THE BULL SHEET, official publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.
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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our joint meeting with the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association held at the McHenry Country Club on September 8th was an exceptionally enjoyable one. Our neighbors to the north are a grand group of fellows and we always enjoy being with them. We were happy to have with us Dr. Sayler, President of the McHenry Country Club, and Mr. Buss, chairman of the greens committee. Superintendent Al Purvey, who has been with the club for thirty-eight years, is to be congratulated on the fine condition of the golf course. We hope he will be with the club many more years because we will be looking forward to another invitation. 114 members and guests enjoyed the superb buffet dinner. The arrangement of the buffet table reminded one of pictures one sees in some of the better magazines. The food was excellent and plentiful. We are grateful to Bob Hurst, Club Manager, for his capable efforts.

The educational program was presented by Charlie Wilson from the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission who did a splendid job (he always does). Of the seventy-plus men who played golf, many went home with a prize. The Midwest won the inter-association golf trophy again this year.

The October meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 6th, at the Biltmore Country Club. Superintendent John Ebel will be our host. This will be our annual golf tournament. The leaves may be falling so a little practice as to how to keep the ball in the fairway may not be a bad idea.

The plans are almost completed for our annual turf clinic which will be held at the Olympia Fields Country Club on December 1st and 2nd. Try to attend this educational function of our association. You won't be disappointed. It is rated very highly by those who have attended previous clinics.

Golf course maintenance budgets are increasing each year. This is being made necessary by the increasing number of rounds of golf played, the demands of the golfer, the increase in wages and the increase in prices of materials and equipment. When making up your budget investigate anticipated price increases in materials, equipment and labor. The availability of labor might depend on meeting the competition of industry and other trades in your area.

At the August meeting of the Board of Directors Al Johnson and myself were appointed as delegates to the G.C.S.A. Advisory Committee meetings which will be held during the 1960 Turfgrass Conference and Equipment Show in Houston, Texas. Because we will be your

representatives, we must know your opinions of the agenda items when they are published. These anticipated items will be discussed thoroughly during one of our future meetings. During the October meeting we will select a canditate for the annual election of Officers and Directors of the G.C.S.A. whose name will be forwarded to the chairman of the nominating committee. Whoever your choice may be, be sure he has the qualifications outlined by the G.C.S.A. nominating committee.

Your Board of Directors has authorized a check in the amount of \$500.00 to be presented to the O. J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc. This is just a small way for us to show our appreciation for the many things O.J. has done for us.

On September 10, 1959 a meeting was held to outline a research program with the University of Illinois. Present were Dr. Wayne Bever and Dr. Mike Britton from the Plant Pathology Department, Bert Rost and myself. A report of this meeting follows:

Dr. Wayne Bever outlined and clarified the responsibility of each department for extension, research and teaching within the College of Agriculture of the University. The Department of Plant Pathology has the responsibility of all extension and research activities on plant diseases. Funds allocated for disease work are administered by the head of the department and include funds received from all sources including grants and gifts from individuals, organizations, commercial companies, etc.

Services now available through our Extension Plant Pathologist to golf clubs and home owners and others having turf disease problems were outlined. These include 1) personal calls providing "on the spot" disease diagnoses and recommendations for control, 2) informational talks at group meetings, and 3) establishment of plots to demonstrate disease control methods and materials.

In addition to the services outlined above, current information is prepared and released as Departmental publications: "Reports on Plant Disease" and "Plant Disease Pointers". These publications have a limited distribution because of printing costs.

Statement of need as outlined by Britton and Bever:

To strengthen the informational services on turf grass diseases, it is absolutely necessary to have an active and progressive research program in Illinois. To our knowledge no research on diseases of turf grasses is now being conducted anywhere in the midwest.

Some objectives of a research program on turf diseases were enumerated and briefly outlined as follows:

- 1. Evaluate under putting green and field conditions the effectiveness of fungicides presently used both singly and in combination for turf disease control.
- 2. Evaluate new fungicides in laboratory and greenhouse for control, toxicity to plants and compatability with other chemicals applied to turf. Satisfactory materials will be tested under field conditions.
- 3. Identify the cause of disease situations and develop controls. For example, the fungi Curvularia and Helminthasporium are almost always present in the same diseased area and as a consequence it is not actually known which one is the primary cause of the disease situation. Controled experiments would provide the answer and information leading to better control measures.
- Evaluation of clonal selections of bent grass, bluegrass, etc. for resistance to specific or combinations of disease-producing organisms.

5. Effect of fertilizers, irrigation practices, height of mowing, aeration, etc. on incidence, development and control of disease.

Until funds are provided for hiring a research man, no research on diseases of turf grasses can be conducted by the Department of Plant Pathology.

Ray Gerber, President

CLIPPINGS

Biltmore Country Club, the scene of our 1959 Annual Tounament, is due north of Barrington on Route 59. Going North, if you see the club, you have passed the turn and have to go back. The course lies on the east side of the road. The road winds thru the hills, past a lovely lake, a nice beach, and there you are.

Our Host Supterintendent, is John Ebel. John has been a member of the Midwest Association for about three years, plays golf in the 90's is married and the father of two lovely daughters, ages 3 and 6 years. John is proud of Biltmore, in fact the second Supt. there was his Uncle Henry Wiest, whom many of us will remember, followed by John's father, John L., and since 1948, John C has been the Supt. You will love the course, the club house is built high on a hill overlooking the course which lies almost entirely in a valley, has an unlimited water supply from the 50 acre spring fed lake, and is in excellent condition. It is a beautiful place for our annual tournament. John promises we will eat high on the hog.

Although the strong winds that accompanied the rain of the middle week in September blew down many branches and leaves and made a lot of clean up work, there were few gripes because the rain that came along with the storm was badly needed. In fact, while looking over the beautiful green turf of the Biltmore Course, John Ebel commented, "Unless you had seen it like I have, you will never believe the change in color that has come over this course during the last 24 hours." Most areas got about .6 of an inch, and hope to get more out of each passing cloud.

Fall work progressed rapidly since Labor day, Silver Lake has about finished laying sod on three greens just built by Ray Didier, Oak Hills has finished the one they planned to rebuild this fall, with the sod all layed and top dressed and growing beautifully, Glen Eagles is working hard on the new number I tee, Cog Hill is laying plans for 18 real large tees and maybe a green or two, Riverside has just completed a fairway treatment for the control of white grub, Midwest plans just one new green this fall and that is about done, St. Charles Country Club hopes to rebuild either six or seven, Gerald Dearie at Medinah only plans to rebuild one and will not start that till after October 1st and every wind brings stories of plans to make bigger tees and more beautiful and more practical greens, and everywhere Superintendents are repairing the ravages of the prolonged August hot humid weather. It sure is hard to believe that summer is gone and that all too soon we will be dodging snow flakes.

Dave Mastroleo has made a new device that helps him to float soil into the small gullies on his roughs and fairways at the relatively new Addison Golf Course, that smooths the fill and leaves the job ready for seed. It is a form of a drag and Dave says it cuts the work way down and does it far better than can be done with a rake. Merion Blue * Zoysia * Kentucky Blue * Bents

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