James (Jim) Boyce died on August 29. He graduated from the University of Toronto (OAC) in 1932 with his B.Sc.A. He worked for the next five years at the Central Experimental Farm in Ottawa as a graduate assistant in turfgrass and pasture research, then he moved on to the New Jersey Experimental Station as a research assistant in turfgrass management under Dr. H.B. Sprague.

Jim received his M.Sc. from Rutgers University in 1939 and returned to Ottawa where he directed the Canada Department of Agriculture plant introduction and turfgrass research programs until 1962. While with the Department, Jim was intimately associated with the development of such turfgrass varieties as Delta Kentucky bluegrass, Chieftain Canada bluegrass, Duraturf creeping red fescue, Norlea perennial ryegrass, and several forage type cultivars. In addition to the desirable features of mildew resistance in Delta and winter hardiness in Norlea, all cultivars produced by the Forage Crops Division had a common characteristic, high seed production.

Following work with the government, Jim became self employed as a consulting agronomist. He developed correspondence courses for the University of Guelph and taught at Algonquin College in Ottawa. From 1970-73, he was Executive Director of the Canadian Golf Superintendents Association and editor of “The Greenmaster.” Jim was also Canadian director of the Musser International Turfgrass Foundation for several years. He was closely associated with Rothwell Seeds Limited and with its president Norman Rothwell. On behalf of Rothwell Seeds, he was responsible for securing licensing or registration for sale in Canada varieties such as Pennea11e and Prominent creeping bentgrasses: Adelphi, Argyle Classic, Eclipse, Glade, Harmony, Midnight, Regent, Scenic and Welcome Kentucky bluegrasses; Ensylva creeping red fescue; Barfalla and Luster chewings fescue; and All Star and Pennant perennial ryegrasses.

Jim was a founding member of the Sports Turf Association. At the first meeting he stated, “This is an idea whose time has come.” May he rest in peace.

PLEASE NOTE

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