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Art Clesen reports that one of our old members, Mr. William Brenner is recovering from a major operation at the Highland Park Hospital in Highland Park, Illinois, Room 291. We all wish Mr. Brenner a speedy recovery.

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart reports that he has just recently got the new automatic irrigation system installed and put into operation at the Northwestern Golf Course at Morton Grove, Illinois. This job only required six field controllers which is somewhat different to some other installations where over 50 field controllers have been used; however, Scotty feels that when a lesser number of field controllers are used this in turn greatly reduces the footage of wire or tubing and keeps the maintenance of the entire system to a minimum.

Scotty is now designing a similar system for the Indian Boundary Golf Course at Franklin Park, Illinois for fall installation. This system will be centrally controlled from the superintendent's office.



The President's Message

Now is the time for the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents to start grooming some new talent for national office. At the August meeting the floor was open to nominations for national offices. Not one nomination was made. Is there no one interested? I know we have plenty of qualified superintendents who are capable of holding national offices. It seems that an association with 300 members would want a little representation on the GCSAA board. Are our association members that far apart, that a group of members can't get together to sponsor one man for an office. Competition would be a healthy thing for our organization.

The letter from the national office states that September 1, 1970 is the deadline for nominations. However, it was brought up that an extension may be possible, so we will try to nominate someone at the September meeting. Let's hope the National doesn't hold us to the September 1st deadline.

Now is also the time to start thinking about the MAGCS annual election. Who do you want to represent you in 1971, or would you, yourself, want to represent others by being on the board? Those things that you would like to see done or changed can be done by getting yourself or someone who shares your views nominated. If you would like to run for an office, contact one of the fine past presidents of the association and tell them to consider you. Then go out and campaign amongst your fellow Superintendents and tell them of your views. I think this would be a healthy sign and would create more interest in our organization.

Many thanks to Harold Michaels, Superintendent of McHenry Country Club, and all of his co-workers for making our August meeting a success.

The September meeting will be held at Prestwick Country Club for the annual golf championship.

Sincerely,
Dick Trevarthan



Editorial

READINGS

While catching up on some of my reading, I came across the following from the Hudson Valley GCSA newsletter **The Foreground**. It was written by the creative genius of editor Bill Smart.

YEA FOR THE SUNNY SIDE

I get a little tired of continually reading about how the poor Golf Course Superintendent is underpaid, overworked and continually harassed by every problem known to any other craft and some peculiar to golf courses. How about the sunny side?

Nobody is ever going to make a fortune as a GCS. The really big paying jobs are in high cost of living areas. No one on a salary can take home big money anyway, taxes being what they are. So if big money is what you are after go be a landscape contractor and put in lawns, tax benefits derived from your own business and a little hanky panky with the books, you can make a buck. You may go broke too.

OK, we have 100 days of real headaches — June thru September, many people have the headaches 365 days of the year — day in and day out. No let up come October thru February. Even on the Southern layouts it eases up in the Winter and no snow mold.

You get sick when your turf goes bad? A farmer gets feeling poorly too when his crop goes — sometimes thru no fault of his. Then he goes to the bank with his hat in his hand and puts his livelihood on the line for enough to get thru another year. And if that year's crop goes too, there goes the farm and he gets a job on a farm as a laborer or in a factory. I never heard of a course where the paycheck stopped when the "crop" failed. Sure, you can get fired, that is a risk **all** wage earners have in common.

You don't have the benefits of union or big corporations? You don't have the regimenta-

tion either or enforced retirement at 65, or a zillion little petty rules to live by, or somebody who will gladly step on your head to get to the next rung, or strikes that never gain what you have lost, time clocks or someone saying "Where the hell were you yesterday?"

Long hours. Most Superintendents do put in long hours at times, but they tend to overlook the short days in winter, attendance at conferences, field days, personal business, visits to other courses, local meetings and so on. The educational sessions are "in line of duty", huh? If you attend with that attitude, I haven't met you. Most enjoy themselves with no expense to themselves.

No chance for advancement. You **are** top man at your course, you are Mr. Golf Course and if you've really got what it takes, this is one of the easiest businesses to get ahead in, I know. Ask the men at the top of the heap. Every year jobs are open with more money, and more challenge than your present position. Do you want in? Can you cut it? Do you need it? It's up to you! !

A golf course Superintendent is almost a free agent, as close to owning your own business as you can get, with none of the risks, and that is something.

On Sunday, July 22, I was sifting through the Chicago Tribune (an all day job) and saw in big headlines "The Music That Kills Plants". Intrigued, I read on. It seems that considerable research has been done on the effect of noise on plants. This particular article dealt with musical effects. Many types of music and plants were used with the following results. Plants which "listened" to soft, gentle music showed a marked lean toward the speaker and a slightly faster growth. The plants which encountered harsh, or even worse, hard rock music showed an extreme lean away from the speaker, then withered and died. One must at least admire their taste. There were no reported results on **Poa annua** but I can't help but wonder what effect the noise from the adjacent expressway and railroad tracks has on my course.

Due to the delay from mailing time to receiving the July **Bullsheat**, perhaps many did not have time to send in entries to the picture identification contest. The contest will, therefore, be continued until Sept. 15, 1970. I have heard that it is quite difficult. Balderdash! If the pictures are not too clear, remember that it is hard to penetrate the smog.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Roger:

Thanks for carrying my equipment ad in the last three issues of the **Bullsheat**. Now please desist. We have sold everything twice and one prize item—four times. This, unhappily, has caused some problems but our club lawyer assures me that he will have everything straightened out by contract renewal time.

Re: CERTIFICATION

I enjoyed your remarks on certification. It would be wise for all of us to examine carefully this alleged aid to the superintendent. I myself think that it is a label that will offer nothing but the holes in the donuts to our profession. Too bad many of us seek and are fooled by superficial titles that add little to the paramount purpose and vision that our founders had for our association.

Roger, we are bombarded and confronted daily by the news media with all kinds of problems, emergencies and crises. We don't need it in the **Bullsheets**, not in July and August, anyway. With 34 days of draught, 22 days of 90 degrees plus temperatures, **Poa** going out, allergies bothering me and my golf game going sour, I want to hear about pleasant and gossipy things like who in our profession got married, divorced, is in jail or had a baby, who lost a job, got a new one or won the daily double, what friends have become grandparents, whose son has returned from the wars or whose son or daughter has achieved honors in college.

Technical knowledge is fine and we must surely concern ourselves with environmental problems surrounding us, but my God, not 365 days a year and in every piece of literature we pick up. If we don't have lighter material once in a while to rest our worried minds from all these problems and confrontations, we won't be around to solve any of them.

Very sincerely yours,
Paul N. Voykin
Ex. **Poa** expert.

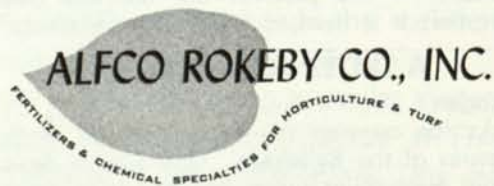
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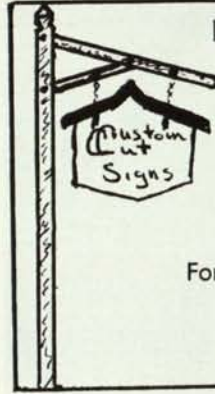
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AQUATIC WEEDS AND THEIR CONTROL

Donald E. Hope, Northern Manager
Agricultural Chemicals Division

Golf Course Superintendents program their fertilization and weed control in fairways and greens with a disease control, therefore, why not program aquatic weed and algae control in the course ponds?

Common water weeds in lakes and ponds in this area have caused problems for many of the course superintendents such as: 1) aesthetic, 2) clogging of pumps and irrigation equipment, and, 3) ball recovery. These weeds no longer need be a problem.

The State of Illinois — Department of Conservation for Weeds and Fish have several very good publications just for writing which can be of help to everyone.

A disease program may be adopted for algae and submerged aquatic weeds with several programmed products such as: 1) Aquathol Plus containing Endothal and Silvex. This product controls 24 of the most common submergent and emergent water weeds and is harmless to fish and diffuses readily in order that the treated waters may be used for swimming or irrigation within 24 hours after treatment. With proper use some weeds may take 3 to 7 days to drop to the bottom while other species take from 2 to 4 weeks. 2) Hydrothol 47 is another effective control but can be harmful to fish when doses exceed 0.3 ppm. Again, depending upon the application determines the length of time the water can be safe for use in irrigation or domestic purposes. Hydrothol 47 contains Endothal as an amine derivative and used for algae control.

Sometimes it takes two or three applications for control of some weeds depending upon the method used. It is recommended strongly that "Read the labels — Stop before using any pesticide." Caution and proper application is important.

Questions generally asked are:

- q. Do these chemicals bother ducks or fish?
 - a. No, these chemicals do not. However, there are some that do. Again the stress is on reading the label.
- q. Is Aquathol harmful to bent grass when the pond is used for irrigation?
 - a. Generally no at temperatures 70° or below. It has been found to be no problem.
- q. Are there any aquatic chemical controls that would injure ducks?
 - a. Don't know of any where a duck killing situation has arisen.
- q. Has there been any chemical developed that will affect and kill cattails?
 - a. Dow Chemical Company does have such a product.
- q. Is there a possibility that the chemical will remain on the bottom if the pond or lake is drained?
 - a. The chemical is decomposed by micro-organisms and does not accumulate in fish or build up in water or on lake bottoms. It breaks down into harmless non-toxic elements.

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SYCAMORE AND WALNUT TREE INSECTS

by Stanley Rachesky
Entomologist, University of Illinois

Many landscapes contain Sycamore and Walnut trees. Insects can be a very real cause for concern for those responsible for the well-being of their trees. Following is a discussion of the insects that may plague these kinds of trees:

The **sycamore lace bug** is probably the most common insect pest of sycamore. They are plant-sucking insects that feed voraciously on the under sides of the leaves causing the foliage to turn pale green and dry. For control treat with malathion or sevin (carbaryl) usually in late May or early June.

The most common leaf eater found on sycamore is the **bagworm**. As their name implies the larvae builds a tough little bag with silken thread and small bits of foliage off the host tree or shrub. This is why the bag will look different on one plant than the other. Sprays applied in late summer after the larvae end their feeding or during the winter months are not effective. Reducing infestations at this time can only be accomplished by hand picking the bags and then burning them. Sprays of either sevin (carbaryl), malathion, or diazinon applied about mid-June should be applied to obtain chemical control. Sprays applied later are much less effective.

The **walnut caterpillar** is large and black with gray hairs and is considered this tree's main leaf chomping pest. A strange occurrence is that it is attracted to isolated trees. Butternut, hickory, oak, honey locust and the old willow also makes good eating for this voracious little feeder. When the caterpillar reaches about 2 inches long, they go south for the winter by leaving the trees and living in the soil. The adult brownish moths, emerge early in the summer. Control can be accomplished by treating these leaf feeders with sevin as early as feeding is seen.

The **black walnut curculio** is a reddish brown little weevil that feeds on the tender shoots and delicious foliage of walnut in the early spring. A indication that this pest is present causes the nuts to drop when they're only half grown.

Parasites usually keep this pest under control. However, sevin can be sprayed on the new foliage for added protection.

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THE FERTILIZER INSTITUTE — JUNE, 1970

Environmental Fact Sheet No. 5

Phosphorus — Key to Life

Phosphorus is found in every living cell and is essential for life. It is peculiar in nature because it forms so many insoluble compounds and substances such as the mineral apatite, bones, and teeth.

Most soils of the world lack sufficient available phosphorus to support even protective vegetation, let alone sustain a profitable agriculture without fertilization.

Discovery of phosphate fertilizers by Liebig, Lawes and Gilbert in England in the 1840's is one of the greatest discoveries of that century. Treating insoluble minerals and bones with sulphuric acid was the key man needed to facilitate recycling of nature's great stores of insoluble phosphates.

Using phosphate fertilizers, along with other essential nutrients, man has been able to grow high-quality food in abundance. Without these fertilizers there would be no means of supporting present world population. Ecologists and limnologists often say, erroneously, that phosphorus is the key to growth of algae, and the cause of the death of lakes. They seem to overlook the fact that algae require about 200 times as much carbon as phosphorus. One ton of algal tissue, which can grow in two months per acre of lake area, will contain 1000 pounds of carbon and only five pounds of phosphorus. The latter can easily be supplied by the water because of the vast phosphorus stores which have accumulated over centuries in bottom muds and organic deposits.

But, where does the 1000 pounds of carbon come from? Ordinary water contains only 0.4 to 1.0 ppm of CO₂, or the equivalent of 0.1 to 0.21 ppm of carbon. Normal water in equilibrium with normal air could never grow one ton of dry algae tissue per acre in a growing season.

The point overlooked is that organic matter, such as sewage, is necessary as a source of carbon. It is utilized by bacteria, which evolve the carbon dioxide necessary for massive growth of algae. Once the process gets going it's difficult to control, because as the algae die, their carbon also is consumed by more bacteria, which, in turn, evolve more carbon dioxide to grow more algae. As yet, all of the details of the complex "symbiosis" are not fully understood. We do know enough, however, to realize that removing phosphorus from water effluents will not control excessive growth of algae in natural or man-made bodies of water unless excess available carbon inputs also are controlled.

Environmental Fact Sheet No. 6

Place of Phosphorus Now Better Understood

Lack of understanding of the role of energy and carbon tends to explain:

(1) Why the Department of the Interior and U. S. Congress contemplate spending huge sums of money to remove phosphorus from effluents;

(2) Why, as an example, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, a Minneapolis newspaper, and League of Women Voters are engaging in a campaign

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to halt use of fertilizers containing phosphorus on lawns.

True, a small amount of phosphorus may come from surface runoff, but very little will come from fertilizers. Dr. Robert Holt, USDA Soil Scientist, Morris, Minn., citing his studies of nutrient losses from dead grass, says, "Apparently, freezing of plant tissues during winter allows phosphorus compounds to be mobilized and washed off the land with spring runoff." In his studies, up to .2 pound of phosphorus washed off of an acre of hay land with snow melt water, whereas only one-half ounce was lost from a nearby corn field. Holt attributes the difference to the fact that soil in the corn field absorbed phosphorus out of the water and held it on the land.

Dead vegetation such as that on lawns will lose soluble nutrients in snow melt runoff. But, one should be sure such nutrients can be distinguished from other possible sources such as fertilizers. These are applied in the early part of the growing season, after snow has disappeared. Soluble nutrients in fertilizers move into the soil with the first rain that falls. Very small amounts, if any, will be lost in runoff under ordinary conditions.

But, even if part of it were lost in a certain city or watershed due to a sudden flood, no harm would be done, providing soil was not lost. There would merely be the slight cost and inconvenience of having to apply a second application of fertilizer, if the turf is to be kept healthy enough to control erosion.

Keep in mind that sewage and other organic matter sources cause excessive growth of unwanted water plants, which no amount of phosphorus could cause in the absence of available sources of carbon.

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