

On the other hand, if the soil mixture surrounding the tile does not have a great attraction for water, and if a sufficient quantity of water is present, water will move by force of gravity into the tile.

Once water starts into the tile, column tension comes into play. A quantity of water which exceeds the amount which would normally drain due to gravitational pull, then enters the tile. This leads to the theory that tile pulls water. However, it is really water pulling water. The question of whether tile is necessary depends entirely upon the soil with which you are dealing.

It is of absolute, prime and controlling importance that adequate surface drainage be built into any green. It is especially necessary in those where guess-work, and not specified procedures, is being followed.

Checking into other methods of construction for putting greens is continuing with emphasis on hydroponics or sub-surface irrigation, as well as on incorporating synthetic materials. It would seem, as our current knowledge indicates, that water and air relationships with regard to turf and the demands of the golfer are key factors. These are being explored to the greatest extent. We should not overlook the possibility to employ complete synthetic materials such as those used in the Astrodome in Houston, Texas, in areas of heavy use.

Even though significant break-throughs have been made with regard to green construction, it goes without saying that improvement will be made in this area and that new ideas and practices will be forthcoming in time.

Green Section Award

Eimer J. Michael of Pittsford, N.Y., was named recipient of the United States Golf Association Green Section Award, presented for distinguished service to golf through work with turfgrass. Mr. Michael was Golf Course Superintendent at the Oak Hill Country Club, Rochester, N.Y., from 1929 until his retirement in 1965.

The award was presented by Wm. Ward Foshay, of New York, USGA President, and Henry H. Russell, of Miami Beach, Chairman of the Green Section Committee.

Mr. Michael began his career in 1918 as an assistant to his father at the Park Club of Buffalo, N.Y., which was built on the site of the Pan-American Exposition. A few years later Walter J. Travis redesigned the city course and, at the age of 22, Mr. Michael was put in charge of construction. He supervised the work of 40 men. He remained at this course until 1925, and from there went to Transit Valley Country Club, East Amherst, N.Y., until he moved to Oak Hill.

Mr. Michael was among the earliest superintendents to recognize the value of creeping bentgrasses for putting greens. He planted the East Course at Oak Hill to a strain of bentgrass that he discovered on grass plots that were aban-

doned after the Pan-American Exposition.

He also designed and installed an irrigation system for both the East and the West Courses at Oak Hill.

Mr. Michael trained numerous men who are now working as golf course superintendents throughout the country.

He is a member of the USGA Green Section Committee and of several turfgrass organizations, including the Finger Lakes Golf Course Superintendents Association and the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America. He served as Mayor of Pittsford from 1956 until 1960 with no interruption to his duties at Oak Hill. He is a past President of the Pittsford Rotary Club and an Elder in the Pittsford Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Michael is the seventh recipient of the Green Section Award. Previous winners were Dr. John Monteith, Jr., of Colorado Springs, Colo.; Professor Lawrence S. Dickinson, of Amherst, Mass.; O. J. Noer, Milwaukee, Wis.; Joseph Valentine, Ardmore, Pa.; Dr. Glenn W. Burton, of Tifton, Ga., and Professor H. Burton Musser, of State College, Pa.