Finger listed four problems common to golf course builders. Weather was one. Topography is another. He cited the client as a third. "Few are knowledgeable of golf course construction," he said. The last problem area is the golf course contractors.

The golf architect said that it is "time we joined hands — contractors and architects — to get the story across to our clients." We recommend meetings between contractors and builders. Plans and specifications today must be complete and detailed. He said that the need for more detailed plans has grown out of poor construction. Where an architect used to have 20 pages of specs and 20 pages of drawings, he now must have 75-80 pages of specs and 50 pages of drawings.

Finger said many courses today are being built by developers. "It's hard to convince a developer to pay ten percent more to include a golf course builder in the construction," he said. "But the architect and the builder together with proper literature can convince a developer that this is a special type of construction. That's why we must work together."

He noted that even though the total number of golf courses is in-

creasing yearly, the average today is one course per 30,000 people. "At this rate, even with zero population growth, we are going to lose 100 golf courses in 30 years," he said.

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A "Dear Abby" for builders chaired by Robert Chakales, Richmond, Va., followed the formal portion of the meeting. This presented an opportunity for delegates to ask questions of speakers.

New officers for the organization are: Henry L. Nielsen Jr., Nielsen Construction Co., Warwick, N.Y., president; Frank A. Underwood, Underwood Golf Course Construction Co., Bowie, Tex., president elect; James Kirchdorfer, Kirchdorfer Irrigation Co., Louisville, Ky, vice president; Lee A. Bilberry, golf course contractor in Houston, Tex., secretary; and James Shipe, Turf Industries, Bel Air, Md., treasurer.

## Valley Tractor & Equipment Named Bolens Distributor

Valley Tractor & Equipment Corporation, 616 Jefferson Hwy., New Orleans, Louisiana has become a distributor for the complete line of lawn and garden equipment from Bolens, Division of FMC Corporation,

Port Washington, Wisconsin.

Valley will handle the Bolens tractor line and the urban/suburban line in the states of Louisiana, Mississippi and Southern Alabama.

Howard Hampton is president, John Bierbaum is sales manager, Lester Felder is sales manager for outdoor power equipment, and William J. Napier is service manager of Valley, which has been in business in New Orleans since 1947.

## In-Line Plastic Valve Component Announced By Toro

The Irrigation Division of The Toro Company, has introduced a new 1½-inch, in-line plastic valve component for its automatic underground sprinkler system line.

The hydraulic, normally-open, piston-type valve is made of high-impact, corrosion-resistant Cycolac and features a coaxial design for high flow and low friction loss. Both inlet and outlet are regular pipe thread connections.

Toro normally-open valves operate (open) when water pressure to the valve is relieved, and close when a supply pressure is applied from the controller.

