

Vol. IV. No. 5

May, 1950



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



Photo by "Smitty"

William H. Stupple
President
1950

THE MAY MEETING

MAY 15th
at
Edgewater Golf Club
Pratt and Ridge
Chicago

Gerald Dearie—Host Supt.

Officers' Reports



Apprentice Membership



And—Golf Tournament

Plug the 22nd National Turf Conference and Equipment Show

The Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

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Presidents Message

Dear Members:

At the March meeting of the Executive Committee, Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, it was decided by a unanimous vote to make The Bull Sheet, official publication of the organization available for advertising to firms supplying golf courses with equipment, materials, tools, and supplies.

The Editorial Committee has thoroughly examined every angle of the change in policy which might effect publications in the same field as a competitive maneuver by our greenkeeping-superintendents organization in the Chicago district. In view of our intended limitations as to area we will confine our commercial endeavors, we feel that the change in policy of our editorial functions will not endanger the livelihood of other such publications.

Commercial advertising in The Bull Sheet will be limited to firms and local manufacturers who are intimately serving golf courses. The monthly changing of ads and/or solicitation of short term contracts will not be accepted due to the bookkeeping work involved, and because our editorial committee is a voluntary assignment.

Our purpose of accepting advertisements is to make the bulletin self-supporting which will permit the committee to increase the value of its publication to the organization, and to other greenkeeping-superintendents in the State of Illinois.

The Editorial Committee proposes the following policies:

1. That no individual firm will be permitted to place more than one advertisement in the publication during the period of their annual contract.
2. That the fiscal year involving advertising will begin on July 1st and end on June 30th of the following year.
3. That there will be 12 monthly bulletin issues printed during the fiscal year.
4. That advertisements will be limited in size so as to permit all firms serving our profession an opportunity to display.
5. That advertisements will only be accepted on an annual basis.
6. That a change in pattern or style of advertisements will only be permitted twice during the fiscal year. The January and July issues.
7. That the cost of advertisements per annum will be determined by the necessary income required to cover incidental expenses involving the publishing of the bulletin.

In order to make the publication more attractive to the advertisers, and members alike, the Editorial Committee has proposed the following changes:

1. A change in the make-up and style of the bulletin.
2. An increase in circulation which will be mailed to all greenkeeping-superintendents in the State of Illinois, and to other organizations by request.
3. An increasingly vigorous editorial policy to keep the publication more active and of greater value to the greenkeeping-superintendent.
4. The inclusion of photographs as they may be available, illustrating various maintenance operations, new developments, greenkeeping personalities and events during the year.
5. A regular issuing date.

The Editorial Committee has given considerable thought to the cost of advertisements per column inch, and consistent with the policies described in this letter they are offering the following space and rates:

1 inch by 1 column for 12 issues	@	\$ 60.00
1 inch by 2 column for 12 issues	@	\$120.00
2 inch by 1 column for 12 issues	@	\$120.00
2 inch by 2 column for 12 issues	@	\$240.00

(Note: All picture ads will be half-tone, and the advertiser will furnish this office with the plate.)

The back cover and inside back cover will be reserved for the advertisements—a total of only 36 one inch columns. In the event more than one page is used for this purpose, it will be our policy to alternate the position of the pages, in order that each advertiser will have the opportunity to appear on the back cover page every other issue. The Editorial Committee reserves the right to place the advertisements.

May we have your sincere cooperation and support.

Yours very truly,
William H. Stuppel.

GOLF, GOLF, GOLF

by

Frank J. Dinelli

During the past seasons at our summer golf meetings there has always been numerous complaints from the high score player concerning the method used in handicapping the participants. The golf committee would naturally like to see everyone satisfied as it would make it that much easier to award the prizes. The following system might be a solution to our problem. Why not send your comments to the golf committee, and if you like it, we can try it at our first golf event of the season which will be held at the Edgewater Golf Club on May 15th.

The USGA Golf Handicap System remains the approved method for determining basis handicaps but, like every other system, it will not solve some of the unusual problems which face handicappers.

One of the most difficult problems is that of determining fair allowances for convention and resort tournaments which attract novice and occasional players. Obviously, the man who never plays except during his two-weeks vacation at Sloping Valley, or at the annual trade tournament at Flat Hill, is entitled to a fair shake in the competition for net prizes.

The standard way of solving such a matter usually has been to conduct a kickers' tournament, in which each player selects his own handicap and then shoots at a score which has been drawn blind.

Another method of handicapping which would seem to fit the same role is the Calloway System of Automatic Handicapping.

Under this method, a player's handicap is determined, after each round, by his gross score for the 18 holes and by the first, or highest, individual hole scores he has made. For instance, if his gross score was 107, he turns to the accompanying table and opposite that score finds that he may deduct the total of his four worst, or highest, individual hole scores. Thus, if he had scored one 9, two 7s and several 6s, he could deduct 29 strokes, giving himself a net score of 78.

The USGA has had no experience with this system but it is an interesting idea which handicappers and tournament committee chairman may find useful. We know of no way in which it could be adapted for match play tournaments, and it is in no way a substitute for the USGA Golf Handicap System.

The Calloway System Automatic Handicap deductions follow:

THE BULL SHEET

CLASS A

Score	Deduct
Par or less	Scratch
One over par to 75	½ worst hole
76 to 80	Worst hole
81 to 85	Worst hole plus ½ next
86 to 90	Two worst holes
91 to 95	Two worst holes plus ½ next
96 to 100	Three worst holes

CLASS B

Score	Deduct
101 to 105	Three worst holes plus ½ next
106 to 110	Four worst holes
111 to 115	Four worst holes plus ½ next
116 to 120	Five worst holes
121 to 125	Five worst holes plus ½ next

CLASS C

Score	Deduct
126 to 130	Six worst holes
131 to 135	Six worst holes plus ½ next
136 to 140	Seven worst holes
141 to 145	Seven worst holes plus ½ next
146 to 150	Eight worst holes

NOTE: Worst hole equals highest hole score.

A CONFERENCE—A place where conversation is substituted for the dreariness of labor and the loneliness of thought.

TURF RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

For the past ten years the executive committee has been aware of the need for a research program to study the local problems of its members. A Research Committee was appointed to investigate the possibilities of establishing such a program. The Committee decided that the following program offered the greatest possibilities of all around benefit to the Greenkeeping Superintendents:

1. To hire a man capable of conducting research in all phases of turf, to act as a research man in disease, insects, soils and minor elements, and all other problems as related to turf and soils in modern greenkeeping practices, and to act as an extension man for all greenkeepers and be in charge of the turf gardens.
2. To establish a demonstration and research garden within the Chicago area in which demonstration plots of grasses can be maintained under conditions actually existing on golf courses and on which actual experiments can be conducted. Within this area new grasses will be tested and established and new practices investigated. This garden to be five acres in area, permanently located, and not to be moved.

The cost of the program is to be borne by the State. The Garden to be established if possible at Lisle, Illinois, on land now owned by the Department of Horticulture of the State University. The man to be based at Urbana or at the gardens and to have adequate expense allowance to cover the state as the need arises. This man's assignment would be to work on golf course turf and ornamental grass growing areas in the state.

During the past two years your committee has found interest in two agencies within the state. The Natural History Survey, and more recently the Department of Horticulture of the University of Illinois, thru Clifford Taylor, Supt. of the Cook County Agricultural Experiment Station, at Desplaines, Illinois, have expressed more than casual interest in our problems. The possibilities and facilities within the two State Departments were investigated.

It was the thought of your committee that the success of this program would depend on the quality of the man who is selected to work with us. We understand that the qualifications that we have set up will make it difficult to select a man who will fill all of them but we also feel that if we get the right kind of greenkeeping practices and that the generations following us will benefit from his help. Thus it is easy to understand why your committee stresses the employment of a man who will be available for many years. It was felt that this type of employment could be better furnished thru the Natural History Survey whose men spend their lives serving the job to which they are assigned, rather than thru the Department of Horticulture whose men are replaced on the average of once in five years.

On March 13th your committee was instructed by President Stuppel to investigate the possibility of asking the Illinois Natural History Survey to activate the program as outlined above for the Golf Courses of Illinois. A meeting was arranged with Dr. Tehon for March 20th to visit the Natural Resources Building at Urbana and to talk with Dr. Mills who is in charge of the activities of the Natural History Survey.

Seven members of the Midwest Association made the trip, Don Strand, Committee Chairman, Wm. Stuppel, John Sellers, Ray Davis, Norman Johnson, Robert Williams and Paul E. Burdette. Your Committee was cordially received by Dr. Carter, acting in the absence of Dr. Tehon who was ill, and by Dr. Mills. The program was presented to Dr. Mills who said he thought the program to be practical and necessary and suggested that Don Strand get in touch with Dr. Tehon as soon as Tehon recovers from his illness, and arrange to discuss the details of budget and the matter of the appropriation thru the State Legislature.

The Department of Horticulture operates an experiment station which is headed up locally by Clifford Taylor of Desplaines. He suggested the possibility of establishing turf plots of fine grasses for the benefit of Greenkeepers at the new station at Lisle, Illinois. Accordingly your committee arranged to see Mr. Taylor and called on him on Wednesday, March 29th at the Desplaines Station. This committee was composed of Don Strand, Wm. Stuppel, Bert Ross and Paul Burdette. The same program was outlined to Mr. Taylor who indicated that he was deeply in sympathy with the program, recognized the need for a long term garden, one lasting as long as greenkeepers produced fine turf and golfers played on it, and the need for keeping it in one place, and the need of the greenkeepers for the assistance of a research and extension man who would grow up with the greenkeepers and help the next generation to do an even better job. Mr. Taylor suggested that we do nothing in any direction until he was able to visit Urbana and consult with the acting head of the department. Under questioning he admitted that it might be possible that the Department of Horticulture would want to take on the whole program. Mr. Taylor is to report to Bert Rost as soon as he makes the trip to Urbana, which he indicated would be this coming week.

The advantage of locating the gardens at Lisle is obvious. It is close to all of us and we can all take advantage of its nearness. The Department of Horticulture plans to erect a building at Lisle which would have a meeting room available to us for winter meetings, and a greenhouse in which winter experiments could be carried out if the need arose. The meeting rooms would be available to us regardless of whether or not this program was adopted.

Your committee will take no further action until it receives the report of Mr. Taylor during the next week.

—Don Strand.



Conducted by John Sellers

Edited by Bob Williams

Q. Is the best time for replacing sand in traps during the winter period?

A. Generally speaking, yes. Some sand will be lost by wind erosion but this loss will be overcome by the saving in having the sand delivered direct to each trap over frozen ground.

Q. What wages will seasonal golf course employees receive in the Chicago area this year? Yearly employees?

A. This is an individual problem with district wages ranging from 85c to \$1.25 per hour. Yearly employees will receive from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per hour.

Q. How much arsenate of lead should be applied on fairways for the control of angle-worms and grubs?

A. 200 pounds per acre. However, chlordane is proving to be more economical. Lead is used mainly where crab-grass is also one of the important problems in addition to the worms.

Q. Has there been any indication of turf winter-kill damage this spring?

A. Very little damage reported. There were some slight attacks of snow-mold.

Q. Is chlordane effective in killing earthworms?

A. Several district greenkeeping-superintendents report they are getting satisfactory control by the repeated use of chlordane in small dosage at the following rates: 20 pounds per acre on fairway turf, and ¼ pounds per 5000 square feet on putting greens. 50% wettable material was used.

Q. When installing irrigation valves in the center of putting green, would it be advisable to use copper pipe within the putting surface area in preference to other types of metal pipe?

A. This decision can only be determined after considering the following factors. Cost, soil conditions, obstructions, life expectancy, expansion, and knowledge of installation.

Q. What procedure shall we take to have Dr. O. J. Noer visit our golf course?

A. By a request to the George A. Davis, Inc., and/or by calling direct to the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Q. What are the best practices to hold poa annua through the months of July and August in the Chicago area?

A. Opinion is varied by local experiences, however, the general consensus is the light and frequent fertilization—with watering.

Q. What type of grass is advisable for fairway planting on irrigated areas of a private club?

A. Bentgrass—with preference towards Seaside bent.

Q. How can poa annua be eliminated from the banks of greens?

A. Replacement by solid sodding, and/or killing with chemicals and re-seeding at the proper time.

Q. Does a Quonset-hut make a satisfactory course maintenance building?

A. It does very well. It affords adequate floor space, ceiling clearance, and quite adaptable to all needs. It should be painted a light color, possibly aluminum, to assist insulation in both summer and winter.

Q. Should we roll our turf areas in the spring? If so, why and when?

A. Yes. To re-unite the surface roots of the grass plants with the soil. Roll lightly, and when slightly moist—but not wet.

Q. How can crabgrass be eliminated?

A. New special chemicals have been successful to a variable degree. The various schools differ on opinion of results. Arsenate of lead is still the old standby with many greenkeeping-superintendents. (See Midwest Chemical Application Guide for rates).

Q. I would like to hear a discussion of factors to consider concerning the fertilizing of greens, tees and fairways? Time to start in the spring, types of fertilizers and rates?

A. Check Chemical Application Guide for rates and methods. Start fertilizing after soil is warm and drainage is active. It is generally conceded to be best to wait until the plant can use fertilizer before application is made. A fertilizer should be balanced to the needs of the soil and plants as determined by soil tests. Tees should be included in the early application as they take a terrific amount of wear. Two general methods are usually employed; frequent light application, and/or heavier less frequent applications.

Q. What precaution is being taken now in the event of another year such as 1949 was with reference to heat and humidity in resultant turf losses?

A. More aeration, less water, more vigilance, less brushing during hot weather, changeover to more resistant grass types, improved drainage of soil and surface, and a concentrated effort to attend greenkeeping-superintendent meetings, and share the knowledge of our profession with my neighbor superintendent.

COMMON ARBORICULTURAL TERMS

DECAY—The chemical decomposition of wood by fungi.

Incipient. The initial stage of decay usually associated with a color change of the wood.

Advanced. A late stage of decay usually associated with a distinct change in texture of the wood, such as softening or brashness.

ELEMENTS—Essential or critical. Those chemical elements essential to the good health of plants.

Minor, micro, trace. Those essential elements necessary to plants only in very small amounts.

FERTILIZER. A mixture of organic and/or inorganic substances added to soil for the purpose of stimulating plant growth. A complete fertilizer contains all of the chemical elements essential for the good health of plants.

FROST CRACK. A longitudinal split in a tree trunk resulting from unequal stresses during freezing temperatures. The outer layers of wood may shrink more rapidly than the inner layers at freezing temperatures. If the shrinkage is too unequal frost cracks develop.

Spreading it Thin

Over thirty members braved the inclement weather to attend the April meeting at the Hotel Sherman.

Midwest district committees already making preparations for the 22nd National Turf Conference to be held in Chicago 1951.

Howie Baerwald formerly of the Neillville, Wisconsin Country Club has accepted the position of greenkeeping-superintendent at Kishwaukee Country Club, DeKalb, Illinois.

Art Benson, superintendent at Aurora Country Club reports some snow-mold on the greens this spring in spite of treatment last fall.

Matt Bezek takes over greenkeeping-superintendents responsibilities at Southmoor Golf Club, Orland Park, Illinois.

Ray Gerber appointed head of new district committee—SUPERINTENDENTS ADVISORY AND PLACEMENT COMMITTEE.

Bill Stuppel wields a heavy gavel at membership meetings.

John Sellers conducts a very interesting QUESTION BOX period at the meetings.

The United District Charities, Inc. headed by Mr. Robert Halbert and Mr. Stanley Van Dyke invited Ray Gerber and Don Strand to accompany them on a recent visit to the Veterans Administration Hospital and the Downing Hospital for the purpose of selecting sites for the construction of practice putting greens this year. Ray and Don will draft specifications for the construction of the proposed greens.

Harold Reid and Ray Gerber recently celebrated their 23rd and 25th wedding anniversary, respectively.

Pete Stewart of Butterfield Country Club reports that April 17th was the first day this spring it was possible to get out on the course to accomplish any work with tractors.

Leonard DeBruyn of Ridge Country Club has been Greenkeeping-superintendent at his club since 1917, and is a charter member of the National Greenkeeping Superintendents Association.

George Knox of Calumet Country Club believes the subsoil moisture situation is more favorable now than it has been for two seasons.

Henry Lange of the Glenview Club says fall seeding took a beating through the past winter period.

Bob Williams, Red Sellers, and Al Johnson attended the recent Club Managers Stag at the Morrison Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.

Don Strand reports that his C-15 bent greens look beautiful this spring.

The May meeting will be held at Edgewater Golf Club on May 15th.

John Sellers believes that early application of 2-4 D after the open winter will go far towards eradicating the clover in fairways. John has tried it with good results. Do not make application on newly seeded areas.

The joint meeting with the Wisconsin group is scheduled for August 21st at the Big Foot Country Club, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

Melvin Warnecke, popular greenkeeping-superintendent at Idlewild Country Club who has played host to many Association meetings, pointed out that the soft maple seeds are beginning to be a problem on the greens.

Ed Wollenberg, quiet young superintendent at Navajo Fields Golf Club says it looks like a good season if the poa annua holds out.

President Bill Stuppel and Frank Dinelli attended the April meeting of the Wisconsin Greenkeeper's Association held at the Inman Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Bill Schwantz of Hinsdale Country Club just completed a new "Chick Sale" in his maintenance building.

Ray Didier says the Pros want a white flag pole for tournament play. The reason for this request is to make it fairer to all competitors in the event a player might be colorblind.

This is the 11th year at Onwentsia Golf Club for Emil Mashie, champion greenkeeping-superintendent golfer of the NGSA circuit.

Besides being a good man at remodeling greens, Don Strand is reported to be a handy-man with the carpenter tools around the kitchen.

—The Mole

PROCEDURE—Everyday routine rigmarole.

The Lament of A Greens' Committee Chairman

I used to be so happy
 When I went out to play,
 You'd always find me smiling
 On any pleasant day.
 I'd go and get a caddy
 And hand him all my clubs;
 'Twas fun to be a-playing
 With the usual bunch of dubs.
 I thought the fairways perfect,
 The rough—'twas not so bad,
 The greens were simply lovely,
 They'd make any golfer glad.
 I'd say—if up in heaven
 They have a course like this,
 I surely hope I go there
 For a million years of bliss.
 Then one day they chose me Chairman,
 To look out for the greens,
 I'll never be the same, boys,
 For it shattered all my dreams.
 At once they began to tell me
 The course was on the bum,
 And everyone who worked on it
 Was blind, and deaf, and dumb.
 Some said the greens were much too long,
 Some said they're much too short;
 They were too fast—they were too slow,
 In fact, they'd gone to pot.
 They said the trees were in the way,
 With branches outstretched wide,
 But when to help me cut one down,
 "He should be shot" they cried.
 A guy would play around the course
 Recouping from a jag,
 And blame our genial pro
 "Cause his putts weren't in the bag."
 A lie upon the fairway
 Was always in a hole
 And every single sand trap
 Was like a concrete bowl.
 All this grieved me greatly
 For I couldn't understand
 Why golfers from other cities said,
 "Your course is simply grand".
 So—I will go to heaven boys
 And play o'er hill and dell
 And those who don't like a course like ours
 Will have to go to Hell.

—Harrison G. Taylor
 Worcester Country Club

GRASS

"Next in importance to the divine profusion of water, light, and air, those three physical facts which render existence possible, may be reckoned with the universal beneficence of grass. Lying in the sunshine among the buttercups and dandelions of May, scarcely higher in intelligence than those minute tenants of that mimic wilderness, our earliest recollections are of grass, and when the fitful fever is ended, and the foolish wrangle of the market and the forum is closed, grass heals over the scar with our descent into the bottom of the earth has made, and the carpet of the infant becomes the blanket of the dead.

"Grass is the forgiveness of nature—her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, saturated with blood, torn with the ruts of cannon, grow green again with grass, and carnage is forgotten. Streets abandoned by traffic become grass grown, like rural lanes, and are obliterated. Forests decay, harvests perish, flowers vanish, but grass is immortal. Beleaguered by the sullen hosts of winter it withdraws into the impregnable fortress of its subterranean vitality and emerges upon the solicitation of spring. Sown by winds, by wandering birds, propagated by the subtle horticulture of the elements which are its ministers and servants, it softens the rude outlines of the world. It invades the solitude of deserts, climbs the inaccessible slopes and pinnacles of mountains, and modifies the history, character, and destiny of nations. Unobtrusive and patient, it has immortal vigor and aggression. Banished from the thoroughfares and fields, it bides its time to return, and when the vigilance is relaxed or the dynasty has perished it silently resumes the throne from which it has been expelled but which it never abdicates. It bears no blazonry of bloom to charm the senses with fragrance or splendor, but its homely hue is more enchanting than the lily or the rose. It yields no fruit in earth or air, yet should its harvest fail for a single year, famine would depopulate the world."

Extract from speech made by
the late Sen. Engels, State of Kansas

TO THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

We want to thank you for your kind expression of sympathy at this time. The flowers you sent were beautiful and much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Ingwerson and Family.

NEW BOOK NOW AVAILABLE "Care and Repair Of The House"

If you have trouble with sticking windows, damp cellars and defective weatherstripping, leaking roofs, minor electrical difficulties, dripping faucets, or any of the thousand and one things which can go wrong about the house, you will be able to correct most of them by following the detailed and often illustrated, instructions given in this circular.

Fifty (50) cents per copy. 209 illustrated pages.

Write to Sup't. of Documents, U. S. Gov. Printing Office, Wash. 25, D. C.

Enclose cash, check or moneyorder.

PLUG THE NATIONAL TURF SHOW

Chicago will be the site of the 22nd National Turf Show this coming winter, so talk it up with everyone this year. Ray Didier and Frank Dinelli have already started to make plans for a big entertainment program for the ladies who will attend this conference with their husbands.

We wish to correct an error which appeared in the April issue of the bulletin under the heading of the Membership Report. It was reported that OLD ORCHARD GOLF CLUB was not represented by a superintendent in our greenkeeping-superintendent organization. This is not true, as Jimmy Service of that club has been a regular member for some time in both the National and District Associations.

Henry Lange
Membership Committee

THE MORTON ARBORETUM

announces

SPRING PROGRAM FOR 1950

COURSES IN NATURAL SCIENCE OF THE CHICAGO REGION

These courses are being offered for the 21st consecutive season. They present a friendly knowledge of the outdoors. Life histories, habits, associations, folklore, and identification will be considered. Birds, rocks, ferns, mammals, will be included, but emphasis will be upon trees, shrubs, and wild flowers. Each meeting will consist of a lecture and field trip, or laboratory period and field trip.

NILS A. RUNNFELDT PASSES AWAY

Notice of the death of member Nils A. Runnfeldt did not reach us in time to be printed in the April issue of the Association bulletin. Although it is late, we wish to express our deep sympathy at this time to the immediate family.

Mr. Runnfeldt had been a member of the Midwest Association for a number of years, and we regret to report his death on Wednesday, March 22, 1950. He had been an employee with the Winnetka Park District for over 30 years, currently acting as green-keeping superintendent at Skokie Playfield. Fraternal affiliation included the Modern Woodmen of America.

We regret to report that Mr. Benedict O. Warren, father of Ben Warren of the Warren Turf Nurseries at Worth, Illinois passed away on April 16th, 1950. Those of us who knew Mr. Warren held him the highest respect.