

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

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Bull Sheet printed by Ever-Redi Printing, La Grange, Illinois 60525. Phone: (312) 352-4378.



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## PRESIDENT' MESSAGE

The snow has melted, the frost is out of the ground, the equipment has been repaired and painted and our crews are starting to filter in. Yes, it's Spring. It's time for us to get out on the golf courses and to reflect on the past winter season.

Winter is the time when we all get acquainted with our families once again. It's Christmas before my children call me "Dad" instead of "Mister". Winter is also a time of planning for the next season by attending seminars, meetings and the National Convention. It's a time to sort out all the new information that we hear. Some of us were looking for special answers and others for anything of interest.

Now we are at the point between the seasons when everyone is anxious to begin. Everything starts fresh and new. There isn't a more beautiful time of year. The blooming of flowers, the buds on the trees and bushes mark the start of another season. I don't know of another profession that has better surroundings to work in.

Here's hoping we all have a successful season. See you at the monthly meetings.

— Ed Fischer

## GAS IN WATER WELLS

Inasmuch as the start of the irrigation season is only a month or two away it is again timely to remind those superintendents who obtain their water supply from wells that many wells in the Chicago area give off flammable gas, such as methane gas and hydrogen sulfide gas. While hydrogen sulfide gas is readily detected by its rotten egg odor, methane gas is odorless, tasteless and colorless and where concentration is high enough may accumulate and mix with air to form an explosion. The Bureau of Mines states that a mixture of about 10% methane in a gas-air mixture will support combustion.

If a pump house which houses a well has been closed tight all winter the superintendent is advised to thoroughly ventilate it before starting up any of the electrical equipment, otherwise a spark might set off an explosion.

— Charles E. (Scotty) Stewart