

MR. SUPERINTENDENT — MR. GREEN CHAIRMAN

Here's One Way to Improve More Than Your Lie!

MOST GOLF COURSE superintendents want and deserve greater recognition of their role in golf. Most green chairmen want to improve the quality and playability of their home courses. On rare occasions both interests realize their individual goals and, at the same time, contribute to the future of golf. What's more, they will also improve the quality of life. The joint Golf Course Superintendents of America and the USGA Green Section campaign to raise and sustain major support for development of better turfgrasses for golf will do just that!

In January, 1984, USGA President James R. Hand and GCSAA President James W. Timmerman joined together in calling on every green chairman, club official, and golf course superintendent to contact his own Board of Governors and ask the club, surely one of the future beneficiaries of this essential research, to support the program now. A fundraising formula, developed last year by the membership at Baltusrol Golf Club, Springfield, New Jersey, established a donation of \$2 a year to the USGA Foundation, Inc., from each golf member. These funds are to be used solely for turfgrass research. If but 800 clubs would contribute \$600, \$800, or \$1,000 annually (depending on the number of golf memberships), success in the search for better turfgrasses would be assured.

Research of this kind, particularly in plant breeding and cultural studies, takes time and considerable funding. Researchers must have assurances that enough financing will be available to complete a project once it is begun. Planning, overseeing, and responsibility in this undertaking rest with the USGA Green Section Research Committee (see January/February, 1984, issue of the

GREEN SECTION RECORD). The committee is comprised of nine leading U.S. turfgrass researchers and other specialists, including James R. Prusa, Associate Executive Director of the GCSAA. Present plans are based on at least a 10-year effort to develop turfgrasses for golf that require minimal maintenance and very little water. It will be a concentrated, cooperative, nationwide effort to focus on those problems critical to golf's future. The expertise and technology to develop better turfgrasses exists. Long-range funding is needed now.

WON'T YOU, the green chairman and golf course superintendent, do your part? Go to your Board of Governors and explain the problems, the increasing maintenance costs and limited capabilities of present golfing turfs, the water crisis that inevitably lies ahead, and the long-range need for research to improve all golfing turfgrasses. Tell them of the joint GCSAA and USGA research effort and how your club and all of golf will benefit. Assure them of accountability and progress reports to be sent periodically to all clubs supporting this effort.

Only if you become directly and actively involved and thereby involve your club in this worthwhile venture, will it succeed. Complete the attached card and return it to the USGA Foundation Inc., Box 5000, Far Hills, New Jersey 07931, or write to the USGA Foundation for further details. Become an active partner in the USGA mission to help preserve, protect, and promote the best interest of golf. Get things rolling at your club — NOW — for better turfgrasses and more enjoyable golf tomorrow.



Dr. Victor B. Youngner's Death — A Great Loss to All in Golfing Turf

IN MID-APRIL of 1984, the sudden death of Dr. Victor B. Youngner, Professor of Agronomy, University of California at Riverside, was a shock and great loss to the golf turfgrass profession. Dr. Youngner was an outstanding scientist, plant breeder, and geneticist who had contributed significantly to the advancement of turfgrass science in the last 25 years. He was to be the principal investigator in the new zoysiagrass breeding project sponsored by the Green Section Research Committee. He had recently released his own new zoysiagrass, "El Toro," one of several he had developed through his research.

A Fellow in the American Society of Agronomy; listed in *Who's Who in the West*, *American Men & Women of Science*; Gamma Sigma Delta Agricultural Honor Society, and "Man of the Year" Award by *Landscape West Magazine* — Dr. Youngner served on the USGA Green Section Committee since 1958.