instant hitch, which allows the operator to attach or detach without tools or bending over. It also features foot operated brakes.

For more information circle number 114 on card

Atlantic Headware Co., Inc., offers a soft, waterproof and shrinkproof hat, the All Weatherbird. Made of cotton poplin, it retains its shape whether it is washed or rolled. Colors available: natural, olive, light blue, maize, navy and black.

For more information circle number 115 on card



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Made from selected nylon cord heavy duty tires – buffed to chenille-like finish. Strips  $\frac{3}{8}$ " thick are bound to glasscloth impervious to moisture...then cut to 12"x12" tiles. Used successfully throughout the country for other recreational and commercial purposes.

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