

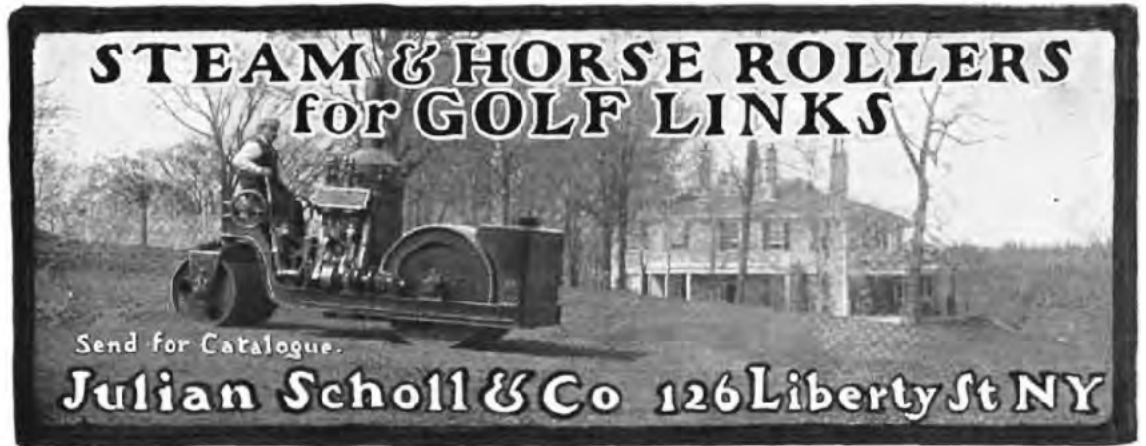
Roll With It

BY SEAN TULLY

What is old is new again. Rolling greens and fairways for a time was looked down upon in the turf industry, but over the last 10 years or so, there has been a recent upswing in its use and a better understanding of their importance in keeping greens smooth and managing green speed consistency.

Back in the day, rollers were used where frost conditions warranted their use to firm and smooth the surface after long winters uplifted soil. The entire course would get rolled with huge rollers, some of which were steam powered!

In 1897, The Chicago Golf Club hosted their first U.S. Open and in getting their course prepared for the event they purchased a 5-ton roller to run over the greens! Here is a report



proclaiming the efficiency of the roller, "All roughness of the ground upon which the roller has operated has disappeared, and it is no exaggeration to say that with its aid perfect putting greens could be obtained on any part of the course."



ON THE COURSE, LAMPTON GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB, TORONTO.