

EARL S. BELL

DIRECTOR Earl S. (Smiley) Bell died of a heart attack on May 14 while at a restaurant in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Bell had successfully recovered from quite a period of illness last year.

Smiley was born near Lenexa, Kansas, February 3, 1899. He first entered the golf game in 1915 as operator of a horse drawn mower at the Mission Hill CC, Kansas City where he later served as caddy master. He later assisted his father, Henry Bell, in construction of the Kansas City CC and the Indian Hills CC before entering into the course operation and construction business of his own. In addition to building and operating the fee course Armour Fields GC in Kansas City, he also operated Smiley's Golf Practice Tee, a driving range.

He was widely known in the golf field of the area and advised on construction and built several courses in the Kansas-Missouri area. He is past president of the Heart of America Golf Course Supts. Assn., past director of the Central Plains Turfgrass Foundation and of the Midwest Turf Foundation. He became a Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association in 1940 and has served on several committees. He was appointed Director of the GCSA in 1953 to fill out an unexpired term and was elected to a full term at the Miami meeting with duties as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. His death will be a loss to the entire membership and his many friends in golf.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rose Bell, his father and three brothers, all of the Kansas City area. Pallbearers at services from Lutheran Church in Merriam, Kansas on May 18 were Henry Elmer, P. L. Pepper, Howard Denny, Dudley Day, Chester Mendenhall, all of the Heart of America Assn. All other members were honorary pallbearers. They as well as all members of the Mission Rotary Club, of which Mr. Bell was a member, attended in a body.

SPREADING IT THIN

Among the busiest of Superintendents this spring has been Mel Warneke of Evanston Golf Club. Mel has installed a brand new irrigation system during the last fall and winter and has been busy this spring sodding the ditches. Mel says that he has laid about 9 miles of sod cut 15 inches wide, and that's a lot of sod. Mel has also dug three lakes on the course and figures to use about three acres of sod to finish off that job. Mel figures to have plenty of water for his irrigation needs this summer.

Mrs. George Roloff was in the hospital after having undergone a serious operation at the time of our meeting at Roselle. We want to wish you the best of luck, Mrs. Roloff and hope for your speedy recovery.

Jock Anderson says that business has been extremely good at Bonnie Dundee this spring.

Mrs. Emil Cassier was reported well on the way to good health again after an operation in April.

A number of Superintendents were the guests of Oscar Borgmeier at Ridgemoor Country Club on May 20 and found the course in excellent condition. Cliff Rassmussen is doing a fine job his first year as Superintendent there.

It is reported that Harold Reed is now settled in Florida and is doing a little work in the landscaping business at the present time.

Bill Krafft is not only the Superintendent at Valparaiso Country Club, but is Chairman of the Green Committee as well.

Norm Johnson is now Superintendent at La Gorce Country Club, Miami Beach, Florida. The best of luck to you in your new job, Norm.

George Davis and his family are all back from Hawaii again after vacationing there. George says there is no better

place to spend a vacation than the Hawaiian Islands.

It is a great relief to some of the boys with fruit trees on the grounds that there was not really bad frost this spring during the critical blooming period. Fruit trees were covered with blossoms this spring and it looks like a good year for fruit.

Ray Gerber reports that canker worm damage to elms was especially severe around his part of the country this spring. Some trees which were not given prompt attention were practically stripped of foliage. Generally a spray of arsenate of lead at the rate of 5 or 6 pounds to 100 gallons of water is sufficient to control canker worms if the spraying is done at the proper time. However, Ray says that in order to be sure of getting the worms that he also added DDT and Nicotine Sulphate.

We have received word that Charles Wilson, west coast representative of the Green Section is to become, as of July 1, O. J. Noer's successor as agronomist of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission. We understand that O. J. is to give up travelling around the country and devote his full time to his job as sales manager at the plant.

Mrs. Geo. Roloff wife of our President was in the Sherman Hospital in Elgin for 10 days early in May. Ruth has fully recovered and feels much better.

We recently had a letter from Bill Rueck. Bill is in Monterey, California doing landscape work. He says it is very lovely there, but would like to come back to the Chicago district next spring if he could get into golf course work again.

We understand that Joe Graffis has been under the weather lately. Last report was that he was entering a hospital for a checkup. We hope it isn't anything serious, Joe.

The rains of the week of May 22 thru May 29 have more than made up for the shortage of moisture this spring. However, as is the case most of the time, we had too much for our present needs and some of the superintendents were hard pressed to get their work done during the week. Not only was there a lot of water, but high winds did considerable damage to trees in the area.

The Mole and the Gopher

The advanced season continues on its merry way. Grass has reached full summer vigor, seed set has made cutting extremely tough and mowers have had to be lapped in much earlier than usual, work has piled up to the extent that Supts are looking forward to having school boys available on a full time basis again.

It looks as though we will have a long season of golf this year. We will earn our vacation in California next February.



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