

THINGS by Lee Huang

When I was thinking about what to write, my opening sentences in my head sounded like a record that was played over and over again. The same sentence kept coming back and back:--Boy, we surely had a good meeting and those that did not make it this time, again lost out on a good meeting And this is the truth. The quality of the meetings is improving steadily and it is becoming a real pleasure to come to them. Of course, Lou Pohlson is responsible for a great deal of this, and especially last month. He was both the host and the program chairman. And my compliments on both scores. That was really a very enjoyable day.

Next, we are going to the Marin Golf & Country Club, which is also a popular site for meetings. Our host, Orville Suttles, has been a member with the Association for a long time, and at one time was our president. Orv always has his course in fine shape for the golfers, and the club house leaves little to be desired. I am sure that all who will try and make this meeting will find it very gratifying.

New Developments - Our friend and vice president of the Association, Ken Vorderbruggen, has the following information concerning the PLAQUES!

1. Have patience and you will see the plague at this meeting.
2. Price is around \$7.58 plus 50 cents per year plate.
3. Further information will be forthcoming.

Toro Tournament - The Toro Company will be the host of a no cost tournament at the Villages golf course to be held on November 6, 1972, which is a Monday. Invited to the tournament are the Superintendent, Green Chairman, Club President, or other officials. Limit is one foursome per club. Jim Ross will have more information for those who want to make use of this highly generous invitation by the Toro Company.

Turfgrass Exposition - The Northern California Turfgrass Council is giving early notice of the Turfgrass Exposition for 1973 which will be held at the San Mateo Fairgrounds in the Hall of Flowers. The dates will be on February 7 and 8, 1973. Notice that the date has been moved to February from the usual March date. This is at the request of many superintendents of all types of facilities and agencies who felt that in March they are much too busy. Make an attempt to attend. This show usually has a lot to offer.

Ken Vorderbruggen at Incline Village G.C. is one who believes in progress, even though in some cases this belief comes under pressure. Apparently in his area there is a Congress Woman. This lady confronted Ken with a question: "How many women do you employ on the golf course?" Ken had to say: "None, but..... I am willing to try anything." Being an honorable gentleman and a man of his word, he investigated the job

market, and was overwhelmed with girl-type applicants. He has now two girl trainees. And - he reports - they are doing just fine. In fact, his other type help is working harder, looking somewhat cleaner, and smell better than they have in a long time. And all that because of those two girl-type maintenance workers. So, you bums, who look at gals only as sex objects; Take heed, and hire some girl-type helpers too.

AN IDEA - Roaming around Alta Sierra Golf Course I spent some time talking to Cliff Wagoner, I guess you-all know who he is. The talk turned to socializing. It has been my observation that with the exception of a few, the superintendents tend to stay in their own bailiwick. Oh, once in a while they may go visiting one another, but as a group, they very seldom come together for fun. I also observed that there are a lot of them who love the outdoors. This stands to reason, otherwise they would not have chosen the job they have. Then there are a lot of them who are hunters, fishermen, boating enthusiasts, camping bugs, and what-have-you. Cliff and I asked ourselves, what is the possibility of having a get-together, a camp out in a group with the family. Here is where Larry Keck came into the picture. He is the Superintendent of Lake Wildwood, near the Alta Sierra Golf Course. He said that he has the ideal set-up. There are campgrounds with hookups for trailers, there is a lake to go boating, waterskiing, fishing for bass and gills, a golf course for those who can't stay away from that sort of thing, trails for the hikers, and fresh air, pine trees and a blue sky for those who just want to loaf around.

The question now is: How many of us are interested in such an outing? Let me know. I'll volunteer to set the whole thing up with Larry. I think it is a wild idea, and hope that there is a lot of support. So, Let me know. Drop me a line. We still have time for this Fall, or maybe next Spring.

Lee Huang, 1646 Camino Verde, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 .

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MORE NOTES ON TURFGRASS DISEASES ----- by Dr. John H. Madison

Diseases are a recurring problem on greens. It seems appropriate to continue to write a few notes about diseases. This month I want to refer to work of Dr. Robert M. Endo.

Dr. Endo joined the university staff in 1958 to replace the retiring turf pathologist, P. A. Miller. Dr. Endo is a plant pathologist stationed at Riverside. His research is devoted primarily to turf diseases though he has done some work on cereal disease. Dr. Endo is a thorough worker and a thoughtful person, and his work is adding greatly to our understanding of turf diseases and is influencing the thinking of turf pathologists across the country.

In the note on Pythium I alluded to some of his present work and I'd like to discuss it further. One of the questions that Dr. Endo has asked is, "Why is turf different from all other monocultures?" When we grow other plants in a system of monoculture, diseases tend to get worse from year to year. Yet with turf it is often difficult to incite disease. The research worker who wants to get disease can't, even after he inoculates the grass. If we have a serious epiphytotic (outbreak) of a disease such as Helminthosporium this year, we don't expect it to be worse next year, and usually we expect it to be less of a problem. And often we see disease spoil the grass in one man's yard without its spreading to his next door neighbors. Why is this so in turf?

The soil and thatch are full of fungi and bacteria working on decomposing the clippings and the old dead and dying basal leaves. Each of the thousands of kinds of microorganisms is struggling to get a share of the food, and also a share of the space to establish a "home". Each protests its home area by producing antibiotic chemicals that suppress other organisms. In the competition for food and space some organisms that cause turf disease grow weakly -- never become vigorous enough to cause a disease outbreak except under exceptional circumstances.

In other words, in turf we have a balanced ecosystem. Energy is continually fed into the system in the form of clippings and dead basal leaves. Microorganisms compete vigorously for the food and we have a large and varied population in which no single group becomes dominant. We are enjoying the benefits of biological control.

At times the system gets out of balance -- it's too hot, too cold, too wet, etc., and we see disease resulting. As a result of his point of view, Dr. Endo is not asking the question, "What is the disease?" Rather, he is asking, "What is causing the disease to happen?" One of his first observations was that most diseases tended to start in areas of compacted soil. An unbalanced soil-air-water relationship was resulting in disease. Later Dr. Endo did extensive work with water of guttation, one of the kinds of dew, and found growth of some grass diseases stimulated by the nutrients occurring in the guttation water. Guttation water may result in stimulated dollar spot, Rhizoc brown patch, and Helminthosporium leaf spot. Most recently Dr. Endo and one of his students have found drying to result in disease. When the thatch dried out, it tended to release a lot of food on rewetting. Helminthosporium, which was growing rather weakly before drying, was stimulated to vigorous, disease inciting growth by the extra foods released on rewetting.

I find this approach to disease very interesting, but it throws more responsibility back on us. It means that when we see a diseased spot, our first question has got to be, "What did I do wrong?"

- - - John H. Madison, University of California, Davis, California



Chris Garcia, second from left, Alameda Municipal Golf Course Superintendent is awarded the "Certified Golf Course Superintendent" plaque by Clifford A. Wagoner, Vice President of GCSA of America. Recreation Commission Chairman Raymond P. Kranelly and Recreation Director D. Grant Mainland look on.

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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT WANTED by San Jose Country Club

18 hole prestigious private country club - Immediate opening
Salary open - Superintendent responsible to Green Committee

- Applicant must be experienced superintendent with the ability to manage the maintenance on a very good course.
- Contact Mr. David H. Doud, Green Chairman, 111 West St. John Street, San Jose, Calif 95113 Phone 408 286-9700

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GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS INSTITUTE

Asilomar Conference Grounds

Pacific Grove

March 4-9, 1973

This program will be limited to 70 golf course superintendents. Those of you who have not indicated a desire to pre-enroll should do so. If you have misplaced your letter write to Mr. William Davis, Dept of Environmental Hort., University of California, Davis, CA 95616. The cost will be \$225.00 which will include the institute, lodging and food.

A committee consisting of Richard Viergever, Larry Feliciano, Fernie

Espinoza and Cliff Wagoner met with Bill Davis and Dr. John Madison, September 19 to review the subject matter. As soon as it is in final form it will be published. Your participation will be an investment for your future.

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1973 MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE - Bylaw change effective Article II, Section 2. Class E members - Retired Members. Any A, B, D, or F member reaching the age of 60 who is retired and no longer seeking employment within the scope of activities of any membership class of this Association may apply to the Board of Directors, in writing, for Class E membership. Dues for this classification shall be set by the Board of Directors. A retired member shall have all the privileges of this Association afforded the member in his immediate previous classification with the exception of holding office. (The board set dues at \$5.00)

Class F Members - To qualify for Class F an applicant must be engaged as follows: agronomists, extension specialists, park superintendents, and assistants in each category, and purveyors of all types of equipment and materials used for construction and maintenance of golf courses. Class F members shall have all the rights and privileges of the Association except that such members may not vote or hold office.

Your bills will be mailed shortly. When dues are paid, please be sure and list name on check. Confirm address and club changes for directory information.

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RIDING ALONG WITH "#97" - - - by Frank De Carli

California State Open and Pro Amateur Championship Tournament will be held at Pasatiempo Golf Course and De Laveage Golf Course in Santa Cruz from October 2nd thru 8th. Superintendents Bob Lewis and Bill Nigh have been working around the clock to get their courses in top condition for this championship play. Schedule is as follows:
Monday, Oct 2nd - Practice Round
Tuesday Oct 3rd - First Round, both courses
Wednesday Oct 4th - Final Round, both courses
Thursday Oct 5th - First Round, both courses
Friday Oct 6th - Second Round, both courses
Saturday Oct 7th - Third Round, Pasatiempo Golf Course
Sunday Oct 8th - Final Round, Pasatiempo Golf Course

"The Kids" strike again at Rancho Canada Golf Club. LARRY LLOYD Superintendent, reports that after placing signs that the players at times ignore, "The Kids" put their own sign on the bridge saying "No Carts Allowed on This Bridge." The players left their carts at foot

of bridge and proceeded to cross on foot. While players were holing out, the "kids" climbed up and out of the river bed and stole their wallets from the golf carts then returning to the dry river bed awaiting new players. After doing this several times, the "kids" were finally caught. Hope this ends the "kids" problem at your course Larry.

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NEW MEMBERS

Class D

Don Carlyle, Gilroy Golf & CC, Gilroy
Fred G. Chapman, Lake Redding Golf Course, Redding
David Porter, Del Monte Properties, Pebble Beach
William J. Smith, Castlewood CC, Pleasanton
William Taylor, Santa Rosa Golf & CC, Santa Rosa
Paul Woidtke, Silverado CC, Napa

Class E

Jerry Anderson, Johns-Manville Irrigation, Stockton
Keith Johnson, Northrup-King & Company, Yuba City

New Classifications

Paul Lloyd, Seascape Golf Course, Aptos - Class A
Grady Lee Simril, East Bay Regional Park District, Oakland - Class A

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Don Meyer, Sales Manager for Oxy-Chem., has some pretty potent proof that you get results with fertilizer. Can you guess the Brand? He built a small ornamental fence in his garden with redwood logs for posts. You better believe it!! The posts are all leafed out and growing nicely.

Bob Livesey, Superintendent of Visalia's new golf course has been doing some experimenting with Duponts Tupersan for Bermuda control on his new greens, shoulders and aprons. So far it looks real good and he's proceeding with a second application.

A couple of broad leaf weeds and some clover had the audacity to rear their ugly heads in the lush fairways of Del Rio Country Club. Cliff Wagoner just made it wish it hadn't with an application of Trimec. Cliff says it seems to be doing a good job on the weeds but it also is discoloring the Bermuda. I wonder if I could convince him we had an early frost.

-----By Bill Goodridge

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KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK FRANK AND BILL. THANKS FOR THE REPORTING.

Wishful thinking - at least a couple of more good reporters.