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*The President's Message*

Many of us have an insatiable desire to know all that we can about the future. There are people who will not engage into a new venture of their business or profession without consulting their horoscopes. Years ago, gypsies made a living reading the palms of the gullibles, and even today we have the "palmist and fortune tellers" who are still operating in our larger cities and making a profitable living.

Yet, would life be worth living if we could predict exactly what was going to happen? If we were given a scroll with a resume of everything that was to happen to our future life, would we read it? I think so — because our human curiosity is very strong and we would be unable to resist not to. However, if we did read it, we would destroy that which makes life interesting.

Life is an adventure into the unknown, and it is this fact that makes it interesting and challenging. We as golf course superintendents are constantly in a position where we must take chances. It is impossible to predict what the eventual results may be or what the course of reaction may be. The successful and capable superintendent is one who will take a chance. True, we all have a great deal of experience, knowledge, and resources to work with, but there is constantly a demand for decisions to be made. We are all compelled to choose a certain course of action.

It is the belief by most of us I'm sure, that man is a born adventurer. One of the strongest desires within the normal human personality is the wish for more knowledge and new experiences. Every experience we have should enrich and enhance our life. We are a part of everything that we meet. We should realize this and take full advantage of every experience that comes our way.

Every moment of our vocation has its molding effect upon the future of our profession. Some of the ideas, concepts, and beliefs of our past superintendents not only have helped to determine the present, but they will continue to have an influence on the future to the extent that these concepts are understood and incorporated into present day experience. Remember the pioneers of our profession and some of the things they were able to bequeath to us from



**Wm. R. Smith**

**WM. R. SMITH RETIRES**

On February 9, 1928, Bill Smith came to work at George A. Davis, Inc., as a delivery and service representative. At that time he was 120 pounds at fighting weight and too light for heavy work such as lifting 200 pound bags of Mowrah Meal, Sulphate of Ammonia and other chemicals. Would you believe that he mastered that trick at his size?

In the fall of 1928 he became full time sales representative and has served in that capacity continuously for 40 years. Needless to say, Smitty, is a scotsman by birth and habits. He possesses these basic virtues which please any employer: honesty, responsibility, industry and loyalty. In 40 years Smitty never asked for a raise in pay. Throughout his life, Bill has enjoyed good health. Some years ago he became too heavy for light work. This slowed him down physically but not mentally. His employers and associates will miss his friendly personality but wish for him many happy and enjoyable years ahead. He hopes to show his face at Superintendent functions from time to time.

both the past and from their own experiences. Look around you, and you will be amazed of how much these great professional gems still surround you every day. Of course today I feel the young superintendent comes to us much better equipped, because of the universities, short courses and the many conferences. All this has been a real contribution to our particular field. And tomorrow should be even greater for all of us who are privileged to live today and tomorrow, and know we have so many dedicated and learned men directly or indirectly connected to our chosen profession.

But it is also high time that we use the mental skills we have to accomplish a better relationship between ourselves and our associations. The harmony of the associations, the tranquility of human relationships is a task for everyone of us. When we are willing to put as much effort into understanding and good will as we are putting into self and personal promotion, we will have a better and enjoyable association for our heirs to belong to. But this will not happen of itself, it will only occur if you and I let it.

Ed Wollenberg, President

### **O. J. NOER MEMORIAL LIBRARY** Established at Michigan State University

The O. J. Noer Research Foundation, Inc. has donated the personal turfgrass library collected by the late O. J. Noer to Michigan State University.

Charles G. Wilson, Research Director of the Foundation, announced the establishment of the O. J. Noer Memorial Library, and indicated that the addition of the Library to the existing turfgrass library at MSU makes the combined library the largest single collection of turfgrass literature in the world.

A bulletin will be prepared compiling a list of all turfgrass publications now available at the Michigan State University Library. This bulletin is being prepared in cooperation with Dr. James B. Beard, MSU Department of Crop Science, and the University's Science Librarian, Dr. M. Kabalin.

This collection will be available to students and scholars throughout the United States. Wilson stated, "I am pleased to announce that this valuable collection of turfgrass literature will be available to all turfgrass students and scholars through an inter-library loan agreement. Arrangements can be made with local libraries to have specific publications loaned to local libraries for a period of time or preferably to obtain a xeroxed copy for a nominal fee."

Michigan State University was organized in 1855 as the first agricultural college in the United States. Library Director Dr. Richard E. Chapin, who hopes to make the library the finest of its kind, stated that the University has a rapidly growing overall collection approaching 1,500,000 volumes. In addition to the Research Library and Undergraduate Library, the main building is housing a separate Science Library containing material in basic sciences and in applied sciences like agriculture, home economics, and medicine. The Library is generally strong in natural sciences, particularly in the fields of plant sciences. Thus it is certain that the O. J. Noer collection will be very well complemented by excellent existing collections in the related fields.

The O. J. Noer Research Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded in 1959 to promote scientific research in turfgrasses and related fields, to train

graduate research students by offering financial assistance, to disseminate the results of such research, and by so doing, to honor this continent's most widely known and respected turfgrass agronomist.

Although MSU now has the largest turfgrass library in existence, Wilson indicated that it is not yet complete, and that the O. J. Noer Research Foundation is actively promoting donations to the O. J. Noer Memorial Library at Michigan State University. The goal is to make this collection as complete as possible. Interested individuals possessing proceedings of turfgrass conferences, old U.S.G.A. Green Section Bulletins, Turfgrass Culture publications, the early publications of the Golf Course Superintendents Association or similar publications are encouraged to contact Wilson at P. O. Box 2079, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53201.

Future plans call for the development of a vertical file system at Michigan State University containing Noer's historical collection of slides and pictures of various phases of the turfgrass industry.

### **APRIL SPEAKER AT THE MAGCS MEETING WILL BE RICHARD ROBINETTE**

Mr. Robinette is the assistant regional director of the U. S. Department of Labor Wage Hour.

He will explain the Provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act. Many changes have been made in the 1969 law. He is depending on the group to ask questions. He can't inform us if he doesn't know our problems.

### **WHAT'S NEW!!**

Oscar Miles, Olympia Fields C. C. reports that a Topography Map has been made up for their entire south course, so a master plan for drainage can be made. Oscar also reports that three men from Penn State are now working at Olympia, one being James T. O'Connor (Canadian lad) who will be the new foreman of the South Course, the other two being first year men at Penn State will just join the crew. All three men will live at Olympia if any other Penn State men in the area would like to contact them.

Billy Dicks, a turf student at University of Illinois, will spend this summer at Joliet C. C. with Oliver Miles, whereas his brother, Tim Miles, will be Oliver's assistant.

Toney Meyer, Superintendent at Woodridge Golf Club, has planned 6 tees to A-20.

Mike Bavier, Superintendent at Calumet C. C., has a new chain link fence around part of the property. Mike says the purpose of the new fence is to keep the *Poa annua* in for the July MAGCS meeting at his club.

Howard Baerwald, Superintendent at La Grange C. C., has started installing automatic irrigation at his club with his own crew.

Peter Voykin, Superintendent at Idlewild C. C. has made another application of high calcium limestone on his fairways.

Julius Albaugh, Superintendent at Westmoreland C. C., is about ready to start construction on his new maintenance building along with a new halfway house and two new tennis courts.