



With sincerest praise...

One of golf's greatest and most versatile leaders is honored by a distinguished gathering

Marvin Leonard received tributes from his friends for his contribution to golf at a dinner held in his honor April 14 at Colonial CC in Fort Worth, Tex.

Beginning with "It's your putt," each of the four speakers, Ben Hogan, Joseph Dey, Herb Graffis and H.B. Fuqua, expressed appreciation to the Fort Worth businessman, whose efforts for golf resulted in the building of Colonial CC, Shady Oaks CC, the moving of a U.S. Open to Fort Worth and the institution of bent grass greens in that region.

Hogan related tales of Leonard's early days in Fort Worth and of Leonard's contribution to his own golfing career. Leonard helped Hogan get started on the tour many years ago, and after

some success at the game, Hogan went to Leonard asking how much money he was to repay him. "I just wanted you to ask," Leonard said, "you don't owe me one thing."

Joseph Dey, commissioner of the Professional Golfers' Assn. Players Division, recalled his friendship of some 30 years with Leonard, saying that he could think of no one who deserved higher tribute.

Herb Graffis, senior editor of *GOLFDOM* and *GOLF* Magazines, spiced his talk with humor, dating his association with Leonard back to the first U.S. Open played in Fort Worth in 1941.

H.B. Fuqua, an active golfer and business friend of Leonard's, listed his contributions to the community as well as golf.

Berl Godfrey, a local attorney and personal friend, was master of ceremonies for the black-tie dinner.

Plaques were presented by the presidents of the two country clubs that Leonard built. The mayor of Fort Worth, R.M. Stovall, presented a resolution that the city council had earlier passed proclaiming April 14 Marvin Leonard day. □

Honoring Mr. Leonard (center) were PGA Players Div. commissioner Joe Dey (above, far left), Ben Hogan (above, far right) and Herb Graffis (right), senior editor, GOLFDOM, GOLF Magazines.



DDT PANIC

By JOE DOAN

Due to the intensification of the campaign against DDT in the Midwest since the first of the year, course superintendents in the Chicago area appear to have cut back on the use of the insecticide. But most of them don't think DDT is dead and predict that, after some of the other insecticides are tested and not found wholly adequate, DDT will be back.

An informal survey of Chicago area superintendents reveals that outside of spraying for Dutch Elm disease, few have ever been heavy users of DDT. Hardly any of

them have used it as a ground spray, and of those who have, practically all discontinued the practice some time ago. There has been fairly heavy use of the controversial insecticide for mosquito control and for spraying bushes and shrubs in the vicinity of the clubhouse, but this, too, has been largely discontinued in recent years.

"Don't forget," says one superintendent, "that DDT has been a pretty hot subject for several years. Now, the politicians have taken notice of it and so we're hearing a lot more about it."

The Clarke Mosquito Abatement Company of LaGrange, Ill., an aerial spraying firm which has been doing helicopter spraying of elms for country clubs in the last three years, indicates there has been a big swing away from DDT this spring. For all of its accounts, DDT application is down more than 40 per cent; for golf courses it is down 60 per cent. Clarke services about 30 clubs, twice as many as last year.

The George A. Davis Company of Chicago, perhaps the biggest supplier of turf products in the area, says that DDT sales are

ILLUSTRATED BY JON NIELSEN



DDT is now a dirty word. But some supers think that after it has been banned for a few years and if an equally effective substitute has not been found, it will be reinstated—when the bugs and beetles once again infest the land

down “considerably” for 1969. The Agricultural Chemical Division of American Oil Company, which concentrates on farm volume, reports that DDT sales this spring were only about 10 per cent of what they were last year. Farmers traditionally have used DDT extensively as a ground spray.

The most common substitute for DDT in elm tree spraying is methoxychlor. Its proponents claim that it is only about 5 per cent as toxic as DDT. This pesticide is said to lose its toxicity in

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DDT PANIC

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no more than six to 12 months in contrast to possibly 20 years for DDT.* Its big drawback is that it is three times as expensive as DDT. However, as one superintendent has pointed out, his club discounted the price difference between the two chemicals because it is quite small in comparison with the overall cost of spraying by helicopter.

A spokesman for the Clarke firm contends that in spite of its virtues, methoxychlor loses its efficacy too quickly. It is best to apply it late in April, after the elm trees have started to bud, so that it still retains sufficient potency to suppress the elm beetle blight when it reaches its peak in late August. The Clarke people say that for any insecticide to be fully effective in controlling elm disease, it should be applied before the trees begin to bud. When methoxychlor is used, treatment has to be held back from four to six weeks longer than it should.

Oak Park, Ill., located next door to Chicago, has been using methoxychlor for five years, making a single annual application. It is claimed that elm tree losses in this village is proportionally lower than in any community in Illinois. But the key to success here, Oak Park officials concede, is the village's program of pruning and cutting out dead limbs and trees that are breeding places for the beetles that carry the disease from tree to tree. Thus, the sanitation methods may far overshadow chemical treatment. A quiet campaign to outlaw DDT, which was carried on by a well-known local entomologist, prompted Oak Park to switch to methoxychlor.

Another benefit that results from using this insecticide, it is pointed out, is that it is harmless to birds, whereas DDT has been responsible for widespread destruction of

the bird population, particularly among fish-eating birds.

Rueben Thomas, who has been at Exmoor CC in Highland Park, Ill., for more than 40 years, the last several as superintendent, says the large-scale decimation of birds, the result of their ingesting various control chemicals, is not a latter day phenomena. He first observed it in the late 1920s, when arsenate of lead was first used as an insecticide. However, he believes that larger quantities of birds have been killed in the last decade by pesticides and other chemicals than ever before. Thomas hasn't used DDT for six or seven years. He stopped using it when he noticed that it blew into the lakes on his course and killed large numbers of fish.

Thomas has tried methoxychlor, but is undecided about its effectiveness. Last fall he permitted an entomologist from Iowa State University to treat 80 of his elm trees with a chemical, as yet unidentified, that is injected into the trunks via several holes. The chemical is circulated through the tree by the sap. How effective it is cannot be determined until August when it can be seen whether or not the treated elms at Exmoor resisted the onslaught of the beetles. Like most superintendents, Thomas has had his share of elm tree casualties in the last few years, so his course is a good testing ground. It cost him \$12 to have each tree treated, but if the chemical turns out to be the answer, it is well worth the cost. It costs more than this to replace a dead elm tree.

Bob Williams, whose Bob O' Link course is also located in Highland Park, has never seen very many dead birds on his property. He sprayed his elms with DDT for seven or eight years, but a newly enacted city ordinance forced him to desist this year. Methoxychlor was substituted.

Williams feels that DDT has done a lot of good and wonders if

it isn't taking the rap for all the damage that has been caused by the wide assortment of chemicals that are on the market. Arsenicals, for example, may be more dangerous than DDT, as some chemists point out. Others say that organic phosphate pesticides have accounted for much of the toxicity found in foodstuffs.

Much of the current agitation for banning DDT in the Midwest is due to a too high mortality rate of coho salmon in Lake Michigan. The agitation has become so great that the governors of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota met this spring in an emergency session and agreed that a monitoring system should be set up to measure potentially dangerous pesticide levels in Lake Michigan as well as Lake Superior. Shortly afterward, the State of Michigan* banned the sale of DDT, because its conservation and agricultural officials decided that the chemical is a threat to the coho.

However, few scientists have flatly stated that excessive amounts of DDT, or any insecticide content, is the reason for the destruction of the coho in Lake Michigan; it is a probable cause, they say. They maintain that they are not avoiding the issue; they just don't have enough information to make a valid judgement. Just recently it was brought out that 15 years ago Lake Michigan smelt contained DDT in excess of what was considered a safe level, but no one was particularly interested at the time and if an alarm was sounded, it wasn't heeded.

Bob Williams brings up an interesting point, probably one that has been overlooked. DDT users in the Chicago area, including golf course superintendents, are accused of polluting Lake Michigan because they have used an excess

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*"Hard" pesticides, such as DDT, persist for many years and accumulate in the environment.

*To date, Michigan and Arizona have banned DDT sales; Wisconsin Senator Baylord Nelson has submitted a bill to Congress, to outlaw DDT nationwide.

\$aving irrigation at Panther Valley

By **DICK MILLER** Associate editor, GOLF Magazine

This new club beats droughts and cuts costs with treated sewage water

Irrigating a golf course is like playing a round of golf—when everything goes right, it's easy. If a club has access to enough water, approximately 250,000 gallons of water daily, and there aren't droughts and members don't object to being assessed more each year for the increasing cost of water, then the superintendent has parred his course. But if one of these conditions doesn't exist, then irrigating a course can become a helluva problem.

One of these conditions didn't exist at the Panther Valley CC in Allamuchy, N.J. The course, newly designed by Robert Trent Jones, is the focal point of Panther Valley, Inc., a new 1,900-acre residential community nestled in the hills of northern New Jersey, in which approximately 8,000 people will reside.

As the 60-acre course, measuring 6,850 yards from the back tees, was being designed, it was discovered that a regular well system of irrigation would only yield 100,000 gallons of water daily, 150,000 gallons shy of the normal amount needed.

Thus, necessity being the mother of invention, a unique irrigation system, called the Water Reuse System, was born. It was devised by Panther Valley's consulting engineer, Richard J. Jeske, Springfield, N.J., who is now irrigating Baltusrol GC, the only club to host five U.S. Open tournaments.

"Simply," Jeske says, "the Water Reuse System uses water after it has been used for human consumption. The water is purified

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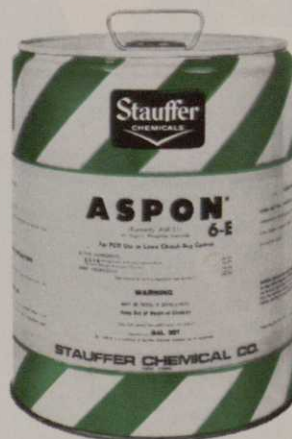
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Hiring a Superintendent

Filling an opening for a superintendent can be a confusing ordeal for the club and the applicant. Here are some helpful guidelines for both parties

BY BILL SMART

Superintendent, The Powelton Club,
Newburgh, New York

In 20 years of associating with golf courses and more recently as an editor,* I have been involved directly and indirectly in many position openings. I have observed many errors on the part of superintendents applying for jobs—and even more errors on the part of courses seeking a superintendent.

It is usually the greens committee's (sometimes called the golf committee) responsibility to contact prospective applicants. The committee should consider the fol-

* Mr. Smart is editor of the Hudson Valley Foreground.

following guidelines to eliminate any misunderstandings on its part and on the part of the applicant. The committee might first decide whether or not the present superintendent operated the course in a satisfactory manner. Far too often, job changes are a result of personality clashes and financial problems (budget and salary) that can and should be negotiated by a formal meeting with the super and the greens committee and include the general manager, if he is involved. If the superintendent is

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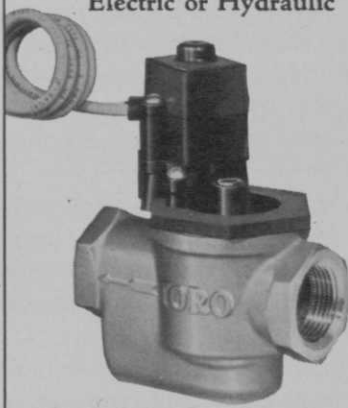
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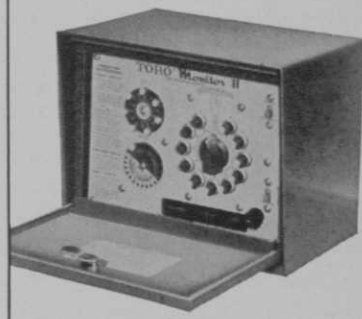
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HIRING A SUPERINTENDENT

continued

leaving for reasons other than those mentioned, a discussion will at least clear the air. He might even recommend someone to replace him.

If harm may be done to the course because of the absence of supervision, immediate preventive steps must be taken. The present superintendent, the assistant superintendent (or foreman) or a superintendent from a nearby course should supervise routine maintenance until a replacement is found. At the same time, consider the assistant or foreman as a possible replacement. Interview him as you would any other applicant and use the interim as a "trial period." This progression from one job to the other is logical and desirable in many cases. Practical experience on a course is of more value than most committeemen realize.

It is important at the outset to agree on the qualifications of the men you wish to employ. No doubt, most greens chairmen would like to have a graduate of a four-year turf school with 10 years of practical, successful operations behind him, if for no other reason than to justify the committee's choice to the membership. Unfortunately, men of this caliber are scarce, and when available, command top salaries and fringe benefits. As a guideline, your local golf course superintendents' association (a call to a few local superintendents will give you the secretary's name and club) can give you information on the wage scale in your area. The National Golf Foundation, Room 804, The Merchandise Mart, Chicago, Ill. 60654, can also furnish information, gratis.

It is obvious that not all clubs can offer top salaries; therefore, they will have to settle for more practical solutions, *i.e.*, a young man with a good academic background and little experience or a

man with good practical background who lacks formal turf education. This does not necessarily mean that you are settling for second best; the great majority of the men operating the nation's top courses have no formal turf training. Many of the younger graduates of the 10 week to two year college turf programs have the aptitude and knowledge to make up for lack of experience.

Most chairmen simply do not know where to seek out prospective superintendents, having the feeling that the search area is very limited. It is, however, accessible through the following routes: 1) Your present or former superintendent; 2) The local GCSA, through its secretary or officers; 3) The Golf Course Superintendents' Assn. of America, 3158 Des Plaines Ave., Des Plaines, Ill., has a free placement service; 4) State and nearby state GCSA secretaries' names and addresses are in the GCSAA directory; 5) A commercial firm doing business (course supplies) with your club will be glad to give their over-the-road salesmen your needs. (Incidentally, commercial men are responsible for more job opening information than all other sources combined.); 6) Ads in trade magazines, names available from your pro and any superintendent; 7) If in a "heavy" golf area, your local paper should not be overlooked, especially the golf column editor; 8) Personally contact local superintendents. In short, cover all areas; the more applicants you have, the better choice you can make for your membership.

At the very beginning, give out as much information about the job as possible. Box number ads that read: "Greenkeeper wanted, 18 holes, salary open" get little response. The same job description could read: "Supt., 18-hole, irrigated course, N.Y.C. area, budget \$83,000, salary \$10,000 range." (Although these are actual averages from a 1965 New York City survey, they are now outdated.)

Be as factual and accurate as you can and reap the rewards of applicants who are really interested. I have a letter on file now that states "top salary" when, in fact, the salary is moderate of that area.

Offering to pay travel expenses for an interview will draw applicants from a larger area and can be done by selecting from written applications.

Interviewing

Determine first the applicant's qualifications. It is difficult, if not impossible, for the average greens chairman to determine if a man is qualified in the technological aspects of course maintenance. Indeed, it would be difficult even for a superintendent to judge an unknown, because opinions, methods and practices differ from man to man and course to course even among recognized experts.

What you can determine is: 1) The extent and nature of any formal turf education; 2) Attendance and interest in university short courses and field days; 3) Membership and activity in local, state and national turf associations; 4) Practical experience and background; 5) Reputation in the trade (references); 6) Condition of present course; 7) Special skills in construction, irrigation installation, labor management, or any talent which might hold special interest for your needs; 8) Attitude toward his craft; 9) Military service status; 10) Physical condition.

Many applicants will have this information in their resumes, with copies for each member of the interview group. Thus, discussion can be planned and orderly.

Because one applicant can be successful, it is obvious many will be unsuitable in one way or another. In all fairness, hear each man fully, then confer in private at the end of the interview. If the man is unacceptable, simply inform him at once that other applicants are more qualified, and should the situation change, you

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