



HOLMES' CORNER

by James L. Holmes

**USGA Green Section
Mid-Continent Director**

It doesn't seem possible but it was exactly two years ago that Tom Burrows, then editor of the Bull Sheet, asked me to submit a short, newsy column for monthly use. The first Holmes' Corner appeared in the April 1967 issue. Since that time I have had the pleasure of working with Doug Jabaay and Dick Trevarthan as well as Tom. All these men have been most cooperative and I have thoroughly enjoyed working with them. This Holmes' Corner will be my "swan song" as I have resigned from the USGA Green Section as of March 1st and plan to join Dr. Marvin H. Ferguson, Agri-Systems of Texas, Inc., P. O. Box 3757, Bryan, Texas; my home address will continue to be 1718 Eagle Street, Kankakee, Illinois. We of Agri-Systems, will be active in all phases of turf. This will include golf course consultation, design, construction, reconstruction, installation of irrigation systems, development of sod and nursery grasses, and a complete soils laboratory equipped to deal with other problems of agriculture as well as golf turf. I certainly hope that my work in the future will allow me to continue to be in contact with the many close acquaintances and good friends I have in the golf management industry.

Lee Record, USGA Mid-Continent Agronomist, who has been active in this office since September, will continue to operate the Green Section in the Mid-Continent region. Dick Trevarthan has asked if Lee would continue to submit a Bull Sheet article from the Green Section. Lee readily agreed and suggested that perhaps the new column be called Record's Record or Record's Report. Lee has been doing Green Section Visitation work in the New England office for the past eight years and is an intimately qualified golf turf extension agronomist. The United States Golf Association is fortunate to have Lee in this area.

I was unable to attend the International Turf Conference and Show in Miami last month because the USGA Annual Meeting was held at the same time in New York. We had a surprisingly large turn out for our one day Green Section Conference, "Economy on Golf Course Operation", Friday, January 24, especial-

ly when considering the conflict. Especially well received were the talks given by Tom Sams, Golf Course Superintendent, Audobon Country Club, Louisville, Kentucky, and President of the Midwest Turf Foundation; and, Dr. Fred Adams, Green Chairman and USGA Green Section Committeeman, Orchard Lake Country Club, Orchard Lake, Michigan. Dr. Adams discussed "Committees and Their Role in Golf Economy" and Mr. Sams talked on "Equipment That Saves On Labor". Both of these talks as well as all others given, will appear in the March publication of the Green Section Record.

Calls continue to come into the office regarding ice sheet cover on putting surfaces. It seems that areas west and north of Chicago have had a complete ice sheet cover for the past 6 to 7 weeks. We still know of no better or proven practice than removing existing snow then topdressing the ice with a natural organic fertilizer or a topsoil mix. If anyone has found a superior method of removing solid ice, please let us know. Water soluble or inorganic fertilizer should never be applied over ice. Severe burning to turf can result.

I would like to thank Mr. Jim Holmes for his monthly column in the Bull Sheet, and wish him continued success at his new endeavor.

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