

club management and older clubs considering remodeling and renovations.

Marlatt recently "retired" after 12 years with Northmoor Country Club near Chicago. Marlatt also managed clubs in Oklahoma, Wisconsin and Minnesota. Marlatt had been president of the Chicago CMAA Chapter, served as three years as regional director from the Midwest for the CMAA, 10 years as a member of the board of directors of the chapter and was general chairman of its 1963 conference.

Government Controls Topic At Florida Golf Meeting

"State and federal agencies are imposing crippling controls over water management, poisonous chemicals and safety requirements. Your course and club and be closed if you fail to meet these requirements."

"Three-quarters of our members tell us that they have had to raise their prices in order to meet their tax bill."

"The state has one 18-hole golf course per 13,000 persons as compared to the national average of one per 22,000 persons and Florida led the nation in openings last year."

The statements above are but a few of the interesting pieces of information that came out of the Florida State Golf Association's fall management meeting for member clubs. According to FSGA executive directory Bill Carey, a 16-page meeting report offers a concise update on golf course and club operations and should be required reading for every manager and director.

He said hearing about present, proposed and pending restrictive government regulation of golf facilities hopefully will prepare management to observe the laws and not be caught in violations and fined. In some areas the industry should set up monitoring devices to evaluate government's high-handed manner of enforcement and be prepared to combat some of the overly restrictive demands being made on private enterprise, he said. The booklet is available for three dollars from the Florida State Golf Association, P.O. Drawer 1298, Sarasota, Fla. 33578.



Richard E. Valentine (left) superintendent at Merion Golf Club, recently presented a gavel to John A. Segui, superintendent at Waynesborough Country Club, new president of the Philadelphia Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

U.S. Breweries Raise Prices Cite Their Increased Costs

Citing increased costs for packaging supplies, raw materials and labor, the nation's largest breweries have raised their prices market by market across the country.

In St. Louis, Anheuser-Busch Inc. said it raised prices an average of three percent. The company said all brands were affected although the amount of the price increase varied slightly depending on the region of the country.

In Milwaukee, Jos. Schlitz Brewing Co. said it raised prices an average three to four percent in most of its major markets. Another Milwaukee brewer, Pabst Brewing Co., raised prices to its retailers on its home ground 30 cents a case.

PGA Junior Championship Vies 39 Section Champs

The first national PGA Junior Golf Championship will be held in August at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., according to a joint announcement by Henry C. Poe, PGA president, and R. E. Cook, general sales manager of Chevrolet Motor Division.

The event will bring together boy and girl champions from each of the 39 PGA Sections for a 72-hole stroke play championship on Disney World's Palm and Magnolia

courses. For years, the PGA has planned such a national championship for juniors, which now becomes a reality because of the cooperation of Chevrolet.

Poe told GOLFDOM: "Times does, indeed seem to be right for this national championship because of the increasing number of active junior golfers throughout the country. These two million juniors are eager to find new tournaments in which to compete."

Golf To Continue Prosperity Architect Cornish Asserts

Despite the recession last year golf has prospered and will continue to do so, according to Geoffrey Cornish, president of the American Society of Golf Course Architects.

"Some 240 golf courses opened up in the United States during the first nine months of last year," Cornish said. "And there are around 700,000 new golfers every year. Golf is booming. It is a good sign and probably because suburban or urban courses today are like fresh-air factories."

Cornish would like to tell the world of great innovations in the golf course of the future, but it isn't so. "Golf is a game of tradition," he said. "Most people like a par 72 layout with two par threes and two par fives on each nine, with sand and some water."

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY continued

Ken Venturi Joins Pro Dyn As Design, Sales Consultant

Pro Dyn, Inc., Cincinnati, Ohio has named pro golfer Ken Venturi consultant on design and sales.

Pro Dyn president Frank Koegel told GOLFDOM: "We feel Ken Venturi will be to Pro Dyn much more than a name; he will be actively involved and a real asset to our operation."

Venturi will participate in the development and sales of all Pro Dyn golf equipment. The engineering and tooling for a new model designed by him is underway and will be added to the current Pro Dyn line in early spring.

Restaurant Association Is Against Beef-Grading

The National Restaurant Association said it and other opponents of proposed government beef-grading standards are continuing their court fight against the changes.

The association said it joined other organizations seeking a review of the case by the full Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis. The association's president, James W. McLamore, told GOLFDOM, "We feel so strongly about this that we will take it to the Supreme Court if necessary."

On Nov. 14, a three-judge panel of the St. Louis court overturned an injunction issued by a federal district court in Omaha, Neb. against

the standards. Among other things, the changes would reduce fat-content requirements, meaning some beef currently graded good would move up to the choice bracket and some currently considered choice would enter price, to top category. Opponents believe the changes would impair the palatability of prime and choice meat, at higher cost.

Tequila Market Is Growing, But Will Not Match Vodka

Country club managers with a substantially young membership already know that the tequila market is growing, but its exact pace and long-term potential is not clear.

In 1972, about 700,000 cases of tequila were sold in the United States. Sales grew 70 percent in 1973 to over 1.2 million cases, and increased 50 percent last year to about 1.8 million cases. Growth last year was about 19 percent — to over 2.4 million cases. Industry leader is Jose Cuervo from Heublein, Farmington, Conn., which has a 26 percent market share. Montezuma from Barton Brands, Chicago, has a seven percent share and Arandas from Maidstone Importers, Los Angeles, has a six percent market share.

Experts say the future of tequila will be healthy, but will not match the growth of vodka, which has made tremendous gains in recent years. Many also do not feel tequila will be another pop wine boom/bust market. Much of the popularity of tequila has been due to a mixed drink, "tequila sunrise" which combines tequila with orange juice and grenadine.

NGF Teaching Consultant Publishes Instruction Book

Richard T. Mackey, professor in the physical education department at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio and a member of the National Golf Foundation teaching consultant panel, recently published *Golf: For the Beginner, Intermediate and Advanced Golfer*.

After introductory material, the book gets into audio-visual cues, information on grip, set-up position, different shots and putting, steps in development as a golfer and a student swing analysis form.

The book was published by Kendall/Hunt Publishing Co., Dubuque, Iowa. Further information may be obtained from Prof. Mackey at Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056.

House Committee Hearings Held on \$3 Minimum Wage

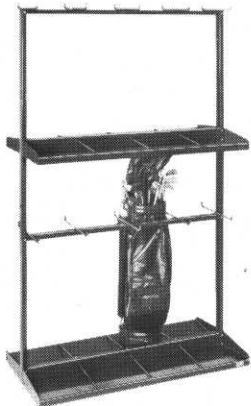
Hearings have been held by the House Subcommittee on Labor Standards on H.R. 10130, a bill to increase the minimum wage. Specifically, the bill calls for increases in the minimum wage to \$2.30 on enactment, to \$2.65 on July 1, and to \$3 on Jan. 1.

Of interest to club managers is the fact it would reduce tip credit to 25 percent within two months of enactment and repeal the credit entirely one year later. The bill would also impose an overtime premium of 2 1/2 times the regular rate and would tie future wage increases to rises in the Consumer Price Index. It appears the bill will reach the House floor for debate and voting sometime this month, it was reported in a recent newsletter of the National Restaurant Association.

Junior Golf, Other Thoughts From Gulf States President

A junior golf program is of utmost importance in any community, because it helps to keep young people constructively occupied and away from undesirable activities, according to new Gulf States PGA Section president Johnny Myers, pro at Monroe Municipal Golf Course, Monroe, La.

In his message published in the section's annual yearbook, Myers



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stressed one of his major goals to is to continue efforts toward further improvement in the area of junior golf. "It is my belief that the opportunity of working with junior golfers is one of the primary areas of service open to a PGA pro," he said. "Our section now has one of the most outstanding junior programs in any section and we will direct our energies toward further progress and improvements."

Myers also said he feels the Professional Golfers' Association has contributed much toward the growth of the game of golf.

"The PGA has helped to prepare the club professional for the many hats he must wear, by having an awareness of the many tangents of his business and offering training in all these areas," he said. "The pro occupies an invaluable place in the operation of any golf facility, be it public or private. He is the ambassador for the whole facility in a sense and can create an atmosphere of enthusiasm and goodwill or vice versa."

"His primary objective always is to use every avenue open to him to promote golf," he said. "As I said, the PGA provides very important guidelines in this respect, and is constantly looking for ways to help the pro become more qualified, and in turn give better service to his club and community."

Carolinas PGA Section Set To Move into Headquarters

A new \$100,000 headquarters office building is expected to be ready for occupancy by the Carolinas PGA Section next month.

Ground was broken for the complex last fall, and the building will be directly in front of the entrance to Bay Tree Plantation, North Myrtle Beach, N.C. Bay Tree hosted the Tournament Players' Division qualifying school last year on its 54-hole layout. The course deeded the Section two acres of land with a road frontage of 340 feet on Highway 9 which is scheduled to be four-laned soon.

Three years ago it was announced the Section would build in Pinehurst but local citizens took out an injunction prohibiting construction.



Paul R. MacDonald (right), vice president marketing, Dunlop Sports Co., Buffalo, N.Y. announced Dunlop has renewed Paul Hahn's contract for another five years. Hahn, golf's premier showman, will continue to represent Dunlop in clinics and exhibitions exclusively.

Minnesota Course Finds Out That OSHA Means Business

Late last year, all departments of a moderate-size municipality in Minnesota which operates an 18-hole golf course were inspected by OSHA. This resulted in citation for 46 violations.

Two inspectors appeared without advance warning and requested a city representative to accompany them on the inspection, wrote Tom Hopf in a recent newsletter of the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association. The inspectors made it clear no one was to block their attempt to inspect all city departments, facilities and equipment. The inspection took one week to complete. The following is a partial list of violations that were found:

Failure to provide the number and proper type of fire extinguishers in several areas; failure to have fire extinguishers recharged and inspected on an annual basis; failure to have side guards on bench grinders; failure to have tongue guards on bench grinders; failed to have electrical equipment grounded which is connected by cord and plug; failed to provide V-belt and pulley guards; failed to provide "no smoking" sign and guard posts by gasoline pump; illegal lighting in

spray paint booth; failed to provide lower blade guard on radial arm saws; failed to provide automatic return on radial are saw; allowed more than 30 psi air pressure to be used for cleaning; failed to remove or repair defective hand tools; failure to use approved storage for gasoline; welding cables in poor condition — improperly spliced.



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Hall of Fame Induction Film Offered to Pros by Hogan

AMF Ben Hogan Company is making available to golf pros and their club memberships an exclusive 16-minute documentary film of the first induction into the World Golf Hall of Fame at Pinehurst, N.C.

The 16mm film shows the historic event Sept. 11, 1974 in the \$2.5-million hall at Pinehurst. President Gerald R. Ford and other prominent government officials are pictured in the ceremonies.

Pros interested in showing the free film should write AMF Ben Hogan Company, 2912 W. Pafford St., Fort Worth, Texas 76110, or contact their nearest Hogan sales rep.

National Restaurant Show Stresses Back to Basics

A new approach in a separate area is one of the creative additions to watch for as a part of the educational programming at the 57th National Restaurant Association Restaurant, Hotel/Motel Show May 22-26 at McCormick Place in Chicago.

"Back to Basics" is the title



Ed Ault (left) of Bethesda, Md. is the chairman of the newly created Design Standards Committee of the American Society of Golf Course Architects. Other members are: Ben Wihry, Louisville, Ken.; Dick Nugent, Palatine, Ill.; Bill Amick, Daytona Beach, Fla.; Algje Pulley, Lafayette, Calif.; and Ray "Buddy" Loving, Ivy, Va.

chosen for the concept. Located in a separate area of McCormick Place, the idea is to provide an opportunity for convention attendees to take a more active part in finding answers to the problems in their particular segment of the industry. The concept will be approached by three types of programming — shop talks, special-interest topics and all-day seminars.

For further information about the show contact the NRA at One IBM Plaza, Suite 2600, Chicago 60611.

Food Price Increase of 5% Expected in Early 1976

Food prices are expected to rise at an average annual rate of four to five percent during the first half of the year, according to recent figures from the United States Department of Agriculture.

First quarter prices may rise at a slightly faster pace as output of meat and poultry decline in the face of strengthening domestic demand and increasing processing and marketing costs.

Seasonal price increases for fruits and vegetables, as well as higher marketing and transportation costs, likely will account for most of the small, average price advance expected for the second quarter.

Heublein, Inc. Net Is Up, New Drinks Doing Very Well

Heublein, Inc., Hartford, Conn., reports net income in its second fiscal quarter, ended Dec. 31, rose 20 to 22 percent from the year-earlier \$14.8 million, Stuart D. Watson, chairman said.

Earnings per share were up 18 to 20 percent from the year-ago 70 cents, Watson told GOLFDOM. He also said preliminary results from the second quarter indicate sales and revenue were about 15 percent higher than the year-earlier \$384.4 million.

Heublein introduced several new products in the past year that Watson says are doing "phenomenally well" and may find their way into clubs before long. The company's Malcolm Hereford's Cows, a milk-based alcoholic drink "could sell one million cases its first year on the market. No other liquor product has ever done that," Watson said.

Northern California Pros Set Up Education Program

The Northern California PGA Section's education committee, headed by chairman Gary Plato of San Jose Country Club and including John Fry of Harding Park Golf Club and Al Maus of Almaden Country Club, has planned a concentrated, long-range educational program.

According to a survey taken at the section's semi-annual meeting, priorities for the educational efforts in the section should be geared to the business aspects of golf, the human relations area and teaching.

In keeping with the results, a seminar relating to golf management and the state of the profession was held recently at San Jose State University. The importance of attending business schools and/or education seminars sponsored by the national PGA was evident when members at the meeting took a sample test of questions drawn from previous examinations for membership in the PGA. Those who had attended two PGA business schools achieved the highest average scores.

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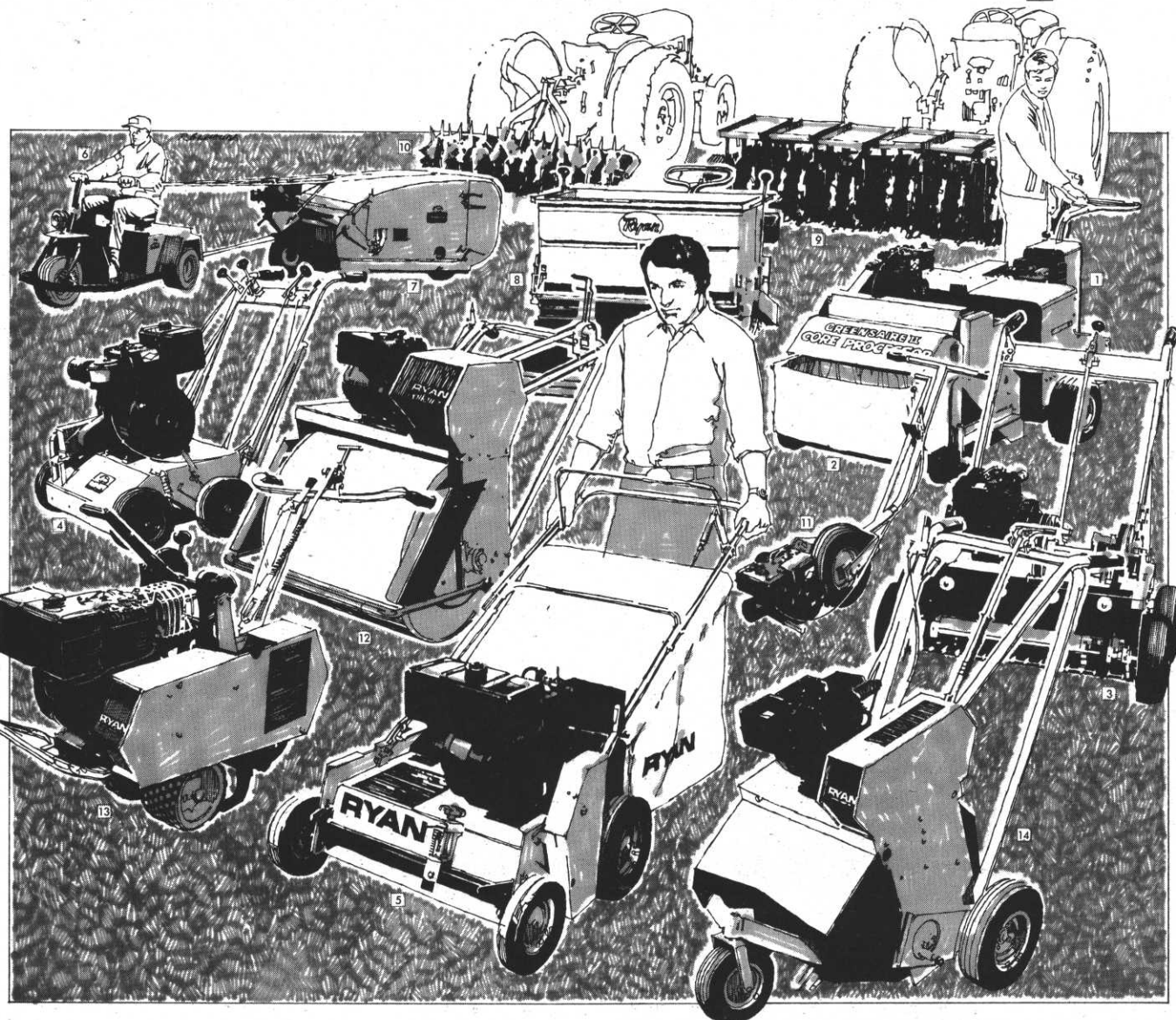
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Shankland and Beverage Feted by Met PGA Section

Craig Shankland, president of the Metropolitan PGA Section in New York was recently named that section's professional-of-the-year. Charles Beverage was named the section's Horton Smith recipient.

Shankland of Fairview Country Club in Greenwich, Conn., received the same award in 1974. Beverage, of Century Country Club, won the Horton Smith Award in 1973.

USGA Vice President Tatum To Speak Before Architects

Frank Tatum, vice president of the United States Golf Association, will address the American Society of Golf Course Architects March 22 at the first day of the group's week-long annual meeting at Del Monte Lodge on California's Monterey Peninsula.

Tatum is the chairman of the USGA Championship Committee and has been active in selecting courses for various tournaments through the years. Geoffery Cornish, ASGCA president, said the Society will review the act on more than 20 committee reports during the five-day meeting.

Low-Proof, Flavored Drinks Starting To Become Popular

At least three distillers are turning out low-proof, flavored alcoholic drinks which do not contain much alcohol. Glenmore Distilleries in Louisville, Ken. started selling a brandy and milk drink called Snowshake in 1972 and will introduce banana, strawberry, mocha, and white-chocolate-flavored, low-alcohol drinks this year.

Consolidated Distilled Products, Chicago, has started shipping an assortment of drinks called Aberdeen. Flavors include banana, strawberry, chocolate mint, mocha, walnut and coconut. Heublein, Inc., Hartford, Conn., is doing well with its Malcolm Hereford's Cows which come in strawberry, banana, mocha and chocolate-mint flavors.

The drinks are usually 30 proof,

which is not much for the regular Scotch or gin sipper at your club. But Glenmore vice president Paul Shuman says of the company's Snowshake product: "We present it as a fun drink with no particular emphasis on taste or the spirit in the bottle. Its greatest appeal is to younger people, non-whiskey drinkers and women."

Butter Prices to Slide; How Much Is Question

Record-high butter prices are on the verge of collapsing and could drop 15 to 25 cents a pound early this year.

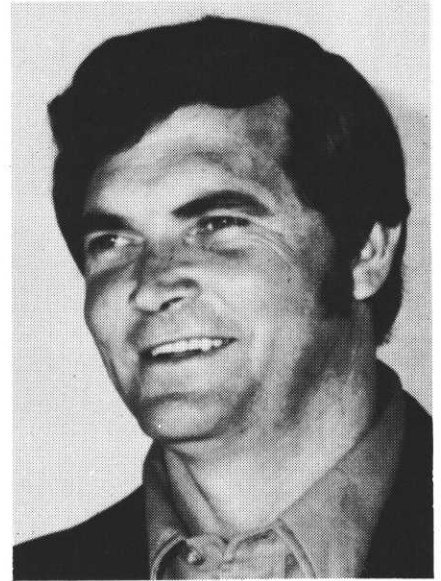
Many dairymen said a price slide is inevitable because of the usual expected seasonal cutback demand after the holidays. A recovery in milk production and continued strong competition from lower-priced margarine are also factors, experts say. A top-quality grade of butter in New York was wholesaling last month at a record \$1.25 a pound, up from 63 cents a year ago.

Florida PGA Chapter May Form Own Section

A 40th section of the Professional Golfers' Association would come into existence if a movement among south Florida golf pros is successful. A campaign to divide the Florida section was the main topic on the agenda at the annual meeting of the Southwest Chapter of the Florida PGA Section, held recently.

"The matter has been under discussion for a long time by members of the Florida group," Don Williams of Punta Gorda Country Club told Doug Smiley of *Florida Golfweek*. Williams is president of the Southwest Chapter. "Many feel the sunshine state, with over 700 of the approximate 7,000 members in the national association deserve more recognition," he said. "Each of the 39 sections are allowed two representatives on the national board and we feel this area with its large membership deserves four members, which a new section would give us."

Persons at the meeting were told the national PGA has not only frowned on new sections, but has turned down efforts to establish new



Jimmy Powell, head pro at Via Verde Country Club, San Dimas, Calif., won the coveted Vardon Cup as 1975's Club Professional Player of the Year. The cup is awarded by Victor Golf's PGA Division, Morton Grove, Ill.

ones in various areas of the country in the past.

Square Two Begins Work In New Florida Plant

Square Two Golf Corp., is now into production in its new manufacturing facility at 580 N. Douglas in Altamonte Springs, Fla. First deliveries from the new 10,000-square-foot plant began in December.

Pending shipments, the company said it has a large back-order situation for its matched set of clubs. The irons are stainless steel and investment-cast. A complete list of representatives and product literature is available upon request from executive offices at 6 Franklin Ave., Oakland, N.J. 07436.

15% Drop in Pork Prices Expected by September

Club managers planning special party menus for next fall and winter will be interested to know industry experts pork prices to drop 15 percent by September.

Government reports indicate hog farmers are expanding hog production, meaning more pork will be available. Analysts say there will be brief periods of higher prices.



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Connecticut Supreme Court Upholds Course Open Space

The Connecticut Supreme Court recently upheld that a private golf course is entitled to an open space classification for the purpose of real estate taxes. The National Club Association assisted the club and the Connecticut Golf Association in the development of information for this effort.

In its finding for the club (plaintiff) and against the township (defendant) the court stated a number of concepts which are worthy of consideration and which should prove useful in future court battles:

"The defendant's next claim of error is based upon his contention that a private golf course and country club on developed land does not qualify for an open space tax classification. Stressing first the fact that the land has been developed, it makes the assertion that it is doubtful whether developed land qualifies for the open space classification at all since the intention of Public Act 490 is to keep property from being

developed. There is no merit to this claim since neither Art. 12-107b nor any other legislation pertaining to open space land requires that it be left in its pristine, natural state. Nowhere is the word undeveloped employed, and the specific inclusion of farm land clearly militates against any such requirement. The basic concept is that the land be open, and that it be entirely unused, undeveloped or unimproved.

"The defendant makes the further claim that even though a public golf course might qualify as open space under Art. 12-107b, which includes any area of land the preservation or restriction of the use of which would . . . enhance public recreation opportunities, a private golf club could not qualify because it is open only to members and their guests but not to the general public. It certainly is not arguable that the mere fact of private ownership and use of the land disqualifies land from open space classification, for such ownership and such use are implicit in the entire structure of open space legislation. Otherwise, there would be no purpose in even considering preferential tax treatment for privately owned farm land, forest land and other lands which qualify physically as open space land under the definitions given in Art. 12-107b (c). The defendant further contends that the inclusion of land which would enhance public recreation opportunities as one of the qualifying categories indicates an intention by the legislature that uses which would enhance private recreation would not so qualify. The short answer to this contention is that land used as a golf course, whether private or public, falls clearly within several of the other alternative categories enumerated. It certainly would tend to (1) maintain and enhance the conservation of value to the public of abutting or neighboring parks, forests, wildlife preserves, nature reservations or sanctuaries or other open spaces; in many instances it tends to (2) protect natural streams or water supply; (3) promote conservation of soils, wetlands, beaches or tidal marshes through the preservation of open areas of fields, grasses, ponds, streams and marshes and simply by the absence of buildings, filling

operations and eroding factors introduced by residential or commercial developers. Although it is not necessary to qualify under category (5) as well as under one or more of the other categories enhances public recreational opportunities by relieving the pressure on public golfing facilities and by frequently permitting off-season public uses of the golf course for sledding, skating and skiing.

"In any event public use is not one of the statute's criteria, for it is clear that this legislation is directed toward privately owned and privately used properties by the total absence of any requirement that designated properties be open to use by members of the general public. If public use properties already would be exempt from taxation there would have been no purpose for the adoption of 1963 Public Acts No. 490, the clear intent of which is to promote conservation by offering a measure of tax relief to privately owned and privately used properties qualifying as open space land.

A Yankee Manager's Ideas On Florida's Licensing Plan

Licensing of golf pros in the state of Florida? The general manager of a golf club in New Hampshire thinks it would be a disaster.

In a recent letter, Fred J. Lovejoy, general manager of Sagamore-Hampton Golf Club, North Hampton, N.H., said:

"No reasons mentioned for licensing (in an article about the issue in the September/October issue of GOLFDOM) are valid," Lovejoy writes. "No license, certificate or card in any man's pocket proves he can run a shop, teach a beginner or perform any of the various duties required of a good pro.

"The deciding factor determining the value of a pro should be the people — let the people decide," he said. "No government agency, licensing board, or any other state body can determine if a man is doing a good job. If the pro is not providing the service expected of him, the people will eliminate him by not trading with him. This is a natural selection of good and bad businessmen; it is not perfect, but it is the purest form of selection."

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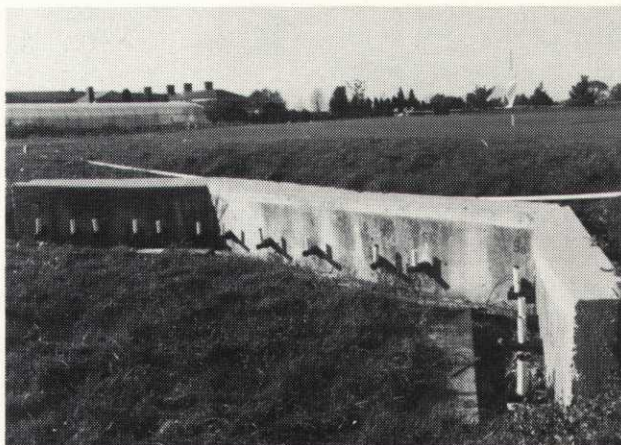
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Student golfers at the University of Delaware practice-putting on a golf course built by the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station scientists. Though the course looks normal, the ground beneath is a maze of wires, pipes, tubes and soil types.



The course is really an outdoor laboratory that happens to look like a golf course. Drains set into slope of greens let scientists study pollution potential of chemicals used for fertilizer and weed control.

Royal Oak's Pro Don Soper Tops Michigan PGA Section

Michigan PGA Section president Tom Talkington has announced Don Soper of Royal Oak Golf Club has been elected as the 1975 Michigan Golf Professional of the Year.

Soper won the same award in 1965 and is a former president of the section. He also has been national PGA vice president and a national PGA Seniors' president. Soper has been active for many years in tournaments and the PGA activities in which he finished second in the nation in contributions raised for National Golf Day Charities for six previous years, led the nation in 1975 with a record contribution of almost \$10,000.

Golf Course Architects Examine Slow Play Problem

What can the golf course architect do in his design to speed up play? Reduce hazards and size of greens was the most frequent response of members of the American Society of Golf Course Architects in a recent survey. Other answers ranged from fairway adjustments to building more golf courses.

"Puttering" around on monstrous greens and flailing away in sand traps are time-consuming, frustrating experiences for golfers as well as those waiting in the fairway. The obvious solution? "Create fewer hazards," according to ASGCA vice president Edwin B. Seay of Ponte Verde Beach, Fla. "Design medium-

sized greens," said Albert Zikorus of Bethany, Conn., and ASGCA president Geoffrey Cornish, Amherst, Mass.

Hazards and excessively large greens alone are not to blame for the slow play problem. The professionals who design golf courses are well aware that golfers' abilities determine the degree of ease with which they conquer challenges.

Is Curling Winter Answer To Keeping Members Active?

Curling may be the answer to keeping country club members active in the winter, according to a director of the American Curling Foundation.

"The game of curling is especially adapted to a country club because you have ready-made teams with men and women, and mixed curling is also becoming increasingly popular on weekends," said Laurie E. Carlson. "For what members pay for winter or off-season assessments, you could build a curling rink. I have seen some improvements at the club house that have cost more than the price of a curling rink."

For financing a curling rink, Carlson said most country clubs are paid for and the land has appreciated in value. "Ask your membership to buy debentures to be redeemed in 10 years at a reasonable rate. If the members could raise 50 percent or more, the club could easily borrow the remaining funds.

If you are the first curling rink in city, you could invite members of other clubs to take out winter curling memberships."

What kind of a rink to build? "It would be well to have the curling rink adjacent to the club house as you could use all of your existing building," he said. "If you are on a hill, you build the rink partly underground — with the viewing lounge on the club house end. You would not need as long a building as your viewing area will not have to be as long."



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NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY continued

Michigan PGA Section Pros To Hire Executive Director

The Michigan PGA Section has voted to increase dues and hire an executive director beginning in September.

At its fall meeting, Roger Van Dyke of Flint Golf Club was elected president, taking over from Tom Talkington, Barton Hill Country Club. Van Dyke said the officers had been studying the possibility of an executive director for the past year.

He said the section feels this is the direction that should be taken, because the section has become a bigger and bigger job to run, and a problems for the officers to handle alone. The new executive director will have responsibilities for tournament scheduling, increasing purses and organizing operations that will benefit all section members. Other



Otto Mercer of Bowie Industries recently presented Bowie knives mounted on plaques to the president and past presidents of the Golf Course Builders of America. From left, Henry L. Nielson Jr., Nielson Construction Co., Warwick, N.Y.; Robert Vincent of the Robert Vincent Co., Benton, Pa.; Mercer; David Canavan of Moore Golf, Culpeper, Va.; and Frank Underwood of Underwood Golf Course Construction, Bowie, Texas, 1975 president.

officers elected at the meeting were Jim Appleton, Washtenaw Country Club, secretary; Jim Dewling, Great Oaks Country Club, treasurer; Hal Whittington, Burr Oaks Golf Club, first vice president; Greg Matthews, Kalamazoo Elks Country Club, second vice president; Norm Bennett, Katke County Club, Jack Rosely, Traverse City Country Club, and Bernie Shirle, Owosso Country Club, at-large vice presidents; Ben Lula, Country Club of Detroit, Jeff Voss, Riverside Country Club and Ron La Parl, Battle Creek Country Club, directors.

Players Okay Turf Changes To Inverrary Country Club

Four players from the PGA Tour have placed their stamps of approval on changes made to the East Course of the Inverrary County Club specifically for the 1976 Tournament Players Championship which opens on the Florida site Feb. 25. Some of the changes will interest pros and superintendents across the country.

Alterations were made to 14 holes since the 1975 Jackie Gleason Inverrary Classic. The modifications include the extension and changing of several tees. The fairways were widened and the landing

areas improved. Several greens were changed; some are now smaller and others larger than before. Mounds for spectators have been created in back of several greens.

Tour player Bob Murphy, who won last year's Gleason tournament, said after playing the course the most significant change is the removal of a mound on the ninth hole. He was referring to a mound 200 feet long and up to eight feet in height that was parallel to the fairway and to the left of the landing area of the pros' drives. Because it was opposite a fairway bunker, the landing area was only 15 yards wide. Virtually every player in past tournaments took a long iron, or a three or four wood off the tee to lay up short and then selected a stronger club for the second shot into the green on the par-four, 438-yard hole.

Following a test round PGA officials decided on another change. The rough surrounding the greens will be eliminated for the TPC, thus making the course similar to Pinehurst No. 2, where the World Open is played. Rough along the fairway will be allowed to grow at Inverrary. The turf will be shaved down to 1/2 inch, the same as the fairways. Players will have to be more accurate with their approaches.

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