

GOLF WINNERS

1 Low Gross, H. Michals - 72. 1 Low Net, D. Coffman. 2, John Coghill. 3, Ed Muzik. 4, Mike Coyne. 5, Harold Borgmann. 6, Bill Saielli. 7, John Ebel. 8, Joe Venturella. Guest prize, Dick McWort.

DOOR PRIZES

1, Frank Dinelli. 2, Bill Smith.

Refreshments on the course at Twin Orchards were by courtesy of Illinois Lawn Equipment Company and Frandsen Brothers. Our sincere thanks to them for contributing to a most enjoyable day.

PANORAMA

The spring and summer seasons of 1958 have been favorable for Golf in the Chicago area. Play has been good everywhere and courses have been better than average in condition and maintenance. The area generally has had sufficient rainfall, in places — more than enough. Consequently, Poa Anna has come thru the summer pretty well. In a few places, excessive rainfall has caused some trouble.

As the summer wanes and fall approaches, many Superintendents are planning to carry out plans for reconstruction and improvement. The fall season is best for renovation, reseeding, and construction. Since the summer months, June, July, and August have been rainy this year, it is a good bet that the fall will be dry. The odds on this are the same as on the Yankees and the Braves to win the pennants in their respective leagues.

Inflation will be more of a problem when the spending of the huge appropriations by Congress this summer, and the borrowings by the government to finance them, get under way. There is little or no prospect for reduced prices on manufactured goods where production is geared to demand. Now and then, basic materials or crops are scarce or overproduced and the price fluctuates accordingly.

Grass Seed crops were good in 1958 with a few exceptions. Prices are somewhat changed as follows:

Lower: Kentucky Blue Grass, Penn Cross Bent. Unchanged to slightly higher: Fescues, Bents, and Red Top.

Much higher: Merion Blue Grass and Rye Grasses.

Plant Foods and Chemicals are unchanged.

Equipment has not advanced in price yet, but the manufacturers have a recent price advance in steel to contend with. Mower volume was off 10-15% in 1958 as compared with 1957, so producers will be loath to mark up prices. If any price increases are made for 1959, they will be small. Look for new models and improvements for 1959. There will be some new wrinkles in equipment.

September and October are perhaps the best golf months of the year in the Chicago area. Superintendents should not neglect the appearance and maintenance standard of their courses during these months. Golfers will play till the snow flies if the course is inviting.

C. O. Borgmeir

Several of the Midwest boys are planning to stay overnight in Milwaukee on September 9. They figure it's a long way home and they will be able to take their time going home the next day.

Chuck Daugherty lost his golf shoes at Twin Orchards and was a little worried about recovering them, but reports are that his worries are over along that line at least. His shoes have been returned to him in fine condition.

WISCONSIN NEWS

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents August meeting was held at Kenosha Country Club on Monday, August 11. Bert Barrows, dean of Wisconsin Superintendents and only active charter member of the Association was host. There were 65 present at the meeting.

Richar Hanson of Rainy Sprinkler Sales, Peoria, Illinois, talked on the subject of sprinklers and golf course irrigation. Agar Brown, National Secretary, was present and did his usual fine job of selling the National Association.

The drought continues in Wisconsin and unwatered courses are brown, however, the disease incidence has been less and very little turf has been lost. As usual, several clubs are talking and planning on fairway irrigation which usually follows a dry season.

The Wisconsin Fall Tournament will be held at Meadowbrook Country Club, Racine, Wisconsin, on September 15.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ken and Betty Lapp (Fresh Meadow Country Club) announce the birth of their second son, William Craig on August 2 in Silver Cross Hospital in Joliet. Their other boy, John Craig, had his first birthday on August 29. Both Betty and Billy are getting along fine.

George Roloff attended the meeting at Twin Orchards and we are sincerely happy to see how much he has improved since the last meeting. George still has one leg in a brace, but says it won't be long before he hopes to get rid of it and get around as well as ever.

Al Bertucci is back at work and says that his back feels pretty good, but that he doesn't dare do much work as yet.

Gabriel Rosset is able to be on the course for a few hours of the day at least. Gabe says that his hard working days are over and that he is going to take it a little easy from now on.

In spite of the cool summer, we hear reports of troubles on putting greens. As far as we can learn, they are mainly watering and drainage problems. Intermittent rains have soaked greens after the Superintendent has done his watering resulting in excessive moisture in poorly constructed greens or greens in bad locations. Overwatering of putting green turf certainly is the biggest contributor to our greens woes. Many Superintendents in this area have done most of their greens watering by hand. A judicious amount of water is applied early in the morning and carries the green thru the day without any trouble. It seems to us that a small amount of water applied every day during dry weather rather than soaking the greens and letting them go for two or three days before giving them any more water is the sensible approach to the watering problem. By hand watering, water can be applied more heavily on mounds and backs of greens where there is a possibility of severe drying out than on the lower and front parts of greens. It has long been noted that wilting does not occur too much on turf that has been watered the night before, but the danger is next day when the surface has dried a little and soil temperatures rise making it necessary for daytime syringing of the turf. Of course, hand watering is not possible on all courses due to the amount of labor available, but judicious watering practices are vital to the maintenance of fine turf during the hot weather.