

THE BULL SHEET, official monthly publication of the MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.

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### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our first turf Conference is now a thing of the past. I want to thank Bert Rost and his Committee, Dr. Voigt, Dean Searles, Dr. Birkland and all of the professors of the University of Illinois who took part in a splendid program, Mr. Godshalk and the Morton Arboretum and Dusty Rhodes and the staff at the greenhouse for wonderful help and cooperation. The Midwest has passed a milestone, it will not be long before our turf gardens are established and the movement grows. We are on our way.

Plan to attend our summer meetings. The next one will be at Mission Hills April 6th. Our Committees are working to make the day a worthwhile one and we expect that each meeting will be of increasing interest to you.

I suggest that you keep in mind the importance of the National to each of us, that we plan to attend the Annual Turf Conference at Miami which will be held the 1st week in January 1954, and the one to be held in either Tulsa or Houston in '55. Membership and attendance at these meetings will give all an opportunity not only for education but for travel as well. The next two meetings are being held in a delightful climate. Take advantage of these meetings. The insurance benefits of joining the National are good too.

See you all April 6th at Mission Hills.

Ray Davis, President

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### THE APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will be held at Mission Hills Country Club on Sanders Road in Northbrook. Al Dorband will be host Superintendent. The meeting is called for 2 P. M. with golf if weather permits. Our Educational Committee has planned a most interesting outdoor program. There will be a demonstration of soil aeration and thatch removal from greens. You cannot afford to miss this. Dinner will be at 6 P. M.

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It looks like an early spring at this time. Many of the Superintendents in the Chicago area had their greens cut before the first day of Spring and the grass was really growing. Some were talking about mowing fairways before the first of April and that will really be a first. This writer in his thirty some odd years on the course has never yet seen it done, but these are modern times and maybe we are pushing the grass a little more. Regardless, this promises to be one of the earliest and best Springs seen for many a year in this area. Usually the Springs in the Chicago area are nothing to talk about, but it really looks like the real McCoy this year.

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Dave Jr. and Jock MacIntosh with their father, Dave Sr., have bought the controlling interest in Oak Hill Golf Course.

### THE ILLINOIS TURF CONFERENCE

On Saturday, March 14th, promptly at 8:30, men and women from over the state of Illinois, interested in the improvement of turf grasses, started gathering at the University of Illinois Drug Plant & Horticultural Experiment Station near Downers Grove. The response was most gratifying. By 10:00 A. M., one hundred forty had been registered and by 11:00 P. M. there were slightly over two hundred in the lecture hall at the Morton Arboretum.

In behalf of the Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association, Park Cemetery, Playground, Soil Conservation, Highway, Landscaping, Home Owners, Garden Clubs, Turf Nurseries, Equipment & Supplies, and other allied interests, it is with deep gratitude that we wish to thank the University of Illinois for the use of their Experimental Station and the fine group of speakers which they so graciously furnished to make the first Illinois Turf Conference exceed our fondest expectations.

We wish to thank you Dean Serles, Dr. Voigt and Dr. Rhodes of the local station, for the many hours of planning you have devoted to this project so that it would bear fruit; it has, abundantly, we are grateful. Many thanks to Dr. Birkeland, Dr. Fuller, Dr. Weinard, Dr. Arnold, Dr. Linn, Dr. Daniel and Mr. Agrimonti on your fine dissertations on your chosen subjects, they were most enlightening.

We are grateful to Mr. Godshalk, Director of the Morton Arboretum, for the fine facilities furnished us for this conference, also to Mrs. Watkins, Dean Hudelson, Mr. Howard, Dr. Musser and Mr. Mascaro for their presence and participation. Also thanks to Mr. Hammerschmidt for furnishing the facilities for our lunch.

We believe, that if grass, the one plant that that mothered Illinois Agriculture, held and nurtured the soil until the pioneers came with plows and wrested from its roots a production unexcelled in Agricultural records and which gave the state its nickname "The Prairie State", had one request it could make, it would be that it needs to be better understood and improved by man so that it could serve mankind more efficiently and with greater utility.

In the realm of plant life, grass is truly mankind's greatest servant. It recreates the soil. Just by gazing upon it recreates mans soul. As if the Giver of all good above were in accord with our plans for grass, He sent his blessings in the form of rain and it fell in abundance throughout this meeting.

The following is a summary of the interests designated by those who attended.

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|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 0 Airports              | 7 Highways           |
| 10 Athletic Fields      | 50 Home Lawns        |
| 17 Cemeteries           | 41 Landscaping       |
| 27 Education            | 31 Parks             |
| 27 Equipment & Supplies | 18 Playgrounds       |
| 29 Garden Clubs         | 25 Soil Conservation |
| 78 Golf Courses         | 23 Turf Nurseries    |
| 1 Horticulture          | 1 Weed Control       |
| 1 Insect Control        |                      |

13 Industrial & Institutional Turf Maintenance

Chairman of Turf Research Committee  
Bert Rost