

THE MAY MEETING AND SPRING TOURNAMENT

Our May meeting was held at Coghill Golf Club with George Dahlman as our Host Superintendent. It was a bright, sunny day, and 44 golfers turned out to play in the Spring Golf Tournament. The course was in beautiful shape after the welcome rains of the end of April. There was, of course, the usual contingent of non-golfers on hand during the afternoon strolling about and admiring the course and enjoying the hospitality of the club house. We never did get the official count for dinner that evening, but it was close to 90. We enjoyed a very sumptuous and plentiful dinner and then got down to the business meeting. President Williams called on the various committee chairmen for their monthly reports. Ray Gerber, Placement Committee chairman, reported that Wicker Park in Hammond, Indiana and Elks Country Club in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, were looking for Superintendents. George Roloff, Membership Committee Chairman, reported that he had a number of applications for membership. Frank Dinelli, Practical Research Committee Chairman, called on various men who had started projects on their courses in line with Frank's program of practical research by the Superintendents. Education Committee Chairman called on Ray Gerber to give a short talk on the training of new men and on Amos Lapp to discuss the labor angle of topdressing greens. President Williams announced that there would be a Directors meeting on May 14 and that the next meeting would be held at Ravisloe Country Club with Walter Killmer as our host on June 4. President Williams thanked Joe Jemsek for his courtesy in making it possible to have the meeting at his club and also George Dahlman for his cooperation and hospitality and congratulated on the fine condition of the golf course.

GOLF WINNERS

1 low gross, Bob Williams. 1 low net, Chuck Daugherty, 2 Jock MacIntosh, 3 Dave Mastroleo, 4 Bob Duguid. 5 Jerry Transier, 6 Stan Arendt, 7 Joe Dinelli. Seniors, Ray Davis. Guest Prize, Mel Bloom.

WISCONSIN NEWS

The May 7th meeting of the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association was held at Brynwood Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis., Lester Verhaalen host superintendent. The heavy rains of the week end had soaked the grounds, but they were still playable. While the pressure of spring work kept many at home, over 25 played golf in the afternoon, and there were 37 present for the evening meeting and dinner. The main order of business was the election of officers. With the following elected.

President—Charles Shiley, North Hills Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis.

Vice Pres.—Frank Musbach, Blue Mound Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis.

Sec.-Treas.—Bob Howe, R. L. Ryerson Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and the following were elected Directors for a 2 year term:

Arnold Wessel, Ozokee Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis.
Martin Mikulski, Riverside Golf Club, Clintonville, Wis.

Howard Gabbey, Johnson Park Golf Club, Racine, Wis.
And to fill a vacancy—Delbert Stolenwerk, Washington Park Golf Course, Kenosha, Wis.

Our next meeting will be held at Beloit Country Club, Harvey Krahn, Superintendent, the date, June 11, 1956.

The July 10 meeting will be held at Oconomowoc Country Club, Hilbert Wegner Superintendent.

Irve Bertrum reports that next fall construction work will start on 4 new greens, tees, and fairways, and the rerouting of the entire golf course made necessary by plans for a super-highway that will go thru the south end of his golf grounds, Westmoor Country Club, Milwaukee, and will take some portion of 4 holes.

Chas. Shiley

THE PERIODICAL CICADA

by Nels J. Johnson

In just another few weeks, the trees in the Chicago area will again be plagued by the 17-year locust. This peculiar bug, which by the way is no locust at all, measures approximately $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. The body is black with orange colored eyes, legs and veins in the wings. During approximately 17 years, depending on the geographical locations, the cicada nymph burrows in the ground extracting food juices from the tree roots.

At the end of 17 years of subterranean existence the nymph makes its way to the surface, the "cast" splits open and the adult cicada begins another short but active, noisy and injurious phase of its odd life cycle.

It has been estimated that as many as 20 to 40,000 cicadas might emerge from the ground under one single oak. The noise made by these vast hordes of large bugs has been known to drown out open-air orchestras.

That the female is the most vicious of the species is strikingly demonstrated by the cicada. For some reason, known only to the female cicada, the eggs are deposited in regular, deep notches made on the more tender branches and twigs of some 75 species of host trees. The "stitches" made by the cicada later cause wilting and "die-back" of the injured twigs, making some trees appear as if scorched by fire. The various species of oak are preferred host trees, but also fruit trees, Hawthornes, Hickories and Lindens are exposed to serious injury.

After a few weeks when the eggs hatch, the nymphs fall to the ground, dig in and remain out of sight for another 17 years.

Considering that the adult cicada has atrophied mouth parts and consequently is unable to feed, the apparent, sole purpose of its existence being propagation of the species, control of this pest must be affected by a contact insecticide.

17 years ago when the last serious cicada infestation occurred, none of the insecticides proved very effective. Today, however, with the introduction of many potent chlorinated and phosphated insecticides, we are confident that the cicadas can be effectively controlled.

Should, however, the cicadas have damaged your trees, pruning and feeding will satisfactorily repair the injury.

SPREADING IT THIN

Walter Domm of the Calumet Country Club fell and broke four ribs the middle of April. Walter spent five days in the hospital and is still recovering.

Frank Mastroleo of Geneva C. C. exercised rare good judgment and quick thinking the middle of May when a tractor he was filling with gas caught fire. Frank was able to get another tractor hooked up to the burning one dragged it out in the middle of the yard away from the sheds, called the fire department which put out the blaze before much damage was done.

Ward and Mrs. Cornwell had planned to arrive early in the afternoon, but weather conditions were so bad that they were held up in the air for $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours waiting for a chance to come in and land.

The weather this season has been most unusual. One day we had real spring but just Thursday morning, one week before Decoration day we broke the ice in the bird bath. Everyone seems busy and happy and the courses look their finest as the most active playing season approaches.

Gordon Brinkworth has planned a most unusual program for our August meeting. Ben Warren plans the first part of the meeting at the Warren Turf Nursery for the morning. Ben has some mighty unusual equipment that he plans to show and display, most of it he has developed in his own work shop. He has an electric driven greens mower that will cut a 10 foot swath and remove the clippings by vacuum, a conveyor that stretches almost 100 yards, acres of Zoysia, hundreds of acres of Merion Blue grass, Vapam sterilized fields planted to Penn Lu grass, and to Zoysia, plans to provide a truck with seats so we can conveniently tour the operation and to provide adequate food at noon.

In the afternoon the Glen Eagles C. C. and Walter Fuchs has invited us to have our tournament and dinner and meeting there. It will be a great day.

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