to Europe and England with the First International Turfgrass Research Conference which was held in July. He had several excellent slides and some interesting commentary about the cultures and practices of the style, methods, and beliefs of Europeans and their grass growing. Might be a nice idea to have one of the men in attendance on the program for some of the local conferences this fall and winter.

FROM THE EDITOR

This month's column is a combination book review and comment column. Our subject matter is taken from two separate texts and comment will be made accordingly. Agreement or disagreement should be made accordingly.

The first article we will discuss appeared in the August issue of the Reader's Digest. The title was "How To Grow A Perfect Lawn." The title itself suggests a note of levity, since a perfect lawn is an impossibility in this area as everyone knows. The article, however, was written by a J.N. Miller, no doubt a staff writer for the Digest, but he got his information from one Stanley Bulpitt, a nursery employee in Connecticut who "for twenty years has been building and maintaining hundreds of lawns of every size and in every kind of soil from Maine to New Jersey." Notice he stops far enough north to avoid trouble from the Mid-Atlantic region. Some of his comments were good, some not so good. But in any event, it seems funny that someone with a little more insight into the problem wasn't contacted, namely someone in our line of work. Paul Voykin, the super at Briarwood C.C. in the Chicago area, just published a book on the subject! You couldn't ask for a better source of information that that. Well, maybe next time, huh? Incidentally, reprints of the article are available from the magazine, if you are interested.

The next interesting article is one that appeared in the syndicated Parade section Sunday, Aug. 17. The article was written by Lloyd Shearer and was entitled "Artificial Grass Is Greener." In the article, statistics were quoted by Mr. Shearer to the effect that player injuries dropped 80% after installation of artificial turf. Well, this seems vague, doesn't it? Eighty percent as compared to what? Whose figures were these? There is an interesting story behind all this, too. Monsanto invited field men, stadium managers, and several other key people in these positions to view this material on a three day tour in the midwest. Result, several sold people. But on what? Dr. Gene Nutter in his Turf-Grass Times discussed the fallacy of the pseudo-grass some months ago. But obviously Mr. Shearer missed that issue. A couple of rather quotable quotes from this article on how good this fake grass is. Tex Schramm, the president of the Dallas Cowboys says, "By 1975, you
Growers of highest quality sod for lawns, parks
and golf courses

PRINCETON TURF FARMS, INC.
Office and Farm: 12 miles east of
Cheapside. Bridge on US 301
Box 1054, RR3, Centreville, Md.
Area Code 301 827-8454

Grades of STATE CERTIFIED CULTIVATED SOD
Merion Blue
Certified Common Kentucky
Tall Fescue w/Kentucky Blue
Penncross Bent
ALL TURF Irrigated - Cultivated and Maintained
proper height for two years prior to lifting.
State Inspected - Personal inspection invited
PARKER SHIRLING, Manager

GUSTIN’S
Baltimore Toro, INC.
• TORO LAWN EQUIPMENT
• RYAN AERIFICATION
• SPRINKLERS
• MILORGANITE
• FUNGICIDE
Complete Parts & Service
2205 E. Joppa Rd.
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND
NO. 8-0500

Want turf feeding flexibility?
Call on AGRICO®
AGRICO COUNTRY CLUB FERTILIZER is
• Available in a variety of analysis formulated for
  use on greens, tees and fairways.
• Available with pesticides for insect control.
• Available with herbicides for control of broadleaf
  weeds, clover and chickweeds.
AGRI-TONE 28-7-14 and
AGRI-TONE 20-20-20
Water Soluble Fertilizers
AGRINITE—natural organic nitrogen
AGRICO CHEMICAL COMPANY, DIVISION OF
CONTINENTAL OIL COMPANY
BALTIMORE, MD. — ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Scotts
the grass people
GOLF COURSE DIVISION
...IN SERVICE TO THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT
BRIAN FINGER
301/725-3833
926 Pineway Drive
Laurel, Maryland 20810

will have an artificial lawn surrounded by artificial
flowers and shrubs. No more mowing the grass. No more
watering. An hour or two of maintenance per year and
you will have a prettier garden that you have now.” So
says the president of a football team on the future of
turf management. Any of you supers have any long
range forecasts to make on the future of football? But
now Joe Namath is another story. He made a few
comments too. The New York Jet’s quarterback says
“Now everybody likes it better than regular grass.”
Everybody like who? In any event, we can rest assured
that we won’t be out of a job because of plastic grass.
At least not within the next five years. But even if we
are, there are all kinds of job opportunities that will be
made available with the development of this grass. How
about making plastic weeds to plant all around the yard
to make it look realistic? Or how about making plastic
dogs to deposit plastic piles in the plastic flower beds?
Or what about – oh well, just forget about it!

BIG PARTY

It seems Sam Kessel from C.C. of Fairfax and his
wife Sue had quite a Saturday night on the 13th of last
month. They went to a rather unusual cocktail party at
Dulles Airport. The party wasn’t too unusual - it was the
guests that were a little out of the ordinary. Would you
believe the entire Ryder Cup team? Seems Sam’s club
president and Melvin Rowe, the pro at Fairfax had
something to do with the deal and as a result, the super
and his wife were invited.

Besides the entire team, captained by Sam Snead,
other guests were Mr. Red Snyder, the president of
Burning Tree C.C. who also went with the team and
Max Elbin, the president of the PGA.

All in all, it sounds like a very enjoyable evening and
one that the Kessel’s are not likely to forget for several
golfing seasons.