

Paul Voykin and Tom Burrows finally accepted the job of being our representative on the National Advisory Committee after six other members first turned it down.

It seems difficult to understand why the sudden disinterest in the National. Why aren't we sending our best qualified men to Kansas?

Mavor Boyd, Superintendent of the Calumet Country Club announced that on Monday, July 19, he was to host to the monthly meeting of the Michiana Golf Course Superintendents Association. He invited us to attend. Dr. Daniel of Purdue was the guest speaker to appear on the Educational Program.

President Al Johnson reported that on June 29, 1965 he was invited and attended an Anniversary dinner at Mission Hills Country Club where the members were celebrating the 40th year of Al Dorband's employ at the Club. Al represented our Association and extended our heartiest congratulations to Al Dorband.

It was announced by our arrangements Chairman, Adolph Bertucci that our next meeting will be held on August 9, 1965 at the McHenry Country Club. Harold Michels will be our host. This will be our annual joint meeting with the Wisconsin Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents. He also reported that our annual golf tournament will be played at Old Elm on September 27, 1965. **NO GUEST WILL BE ALLOWED.** It was also mentioned that a joint meeting with the Club Managers will be held on October 5, 1965 at the Woodmar Country Club, Hammond, Indiana.

Dudley Smith, Chairman of the Educational Committee appeared next on the program to introduce our Speaker for the month. After being introduced, Speaker, Bob Miller of the DuPont Organization dealing in turf products gave us a few well chosen words on DISEASE OF TURF.

Some of the points stressed by Mr. Miller in preventing a disease problem are:

1. Use most resistant variety of grass for area.
2. Proper Soil Structure.
3. Proper pH — if pH is close to neutral the disease will be easier to control.
4. You must control Mat or Thatch and Compaction.
5. Proper Fertilization — Feed for growth — not too lush — use more Potash.
6. Proper use of fungicides of which there are four types — a. Eradicant, b. Protectant, c. Disinfectant, d. Disinfectant.

Refreshments out on the Course were supplied by Art Clesen and the Shrimp Bowl was given by Dick Hedberg and Roger Brown of IMC. Thanks a million, men. It was enjoyed by all.

MICHIANA MEETING

On Monday July 19, 1965 the Michiana Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents held their monthly meeting at the Calumet Country Club in Homewood, Illinois. Mavor Boyd was host. President, Norman Kramer, Superintendent of the Point O'Woods Country Club, Benton Harbor, Michigan welcomed all members and guests before introducing Dr. Daniel who spoke on "Competition for Space in Turf". A short abstract follows:

COMPETITION FOR SPACE IN TURF

Dr. W. H. Daniel

Turf Specialist, Purdue University

On the putting green only about 1/4" is available for turf growing, in fairways less than 1 inch, and in high cut lawns even 2" may be available. So, turf managers must confine their production, as turf or sod, to these limited areas. Even so, both uniformity and density are necessary.

Competition is keen between both annuals and perennials. Many turf management practices are designed to reduce, regulate, or alleviate competition; yet, constantly maintain ample turf cover.

Broadleaf weeds, chickweed, clover, etc., can be selectively killed. Generally it is best to remove such weeds before they predominate, before they compete severely, and when their absence would be least noticed.

Annual weedy grasses have long plagued turf areas. Crabgrass has been the most notorious villain. Goosegrass is the black sheep of the family. Any annual usually grows fast, provides intense competition for nutrients, moisture and space. Even after being killed by frost or chemicals, grasses may physically occupy space and thus be a competitor to desired turf. Any control program should be targeted towards the invading competition under control and below a competitive level.

Competition within perennials also may be a limitation. For example, Bermuda usually fails when it is three years old. Zoysia is weakened by excessive thatch, and extensive competition within itself. Even dense stands of *Poa annua* suffer most from diseases, drought and wear.

Young, vigorous grass is usually healthy. Old, weakened grass is most subject to disease; thus, the turf manager wishes to keep the limited space available below the cutting height occupied by as high a percentage of young, vigorous grass as possible — so, aeration, vertical mowing, topdressing and sweeping are practices to mechanically regulate competition. Rapid growth, irrigation, fertilization, vigorous varieties — many things actually favor thatch formation. Old leaves, old stems occupy space just as much as green, young leaves.

Even locally every turf area may differ. The basic recommendations in Midwest Turf leaflet No. 29, "Bluegrass Fairways, Yes, IF?" applies equally well to Zoysia and bentgrass. The principles of keeping any grass vigorous, aggressive and under controlled competition requires the best of the turf manager's ability. Fortunately many tools and chemicals are available to aid.

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