

CHALLENGE

or

DISASTER

Challenge - definition - an invitation to engage in a contest

Disaster - definition - extraordinary misfortune, calamity, catastrophe, an event or situation regarded as a terrible misfortune.

After six weeks I have not completely made up my mind at the present, for those who do not understand the meaning, let me tell you the story.

The Time - Mid Summer 1976
 The Place - Contra Costa Country Club
 The Temperature - 106° F
 The Wind - N-NW 15-25 m.p.h.
 The Area - Greens, Tees, Fairways
 The Culprit - Urea 45-0-0

After this short break down, I believe that you can figure out what happened, but let's go into a little detail to begin with

The Greens - which originally measured approximately 125,000 sq ft, we now have to resod approximately 30,000 sq ft, 3 greens will have to be rebuilt completely, even the young trees are gone.

The Tees - which originally measured approximately 65,000 sq ft now has been depleted to 20,000 sq ft, an extensive overseeding and top-dressing program will start October 1st.

The Fairways - total acres of fairways which measured 70 acres including the practice area, now is starting to recover from the damage after very heavy irrigation and aerating in an effort to leach the material out of the root zone of the existing turf, to complicate the situation a little more irritating, my irrigation water at the present time is 245 p.p.m. salt and is expected to go to 330 p.p.m. if we don't have some early fall rains.

So you can see from this short article that it is hard to make up your mind if you are confronted with a Challenge or a Disaster.

Norm Stewart, Superintendent, Contra Costa C.C.

#####

"ON THE SPOT" report of 4th Annual Turf & Landscape Irrigation Seminar

The Northern California Turfgrass Council in conjunction with U.C. Cooperative Extension, presented their 4th Annual Turf & Landscape Irrigation Seminar on Wednesday, 10/6/76, at the Oakland Hilton Inn, Oakland, CA. As you may recall, the first three seminars were held in Pacific Grove and were 2½ days' duration. But this year, the Committee wanted it in Oakland to try to get more of the working personnel to participate...and we DID! We had approximately 476 paid participants joining us from the northern border and from as far south as Fresno! The Committee included

John Deming, Chairman, George Bell, Co-chairman, Don Lancaster, Bruce Watson and Rich Harrison. The program went as follows:

Maintenance of Irrigation Systems

1. Why Do We Water? - Donald Lancaster, Horticulture Advisor, Cooperative Extension Service, Hayward
2. Improving Water Usage Through Wetting Agents - Robert Simas Moyer Chemical Co., San Jose
3. Servicing Hydraulic Systems - Bill Spellman, The Toro Company, Phoenix, Arizona
4. Servicing and Repairing Heads - John Brewer, Johns-Manville, Denver, Colorado
5. Servicing Electrical Systems - Bruce Leibrock Griswold Controls, Costa Mesa
- 6 Systematic Trouble Shooting - Keith Braman Keith Braman & Associates, Santa Clara

REMINDER - Awards Dinner and Installation of Officers is scheduled for Thursday, December 9, 1976 at 7:00 p.m. at Spenger's Fish Grotto, located in Berkeley

Grady Simril, East Bay Regional Parks, Oakland

#####



BETTER TURF FOR BETTER GOLF

**COURSE DESIGN
FOR QUALITY MAINTENANCE**

JANUARY 9 THROUGH JANUARY 14

**ASILOMAR CONFERENCE GROUNDS
PACIFIC GROVE, CALIFORNIA**