



Back Row l. to r.: Don Gerber, Dudley Smith, Bert Rost, Bill Brady and Adolph Bertucci.
Front Row: Warren Bidwell, Pres. John Ebel, Roy Nelson and Al Johnson.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

At our annual meeting which was held at the Elmhurst Country Club on December 3rd the following men were elected into office.

President, John Ebel - Biltmore Country Club, 1st Vice-President, Warren Bidwell - Olympia Fields Country Club, 2nd Vice-President, Al Johnson - Park Ridge Country Club.

New Directors: Charles Schultz - Hinsdale Country Club, Adolph Bertucci - Lake Shore Country Club, Dudley Smith - Silver Lake Country Club.

Members serving one more year on the Board: Don Gerber - last years President from Chicago Golf, Bert Rost - Butterfield Country Club, Bill Brady - Barrington Country Club.

Annual Fall Clinic Huge Success!

The tenth Annual Fall Clinic held at Olympia Fields Country Club on Nov. 27th and 28th was by far our most successful. The attendance far surpassed that of any other clinic and the material presented as well as the speakers were all outstanding. There were 43 Midwest Superintendents in attendance and 17 superintendents from other organizations. 11 Assistant Superintendents also attended. The commercial people were well represented with 27 attending. There were 5 University representatives, 2 managers and 2 Chairmen of Grounds. During the Banquet we had 9 complimentary guests. This brought our total for the entire clinic to 116 which surpassed last years clinic by 13.

Thanks to Jim Holmes, the Moderator for the first day we are able to bring you a very complete summary of the first days proceedings.

Summary of:

THE 10th ANNUAL TURF CLINIC

November 27, 1962

by: James L. Holms

USGA Green Section

Mid-Western Agronomist

Keynote Address: by O. J. Noer

Mr. Noer summarized advancements in turf technology during the past 42 years or since the conception of the USGA Green Section. At the time the Green Section Initiated research in turf with regard to its relationship to golf, Rhode Island was the only Land Grant College working in the turf fields. Since that time many universities have become interested in turf work.

O. J. listed three steps which are vitally necessary in the overall turf picture:

1. Knowledge of turf culture; theory and practice
2. Understandings of findings
3. Application.

Research personnel such as those who are historically famous as a result of their work with the Green Section, Land Grant College personnel and industrial personnel have worked hard and diligently on the first two steps which has resulted in significant developments in the golf turf picture such as selective weed control, disease control, fertilizer technology, insect control and soil - water relationships. He then payed tribute to the "old timers" and their many efforts to apply research findings with the knowledge and methods which existed, and pointed out that the present day superintendents who are eminently prepared to apply research findings to the daily operation of a golf course owe a great deal to the "old timers." O. J. Commented that the superintendents place in the golf turf picture has been recognized. Labor and financial management is currently one of the superintendents biggest concerns.

He then ended a talk which only O. J. could deliver, with a number of colored slides which gave an excellent pictorial history of advances in turf technology. His last comment, "Do not forsake old tried and proven programs just because something new comes along which looks good but which has not stood the test of time," was accepted by all as an excellent bit of advice.

The following panel made Progress Reports on "Understanding Fertilizer Programs - New Approaches." Private Clubs — Robert Williams

Bob started his talk by commenting, "What is the proper approach to fairway fertilization?" There are conflicting reports and information with regard to the most successful fairway fertilization operation. Agronomists, salesmen and golf course superintendents do not agree on exacting programs. He went on to comment that if exact records are kept, one is often amazed at the end results. Invariably, the fertilizer ingredients and quantities which actually are applied are quite different from what one thinks have been applied. Therefore, Mr. Williams has devised a set of checks and balances which tell him exactly what has been applied at any given time of the season as well as the exact amounts applied for the entire season. It may be possible to arrive at the most successful fertilization program under playing conditions.

To start with, accurate soil tests must be obtained, followed by a thoroughly planned approach. All facets of the program must be coordinated.

At the completion of one growing season Bob reported that results indicate that light - frequent applications of fertilizer appear to be the criterion. Also, the end product applied should be in the area of a 2-1-1 or 1-1-1 ration. The charts and records Mr. Williams has devised were thorough and complete. There were a number of superintendents present who indicated they would be interested in obtaining them.

Public Clubs — Anthony Meyer

Following Mr. Williams, Mr. Anthony Meyer gave a complete run down on the overall fertilization practices at his club. Because of financial restrictions, fairways are not fertilized following programs suggested by agronomists and salesmen; rather nutrients were applied as funds became available. However, fairway areas have been fertilized for the past 4 seasons. It was determined that phosphorus and potash were low, thus efforts have been made to increase levels of these chemicals as well as applying them.

A liquid fertilization program is followed on greens with solids being applied in spring and fall. The ratios agree quite closely to those suggested by Mr. Williams, as roughly 2-1-1.

Mr. Meyer went on to say that he also topdressed with Kelp every fall and spiked all greens weekly. Spiking according to Tony is of vital importance to his operation.

Analysis of Eight Clubs — O. J. Noer

The data O. J. had obtained was not completely summarized but various trends could be detected. For example an average of the eight clubs again showed that roughly a 2-1-1 ration was present for both greens and tees even though the amount of potash applied to fairways was somewhat low. Also, the trend to light - frequent application was noticeable.

The one club which maintained bluegrass fairways did not fertilize as heavily as those maintaining bent - *Poa annua* fairways. Nonetheless, the 2-1-1 ratio existed. O. J. remarked that if there was sufficient interest, the complete data from the eight clubs could be printed and made available. There certainly was interest and Mr. Noer promised to make this material available in the near future.

The following data emerged in summarizing this panel:

1. A 1-1-1 or 2-1-1 fertilizer ratio appears to give the best overall results.
2. Light-frequent applications are superior to heavy, less frequent applications.
3. *Poa annua* - bentgrass fairways should receive 4+ pounds of nitrogen and approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ this amount of P_2O_5 and K_2O on a 1,000 sq. ft. basis yearly.
4. Greens should receive 7+ pounds of nitrogen and the same $\frac{1}{2}$ - P_2O_5 - K_2O ratio per 1,000 sq. ft.
5. There is still considerable work to be done in arriving at exacting programs for individual clubs.

The afternoon session with the panel "Winter Damage

- A Post Mortem", moderated by Dr. Michael Britton.

Greens: Dudley Smith, Ted Woehrle and John Ebel. These gentlemen gave a complete run down on the dates - type damage - recovery procedure for his club. The ice sheet lasted from November 25 to March 24. Two weeks after the ice left - dead grass. After complete and thorough checking of past programs there seemed to be no one thing or particular maintenance practice which would result in the severe damage to turf. However the following could be surmised:

1. Some strains of bentgrass survived better than others.
2. Where porosity (plentiful soil-air and adequate drainage) was good, (new greens and newly sodded areas) no damage occurred.
3. Aerothatching and aeration may be helpful.
4. Mechanical removal of ice may have prevented damage.

Therefore, what should be done to prevent such damage from occurring in the future.

1. Rebuild greens, making certain that porosity is constantly assured.
2. Aerate in fall but be sure aerator holes heal.
3. Do not force feed in fall or spring.
4. Do not allow ice sheet to stay longer than 3 weeks.
5. Use plastic covers for all greens.

Dr. William Daniel reported on fairway damage and commented that many things can "set-up" or predispose an area to ice damage such as, chemicals, poor drainage or excess drainage, excessive fertilization, mechanical damage or just simply nature. He showed a series of slides which depicted the various types of damage which have occurred with suggested remedies for each; such as: Be careful with soluble fertilizer in fall, do not overdo mechanical mat removal, know the chemicals you are applying and correct drainage problems.

Dr. Mike Britton summarized the winter damage by reporting on work which has been done in Wisconsin with legumes and wheat. These people proved that accumulation of CO_2 and by-products of metabolism were toxic to plants which were encased in ice for a relatively short period of time. If any method was used to lessen or remove accumulated CO_2 , plants survived correspondingly longer. The ice sheet phenomenon is exactly what took place last winter and may be the primary cause of death to turf.

The last topic of the first day's session encompassed the panel "Moisture Control - Retention" and was moderated by Dr. Eliot Robert.

Dr. Roberts started the panel discussion by giving an excellent summary of water and its relationship to itself and to other things. For example:

1. Water is the universal solvent.
2. Water pressure in plant cells acts as a structural support medium through the phenomenon of osmotic pressure and the fact of its actual presence.
3. Water is a cooling agent through evaporation and transpiration.
4. Water is a fluid carrier or responsible for transportation within the plant.
5. Water and its surface tension phenomenon is

responsible for many actions and reactions both within and outside the plant.

Eliot's very interesting and learned discourse on water and its many properties was extremely educational and interesting.

Charles Wilson followed Eliot on the program. Charlie showed the Washington State University film on water properties and movement through soils. Mr. Wilson reported that this "must see" film was available to interested groups through the Milwaukee Sewage Commission upon request. The moderator strongly urged everyone to inform those who have not had the opportunity to see this excellent and important film to do so at the earliest possible opportunity.

Tom Mascaro then enlightened and entertained the audience with a series of slides which were taken in many parts of the world. The theme followed by Tom was that water relationships as a whole was at the optimum when soils could be or are properly tilled. Mr. Mascaro's message was timely especially in retrospect to the serious "winter-kill" damage of this season.

Paul Voykin as the last but obviously not the least speaker of the day gave us a complete report on results of using plastic covers for the entire winter season and for a short period of time in spring to facilitate rapid turf cover. Paul presented a series of colored slides which gave visual evidence of the benefits derived following proper use of plastics. Turf covered the entire winter was in absolute superior condition to turf left uncovered. A newly stolonized area covered with plastic was a minimum of three weeks ahead of an adjacent area which did not receive a spring cover of plastic. Also, deadened or winter-killed areas of greens were seeded and check areas were covered with plastic; again the cover enhanced turf development tremendously.

Mr. Voykin made the following general comments as a result of his experience:

1. Do not allow plastic to remain in place if temperatures are above 75°F.
2. Be sure to remove plastic before covered areas turn yellow.
3. He plans to continue the use of plastics especially when there is a "rush" to get a specific area into play.
4. Bent coat hangers make excellent devices to hold the cover away from turf or soil.
5. Old tires are effective in holding plastic down and can be regularly moved thus avoiding smothering turf.

Dr. Don Taylor, Nematologist, University of Illinois was introduced. Dr. Taylor reported that they are



Warren Bidwell, Chairman of Educational Committee and Sherwood Moore, Pres. GCSAA and Supt. Winged Foot Country Club of N. Y. seen leaving Fall Clinic at Olympia Fields Country Club.

currently conducting a complete survey to determine the extent of infestation and damage caused by parasitic nematodes in Illinois golf areas. Everyone, especially the moderator, was vitally interested in what Don had to say.

The program of the day was summarized by Jim Holmes. The summary contained the material presented above.

RESULTS OF THE 1962 GOLF SEASON

The three best rounds of all the players in our monthly events have been tabulated and these are the final results.

Peter Voykin	averaged	78
Harold Michels	"	79
Domonic Grotti	"	79-1/3
Ben Kronn	"	82
Bob Williams	"	82-1/3
Bill Saielli	"	83
Joe Dinelli	"	83-1/3
Charlie Rack	"	84

Harold Michels, Superintendent of McHenry C. C., will act as the Team Captain at San Diego by virtue of the fact that he won our Annual Tournament in October at Edgewood C. C. The top four golfers listed are eligible to participate on the team. The remaining men listed should be available in case it is necessary to use alternates.



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