

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We shall soon be starting a new year for our organization. I have enjoyed being president of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and the months have really gone fast. When I was elected, I felt I probably could not continue in this capacity due to illness in my family, but now I soon shall pass the gavel to a fellow member and I am wondering where the time has gone.

Due to the excellent cooperation of other officers and committee members, the job has been made much easier and I sincerely thank everyone who has kept the ball rolling. I feel our meetings have been very worth while and I am sure all of our members have found them entertaining as well as instructive.

I thought it might be interesting to recap the 1960 attendance as follows: Geo. A. Davis Co., Jan 5, — 175. We had no meeting in Feb. Ruth Lake, March 6 — 66. Woodridge Country Club, April 5 — 80. Calumet Country Club, May 2 — 85. Silver Lake Golf Club, June 7 — 85. White Pines Golf Club, July 11 — 85. Barrington Hills Country Club, August 8 — 110. Joint meeting Wisconsin, September 20. Biltmore Country Club, October 4 — 70. Vernon Hills Golf Club, November 7 — 70. Attendance for 9 regular monthly meetings was 821 — an average of 91 plus.

I wish again to thank all the host superintendents and club officials who offered the use of their courses and facilities to us.

Mr. O. J. Noer was honored on September 27 with a testimonial dinner at Olympia Fields Country Club at which time a Portable Speaker and Tape Recorder was presented to him in appreciation for all assistance and advice he has given us.

Our 1961 nominating committee consists of the following members: Al Johnson, Chairman; Amos Lapp, Albie Stoudt, Walter Fucks, and Ed Stewart.

They have submitted the following slate 1960-61 election. President, Ted Woehrle, Joe Canale. 1st Vice President, Marv Gruening, Peter Bild. 2nd Vice President, Ed Burke, Al Bertucci. Secretary-Treasurer, Don Gerber, Paul Voykin. Directors, Emil Cassier, Albie Stoudt, Joe Dinelli, Clifford Decker, Bill Saielli, and Don Stewart.

Annual meeting will be held at River Forest Country Club at which time we will elect our new officers. Date — Monday, December 5th, 1960. Please attend.

In closing, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and most prosperous New Year.

Sincerely, Emil Cassier, President

PREPARATIONS FOR WINTER

Winter is a critical period for trees and shrubs. Now is the time to prepare them for the adversities that accompany cold weather.

These preparations, suggests the National Arborist Association, should include measures that minimize storm damage, reduce winter burn of evergreens, and prevent rabbit and mouse injury.

Closely examine your trees for tight, V-shaped branch forks, split crotches, and longitudinal cracks in the trunk limbs. Look, too, for branches that cross and rub together, are dead, broken, or are unduly pendulous and drooping.

If any such conditions are found, cabling and bracing, pruning, and possibly other treatments are needed. A competent arborist or tree service organization should be called in to do such work.

Winter injury to evergreens is common. Usually it is caused by lack of sufficient moisture in the soil to replenish that given off by the foliage. Water thoroughly before the ground freezes. Mulching also is beneficial; it retards evaporation and stabilizes soil temperatures.

To prevent rabbits and mice gnawing the bark from young fruit trees, ornamental crabs, mountain ash and similar plants, apply chemical repellents, or erect a mechanical barrier around the trunk. This may consist of a cylinder of window screen or hardware cloth. Bury the bottom edge to keep out burrowing mice.

FORESTRY OFFICIALS EYE DUTCH ELM
'CURE'

A Lansing park department forestry official said Wednesday he plans to communicate with an industrial scientist in Newark, O., who reportedly has discovered a simple method for combating Dutch Elm disease.

Word of the discovery was relayed to Theodore Haskell, city forester, after it was received by The State Journal.

Mr. Haskell learned that Dr. James Slayter of Newark, vice president in charge of research and development for Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp., started 12 years ago using zinc chloride to fight the disease in one of the trees in his yard.

Today he reports the tree to be quite healthy. He began drilling holes in the tree, pouring in some zinc chloride and then plugging the holes.

Uses Treatment Twice

He used the treatment twice, succeeding in getting the disease halted for about three years each time.

According to Dr. Slayter's report, he decided to use a more permanent method. He drove zinc coated finishing nails in the bark so the nails could come in contact with the sap wood.

Many people in Ohio, who have heard of the test, have started using the method to save their own infested trees.

During his long experiment with zinc chloride as a fungicidal agent, he made tests with other trees seeking to find something to protect wood used for fence posts from rotting.

Zinc Ions Traced

These tests led to spectrographic analysis in his laboratory of twigs from trees treated with zinc ions, and it revealed the ions had traveled up the sapwood and reached every portion of the trees.

Fence posts from treated trees revealed they were not only resistant to rot-producing fungus, but also sprouted twigs and leaves — proving the chloride did not damage the living tissues.

The Dutch Elm fungus, caused by an elm bark beetle, travels up the sap of the elm into the branches and twigs. It apparently affects only the elm tree.

Mr. Haskell said that a discovery such as reported could result in a complete change of concept in battling the Dutch Elm disease throughout the country, and presumably cut costs considerably.

M. S. U. Experimenting

Michigan State university has been experimenting with various agents in an attempt to find the solution to combating the elm fungus, he said.

He reported that since the disease was first discovered in Lansing in 1956, the city has destroyed 527 elm trees, 300 of them thus far this year, when they were found diseased.

The park board has asked an additional \$10,000 to carry out its program for the balance of the fiscal year, and councilmen indicated the money will be allocated.

Mr. Haskell reported that Lansing has a total of 67,000 elm trees, 24,861 in public parks and lands, and 42,625 on private property.

Highest losses in elm trees this year has been found in newly annexed areas and along the fringes of the city limits, he reported.

The city carries out an annual spraying program to combat Dutch Elm disease. If the zinc chloride or zinc coated nails become the solution to the problem, the work could be carried on without regard for weather conditions. Spraying methods must be carried out under favorable weather conditions, it was pointed out.

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