"We heard of one golf course complex making arrangements with the city to use their effluent water, which amounts to a million gallons a day. That's not too surprising for a small city since each person averages 125 gallons of water per day for household purposes. If you remember, the man at one disposal plant said they estimated the average wet sewage solids (sludge) per capita per year is about 36.5 pounds

"When it rains five inches, what do you do with three million gallons of water? It's like a freight train coming at you. Side track it? Where can you send that much water? Can it be turned loose in creeks, rivers, or lakes? In Florida it can be put into the sand dunes, which are excellent filters for purification. Soil serves as an excellent buffer and also acts as a filtering system."

"That reminds me of the golf course development we heard about in Florida," said Margaret, "that has the georgic department check their water table each month for any trace of chemicals they might detect. How do you suppose that's done?"

"They have small-bore wells at different depths, such as 40, 60 and 80 feet, and they sample with a small container on a strong string. They can also check to see how much side movement of water takes place in the soil—like Dr. Smith was doing at the University of Georgia. That's the way I understand it," said Don. "If you remember, there is more water movement in sandy soils and sand makes an excellent filtering system.

"We have come a long way and we have about 12,000 more miles to go before returning to home. It's been one of the best trips we have taken. We have seen a great deal in America; new housing developments, great golf courses and great golf (John Miller's 63 at Oakmont)! We've learned a bit about irrigation and the problems an affluent society has with effluent water. But it's good to be on the way home."

FOOTNOTE:

[1]King, L.D., & Morris, H.D., 1972. Land disposal of liquid sewage sludge. The effect on yield, in vivo, digestibility and chemical composition of coastal bermudagrass (Cynodon dactydon. L. Pers.) Journal of Environmental Quality, Vol. 1 (3).

A TURF TIP FROM *BILL:*

Bill Gaydosh, Superintendent at Fairmount C.C., Chatham, N.J., says, "The roto-mist machine has saved us a lot of time spraying a wet course without going on greens, tees or fairways." Bill regularly sprays all his greens in 1½ hours, his fairways in 2½ hours and all his trees in one day. Anti-drift additives can be added to reduce drift when spraying near homes. He also uses the machine to blow leaves, wet fairway clippings, and thatch after renovation of the fairways.