

## MAY MEETING

Our May meeting will be held at the Ridge Country Club on Tuesday May 7. Charlie Rack will be our host. It has been a long time since we have been to Ridge Country Club. It is on the south side of Chicago at 103rd and California Avenue.

## PURDUE'S MIDWEST REGIONAL TURFGRASS FOUNDATION TURNS OUT HUGE CROWD DESPITE THE BAD WEATHER

Registration was well over 500 for the 26th annual conference held at Purdue University. Dr. Daniel presented another outstanding educational program. Some of the papers presented were very basic and fundamental but very interesting. A good review is always necessary and welcome. We were pleased to see such a good turn out from the Chicago area. The usual President's dinner was held at Sarge Biltz's but for some reason the President didn't show up. Somebody got their wires crossed. It was fun anyway.

The President elect is Steve Fraizer of Indiana. A young capable man. No one from our local Chapter was elected because of poor attendance to the annual business meeting. We had one man nominated but he was defeated. This is a shame because we of the Midwest Association have been so very active in the Turfgrass Foundation for many years. We still have the largest number of members participating in the Foundation. Next year we should make an effort to place a man in nomination and then get him elected.

## ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW BREAKS ALL ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Over 350,000 people jammed the McCormick Place for nine days admiring the beauty of Nature. This broke the total attendance record established last year by some 30,000.

Carl F. Mees, coordinator of the University of Illinois extension service, said the University's booth at the show handed out over 100,000 pamphlets to persons desiring information on lawns and gardens.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation participated with a booth in conjunction with the University of Illinois. President Jim Brandt announced that he was well pleased with the amount of traffic and interest in the booth which consisted of flats of lawn grasses and the various lawn weeds. He appreciates the assistance given by the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents in manning the booth. Over 35 members of our Association participated.

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The University won the Blue Ribbon for their booth which included the ITF's booth. A great deal of interest was shown and some interesting questions were asked by the people passing through the booth. One of the most asked questions involved Powdery Mildew, another was Fairy Ring and its cure, and then the usual weed questions were also asked.

## POINTS OF INTEREST

While at Purdue, Bill Lyons of Firestone Country Club told us of a case where a copper wire was placed in some drain tile 13 years ago and is still keeping tree roots from entering the tile. Checking into this we find that it is quite common practice. It seems that a chemical reaction on the copper wire creates copper sulfate in minute quantities which is strong enough to kill all roots that might enter the tile.

We also hear of a manufacturer that has patented a pelleted Ammonium Sulfate. This might be another method of applying a quick shot of Nitrogen to the fairways.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a Hospitality Room of our own at the next National Convention in Philadelphia? Think about it.

## GOLF

It is a science, the study of a lifetime, in which you may exhaust yourself but never your subject. It is a duel or a melee, calling for courage, skill, strategy and self control. It is a test of temper, a trial of honor, a revealer of character. It affords a chance to play the man and act the gentleman.

It means going into God's out-of-doors, getting close to nature, fresh air, exercise, a sweeping away of the mental cobwebs, genuine recreation of the tired tissues. It is a cure for care, an antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friend, social intercourse, opportunities for courtesy, kindness and generosity to an opponent. It promotes not only physical health but moral force.

D. R. Forgan

## TURFGRASS DISEASE CONTROL

Dr. Malcolm C. Shurtleff  
University of Illinois

(Continued from last month)

2. *The environment is made less favorable for the causal organism and more favorable for the grass plant.* Fungi which cause all turf diseases (except those produced by nematodes) require much the same sort of environment that turfgrass requires: food, moisture, oxygen, and a favorable temperature. The basic concept here is to grow grass in an environment which will be unfavorable to the growth, multiplication, and spread of disease-producing fungi. This we can do by:

a. Keep the grass blades as dry as possible for as long as possible. Fungi, with the exception of the powdery mildews, require free moisture on the grass plant for three to 12 hours or more to infect a plant. Poling, brushing, or hosing are means of removing dew and gutted water in which these organisms thrive. There are reports of superintendents applying non-toxic, surface-active detergents to grass which prevented dew from clinging to the grass blades. The fungi couldn't penetrate without moisture and no disease developed. Poor surface and subsoil drainage result in compaction and soil aeration problems. Roots are suffocated from lack of oxygen or are "drowned."