

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Heavy rains during the night and early morning of October 6th made it necessary to postpone the annual golf tournament at the Biltmore Country Club. However, a few of the more enthusiastic members played golf and reported that although the course was quite wet it was in good condition. Our many thanks to Superintendent John Ebel for his Fine hospitality. Even though the weather was poor ninety-four members attended the meeting and enjoyed a delicious charcoal broiled steak dinner prepared by a very genial manager, Mr. Foot.

Our November 3rd meeting will be held at the River Forest Golf Club. Superintendent Ed Stewart will be our host. The nominating committee will make their report at this meeting. The weather may be favorable for a final game of golf. The annual meeting and election of officers will be held at our December meeting at the Elmhurst Country Club. Superintendent Ed Burke will be our host.

The fall dinner and dance will be held at the Midwest Country Club on November 7, 1959. Marvin Gruening, the entertainment committee chairman, reports that all of the arrangements have been completed, so get out your dancing shoes and bring along your favorite dancing partner for an evening of fun.

New construction work and the rebuilding of greens, tees and sand traps is in progress at many of the golf clubs. Drainage is being improved by installing new tile lines or by cleaning out old ones.

It will soon be time to apply the treatment for snow mold. It may pay dividends to treat the collars, approaches and bent and poa annua tees as well as the putting surfaces.

Our annual clinic will be held on December 1st and 2nd at the Olympia Fields Country Club. This is an educational meeting that you should make every effort to attend. In fact, I do not see how you can afford to stay away. Come out and meet the new Superintendent at Olympia Fields, our host Warren Bidwell. Don't forget the date — December 1st and 2nd.

Ray Gerber, President

END OF LAWN MOWING SEEN

Ten years from now you will be able to sit on a lawn that needs no mowing and reach up to pick a normal sized peach from the low branches of a dwarf tree.

This will be possible because within 10 years we will have an "anti-gibberellin." This startling announcement comes from Dr. James A. Lockhart, biologist at the California Institute of Technology in Pasadena.

Gibberellin, the hormone that plants secrete to induce stem growth, has been widely studied, Dr. Lockhart pointed out. Considerable research is under way to discover an anti-gibberellin which would suppress the growth of plants without affecting their ability to flourish and yield normal crops.

An application of this anti-gibberellin — perhaps in a spray form or as an additive to fertilizer — could slow plant growth so that grass, for example, would need virtually no trimming. Fruit trees treated with the anti-growth substance would be the same as normal trees except for their shortened stems or trunks. Dr. Lockhart based his prediction of the properties of the anti-gibberellin on what he has learned about gibberellin.

The hormone affects young cells, especially in the plant stem, promoting stem growth by counteracting the effects of sunlight. Light slows down growth by making the young cell walls more rigid. Gibberellin enables the cell walls to stretch, growing longer but not wider.

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