

## Editorial

"The game of golf," University of Maryland agronomist Dr. John R. Hall explained last month, "has been a source of leadership for what's happening in the green industry."

We concur, of course, and hasten to add that the world of golf business has fostered much of the motivation for this leadership as well.

In these days of society's pressures, a higher rate of government participation in industry affairs and the changing needs in our country, qualities of leadership and motivation are becoming more and more important.

Dr. Hall suggests that politics, the energy crisis, food scarcities and similar subjects are going to have quite an impact on golf course management of the future.

For one thing, many new golf courses are going to be on poorer land. There will be more land use restrictions, and alternate uses — bike paths, picnic areas, etc. — are sure to be major considerations for golf courses of the future.

Such technologies as drip irrigation, low nitrogen varieties and growth inhibitors are on their way in.

In a sense, motivation and leadership have brought us to this point. And what a proud accomplishment and heritage golf course management can claim.

The rolling fairways and luxury greens of this land are a tribute to man's science and civilization. But, more than the splendid manicured putting surface, the nation's golf courses have become a monument to man's union with nature.

The golf course has become an oasis in a world of concrete and dust. It is a breath of fresh air. A reward.

The concept of the golf course, moreover, as a playground for the rich, an oasis for kings, a retreat for captains of industry, is having less and less to do with the concept of golf in America.

And Dr. Hall issued the challenge of the decade as he spoke to members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America convention in Minneapolis.

"We have to make golf," he said, "the common man's game."

We join Dr. Hall in this challenge. It is an important goal for the survival of quality golf and golf lands. And this, we believe, is necessary in America.