

SPREADING IT THIN

Carl Beckstrom's son, Carl Jr., got married January 15th. Carl Jr. served a term with the Army in Germany, has been with his father since he was old enough for summer work on the golf course and now is attending night classes in Real Estate and Insurance sales at a School in Chicago. We wish you a good life, Carl Jr.

Edward Burke is now Greenkeeping Supt. at the Elmhurst C.C. Eddie has been a machinest an assistant in a pro shop, a caddie and is looking forward to a career as a Grounds Supt. He is in the midst of painting equipment now.

Winter has taken its toll in pain among the wives of our members. Mrs. Lapp, Amos' wife from Elgin, Ill., fell while walking with Amos, hit a curb on the way down and broke her wrist. Now Amos and the kids are doing the house work while Mrs. Lapp directs with her arm in a sling.

Mrs. Burdett of Lombard, according to reports went skating in the brisk below zero one Saturday night. While skating hand in hand, Burdett fell down dragging Mrs. Burdett with him. Burdett got up but Mrs. Burdett spent the next five days in the Elmhurst Hospital. The part that was hurt is unmentionable but exceedingly painful and now she practices the piano while sitting on a pillow. The day she returned from the Hospital, a skating instructor from River Forest called up to ask her to join a skating class. After Mrs. Burdett explained that she would probably do no more skating this season, she commented that Burdett had suggested that she take some lessons so she could fall more gracefully.

Since their youngest boy got himself married off Don and Mrs. Strand have taken advantage of their new found freedom. Don and Marge spent almost a month in Texas and Mexico after the meeting at St. Louis, and Marge went south to Florida when Don Jr. left for his vacation Feb. 15th. So Don Sr. is now a bachelor and available for dinner dates.

Al Schaper of the Sod Nursery and Mrs. Schaper spent three weeks touring Texas and Arizona and Oklahoma, traveled 6000 miles and thoroughly tried out the new Chevrolet. Al reported that he went 115 miles in 93 minutes if I remember the story rightly. The Strands, Schaper's and the Gerbers all met at Pharr in the Rio Grande Vallev in Texas and spent some time together. Don made an excellent guide to Texas, he loves it and knows it thoroughly.

Marv Gruening and his family of the Midwest C. C. spent their vacation this year in Wausau, Wisconsin. Marv reported very vigorous weather with the temperature at 20 degrees below.

Some 50 members of the Midwest Association sat down to dinner at Sambos Feb. 14th. In spite of the longing of many of the men to be with their families on Valentines day, the crowd radiated good fellowship and every one had a good time. Bill Stuppel was there, back a week early from a cold and windy Florida, Scotty Stewart, the irrigation specialist tore himself away from his drawing board where he has been working over a complicated pumping station, Geo. Roloff our president, was absent at a zoning board meeting but Vice President Frank Dinelli handled the gavel excellently, Nels Johnson climbed out of a tree to make himself available to answer questions on pruning, John Darrah dug himself out of the drifts along Route 30 to get there, Ray Davis hurried from a meeting with his chairman and we all sat down to a delicious steak dinner. Geo. Dahlman had a flock of new stories and he and Scotty Stewart entertained one end of the table all evening.

Bert Rost spent his vacation in Minneapolis. Bert said it was too cold for skating.

Don Strand gave an encouraging report on the program set up to strengthen the financial position of the National.

Ray Davis is to be on a panel at the Purdue meeting.

Gordon Brinkworth reported briefly on his trip to the West Coast and he believes that our courses stack up well with the best in the country.

The Clubhouse at Glen Eagles C. C. burned to the ground Thursday morning, Feb. 17th. Walter Fuchs stayed with the blaze till it was over. The fire had such a good start before it was discovered that it was impossible to save anything.

Our officials are working toward a joint meeting of the Midwest, the Michiana and the Central Illinois associations to be held early this summer.

Although it seemed that everyone was going to be away for the winter, it is surprising how many places hummed with activity all season long. The repair work is about done with usually only a few tractors left to be worked on, and the mowers and equipment is all lined up in the sheds shining in paint looking as good as it did the day it left the factory. There are many Supts who have stayed close to home this season hoping to get a week or two extra next year so that they can have a little time before or after the Long Beach, California, meeting to see something of the fabulous State of California, and many a Christmas bonus check for '54 is being carefully hoarded for use in Feb. '56. The Mole hopes that we all have better weather in California than we had during the last meeting there. At that time it was cold and rainy, too.

Clarence Mueller's son Glen, age 6, spent a week during the middle of February in the Hospital for an operation. Hope you are feeling better, Glen.

Gordon Brinkworth now drives a new RED Nash Ambassador. A friend, after looking it over commented "Gordon, when are they going to install the fire siren". It is a beautiful car, a hard top convertible.

Bob Williams is now driving a new Buick. At this moment the Mole has no details.

Ray Gerber, Don Strand and Bob Williams will carry an important part of the program for the Midwest Institute of Park Executives in Chicago, the second week of March. Don will discuss the starting, propagation and growing of a turf nursery; Bob will discuss Turf Grass Management, and Ray will discuss Use and Misuse of Equipment in Turf Grass Management.

The Mole and the Gopher

Did you know that in warm moist weather the growth of algae in the upper three inches of soil may add as much as six tons of organic matter per acre? These organisms convert carbon dioxide gas into cell material. Some of the so-called blue-green variety are nitrogen-fixers. They enrich the soil by making their cell protein from nitrogen in the air.

LAWN SEED, K-B ORGANIC BASE FERTILIZER CHEMICALS

GOLF COURSE EQUIPMENT

Dist. "GREEN AIR SPECIAL AERATOR"

Chicago's own **ALL-ORGANIC** fertilizer 5-4-0

LAWN BEAUTY SPREADER

KAHN BROS. CO.

4425 S. Halsted Street

John MacGregor, Rep.

Chicago 9, Ill.