

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

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — July, 1963

**Dateline: June 14**

It's difficult to say just which time of the year is busiest for many of us. Spring has its rush and expectations. Fall for many means construction or reconstruction to solve some chronic problems. Even Winter finds us with more things to be done than ever thought possible years ago. But I think the month of June is probably filled with more urgency than any other. Growth is usually at its peak and we are gunning to have our courses looking their best. Extracurricular items such as tennis courts, flower beds, swimming pools, club house grounds, and others all fall due during the month of June. Club activities are in high gear.

If we were all fortunate enough to have a full staff year round our problems would not be as great, but shaping up a good crew is our greatest challenge. Just about the time our new crew members know their hay foot from their straw foot, the season is at an end and they disappear with the falling leaves, and we face the same challenge with the next season. So it goes.

It is during these times of stress that we might find ourselves becoming complacent about certain things. The old saying "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em", does not, in my opinion, mean we should give up our ideals or principals entirely, but should continue to have faith in what we believe to be true. However, we must work with a variety of persons, some subordinate, some superior, and it is this variety of persons that requires us to be flexible enough to weather today's unsurmountable problems so that we may be around tomorrow.

John Ebel, President

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AL JOHNSON

### MEET THE BOARD

This month we have the distinguished honor of introducing one of the Midwest Association's most colorful and enthusiastic members of the Board. "Al" Johnson has been a member of the Association for some 14 years, serving as Secretary-Treasurer for six years and doing an outstanding job. Presently he is our Second Vice President acting in the capacity of Chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

Al started his life as a Golf Course Superintendent way back in the days when he was attending Iowa State College as a Student in Agronomy. He was employed in turf nursery work for several years before going back to Iowa State College to supervise the maintenance of the Athletic fields and golf course in 1937. During his 14 years at Iowa State he became the President of the local golf course Superintendents Association. His first job in the Chicago Area was as Superintendent of Indian Hill Country Club where he remained for seven years. Now he is located at the Park Ridge Country Club where he is doing a man sized job in renovating many of the problem areas at the club. Just recently he completed the installation of a badly needed drainage system.

Al is married to quick witted and happy go lucky Susan whom most of you have met at our annual dinner dances and at our national conferences. I think she is the one responsible for the spark in Al's eyes.

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