

Editor — Ray Gerber
865 Hillside Ave.
Glen Ellyn, Ill. 60137
Phone — 469-6467

Associate Editors — Robert Williams
90 East Franklin, Apt. 208
Lake Forest, Ill. 60045
Office Phone — 432-0088

Roger LaRochelle
20432 Kedzie Ave.
Olympia Fields, Ill. 60461
Home Phone 481-1638

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The President's Message

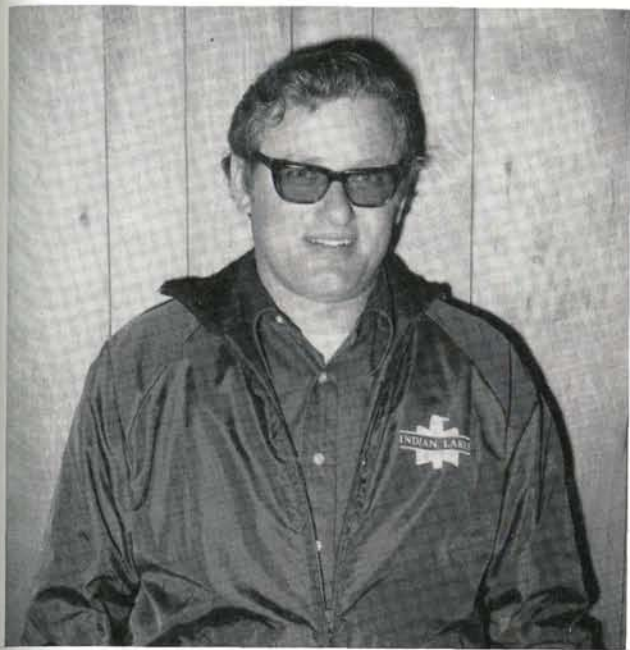
It looks as if Spring has arrived! That might sound premature, but as I write this message, the temperature has reached 70 degrees and the sun is shining. The past few weeks of warm weather have almost convinced me of this fact. Of course, by the time you read this we'll probably have a foot of snow on the ground and freezing temperatures.

With the above in mind I began walking the course to prepare a list of jobs on the outside for the crew. The list of tasks, needless to say, seemed endless and with a crew of only three men, still inside working on equipment I began to wonder about obtaining added help. In years past I had run some ads in local papers with little or no results, but I thought I'd try it again. The ad appeared first on Tuesday and stated "men wanted for golf course maintenance work" with my name and club number. There was no salary mentioned or conditions stated. By 10:00 o'clock that morning I had received ten phone calls and two filled in job applications. I cancelled the ad at 11:00 o'clock! By the end of the day we had received about 30 calls. Amazing results for a job that can't compete in wages with factories, construction and landscape work. More illuminating was the fact that most of the callers were in their 20's and professed a desire for outside work even though they could make more money in factories.

In past years I have relied heavily on Mexican workers. Now, however, because of lack of housing it is difficult to find these workers. The response to my Help Wanted ad has opened my eyes to a new source of labor and also to the problems of keeping them as full time employees. As I mentioned, the question of money was not as big a problem as I thought it would be and that the desire to be outside was the main concern. In other words, everyone in this world does not have to make \$20,000 a year if they're happy in their work. Now that I have hired some men it will be up to me to keep them.

Some of the things I am already doing — uniforms, paid holidays, time and a half for overtime, insurance, providing safety equipment (hard hats, safety shoes, raingear, etc.) are some of the items. Other areas will be a pension plan and family hospitalization. I hope with these items, and an open mind to employee suggestions, that I'll be able to keep satisfied employees full time.

I hope that some of my experiences of the past week will help you, the Superintendent, find good full time help.



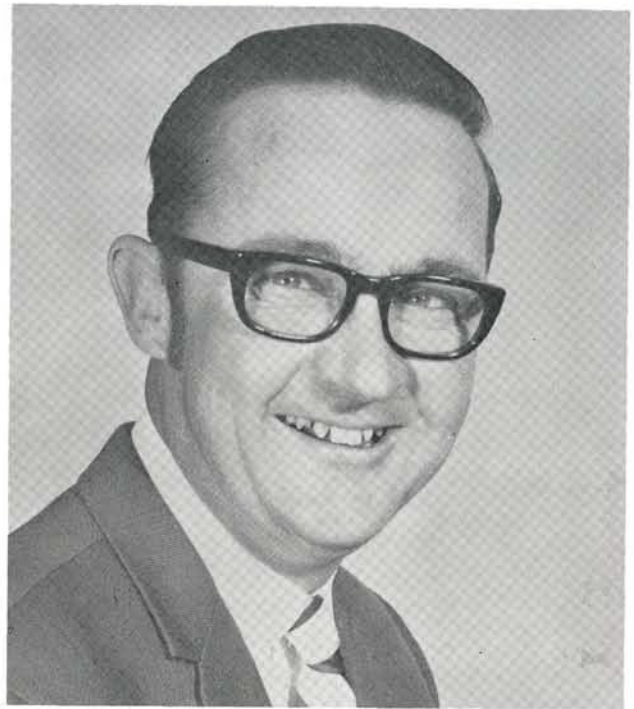
Ralph A. Hintz

The April 16th meeting will be held at Indian Lakes Country Club, Bloomingdale, Illinois. Ralph A. Hintz, superintendent, will be our host. Come out and enjoy yourself; get the season started with a round of golf and dinner; renew old friendships, especially those you have not seen during the past winter. Golf course open 10 A.M. if weather permits.

TONY MEYERS TOUR OF MEXICO

Saturday, February 10th Tony and Marge Meyers joined two couples from Naperville on a Cartan Travel Tour of Mexico City, Taxco (the Silver City) until the 14th, then on to Acapulco till Saturday. Their tour guide through Mexico City was an outstanding English-American speaking gentleman driving a 1959 Cadillac Limousine. Places visited there were the University of Mexico, the President's Palace, National Cathedral, Shrine of Guadalupe and the Pyramids, also enjoyed the Mexican Folklore Ballet. In Taxco had the opportunity to see silver jewelry, etc., being made and shops to buy same at much lower prices than home. The silver mine, which works three 8-hour shifts a day, was viewed from the De La Borda Hotel, where they stayed. The most enjoyable and relaxing part of the trip was three days spent in Acapulco, temperature 86 to 90° and sunshine each day.

Paul N. Voykin will be on the WGN 720 radio show April 4, 8-10 PM on the Jerry Thalberg — with horticulturist Carl Kleim. Paul incidentally was (believe it or not) stung by honey bees while raiding a honey tree last month. The weather was 15 above zero. His probing to get the honey woke the bees up and they angrily gave him a sting or two before freezing. Paul hastily used the famous scotch anti-bee serum — Cutty Sark and felt no ill effects except for a headache next morning.



Dudley Smith, President M.R.T.

PURDUE POTPOURRI

The Midwest Regional Turf Conference was held March 5-6-7 at Purdue University and another attendance record was set. Over 750 people registered for the seminar.

Robert Johnson, President of Illinois Lawn Equipment, presented a paper entitled "Obsolescence in Equipment" before the Wednesday morning session.

At the annual business meeting on Monday evening, Dudley Smith, Superintendent of Silver Lake Country Club in Orland Park, was elected president of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation for 1973. Dudley is beginning his 15th year at John Coghill's golf course. A graduate of Penn State in 1954, Dudley was educational chairman of the Midwest Association for several years, and served as our president in 1967.

Other new officers of the M.R.T.F. are:

James Timmerman, Orchard Lake, Michigan — Vice President

Donald Clemens, Pontiac, Michigan — Director

John Spodnik, Leroy, Ohio — Director

Dr. David Ralston, Louisville, Kentucky — Director

At the annual banquet Tuesday evening Mrs. Kay House, Professor Daniel's secretary and "girl Friday" was honored for 20 years devoted service. Mrs. House will retire in June. Mrs. Jo Horn will sit in to keep the typewriter warm.

Dr. William Daniel will host some foreign agronomists on an International Turf Tour at Purdue on June 24th and 25th.

The annual Field Day at the experimental turf plots will be Monday, September 24th.

The 1974 Turf Conference will be held the last week in February and NOT the first week in March to which we are accustomed. Please mark this change on your calendar. It would be nice to see a larger group from the Midwest Association in attendance, and hear some of our talented superintendents on the program.



Editor

Midwest Breezes

Bent grass and Kentucky Blue grass turf on golf courses as of this date, March 16th, appears to have survived the winter in good condition in the Chicago area. What about the irrigation system water pipes? With all the rain, how well did the water pipes drain and stay drained this past fall? Remember the problems that were encountered in the spring of 1971?

Dudley Smith, superintendent at Silver Lake Golf Club, was elected president of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation at their annual meeting on March 5, 1973.

Kenneth Lapp, formerly the superintendent at Fresh Meadows Golf Club, has taken the superintendent position at Coghill Country Club, vacated by the death of George Dalman.

Mrs. Frank Mastrolo, formerly from Geneva Golf Club, had the misfortune of breaking her leg. We all wish her a speedy recovery.

Bruce Sering, superintendent at Glenview Club, reports they are building a new pump house. This is part of their new two line automatic irrigation system.

Dave Meyer, superintendent at Nordic Country Club, reports they are installing 1,500 feet of 27 to 48 inch storm sewer; they have also built one new golf cart path.

Tony Meyer, superintendent at Woodridge Golf Club, reports a 54 inch sanitary sewer line is in the planning stages to cross Woodridge Golf Course.

Adolph Bertucci traveled to Gainesville, Florida to visit his father who is 91 years old. Adolph wishes he was in as good a shape as his wonderful old father.

Haword Barewald, Superintendent at La Grange Country Club, reports the club is rebuilding three-fourths of the clubhouse. They plan to build a new swimming pool and tennis courts.

Leonard Schneof, former salesman of the Geo. A. Davis Co., has taken the position of Golf Course Superintendent at the old Brookwood Country Club.

Mrs. Carl C. Petersen

Mrs. Cathryn C. Petersen, 79, of 2323 W. 119th St., Blue Island, the wife of Carl, retired superintendent of South Shore Country Club, died January 16 in Christ Community Hospital, Oak Lawn. Mrs. Petersen had been a lifelong resident of South Shore until moving to Blue Island about five years when her husband retired. Survivors, in addition to her husband; include three daughters, Mrs. Jacoba Stafford, Mrs. Carolyn Coughlan, and Mrs. Joan McCoy; nine grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents extend our sympathy to Mrs. George Dalman and family. Mr. Dalman passed away on March 3rd. He was a devoted husband and employee. Coghill Country Club was his home for the past 48 years. He will be missed by his many friends.

The golf course superintendents have lost one of their most dedicated men in their profession by the death of George Dalman. He passed away at the age of 68. For 48 years he was employed at Coghill Country Club, George was the golf course superintendent for most of these years. The four golf courses at Coghill were under the sole supervision of this on man, George Dalman. Hours in a day or days in a week were of little concern to him; he had a job to do and he did it, far beyond what was expected of him. George was a member of the Lockport Loyal Order of Moose, Lemont Council K. of C. No. 1599, and the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents and Golf Course Superintendents' Association of America.

39 Coppice Road, Walsall Wood
Staffordshire, England
February 14, 1973

Dear Ray,

Many thanks for sending your publication of "The Bull Sheet"; it was good to read your many articles, and see the pictures you took of Boston.

Thank you for your kind words concerning our contingent from England, we shall remember room 2432, and your hospitality.

I would, on behalf of the British Golf Green Keepers (Midland Section), like you, through your magazine, to thank Jim Bertoni and the many friends we made in the Midwest Association for making us so very welcome on our first visit to the USA. Kind regards.

Alan Boraston.

Robert A. Matthews, 12 Edgewood Road, Middleton, Mass. 01949. Age 20. Single, draft classification 1-H. Will graduate in June with an Associate Degree in Turf Management from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture, University of Massachusetts. He has worked on golf courses for three years, plus summer placement at Glen Oaks Club, L.I., during completion. Desires position as assistant superintendent or superintendent. Will relocate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



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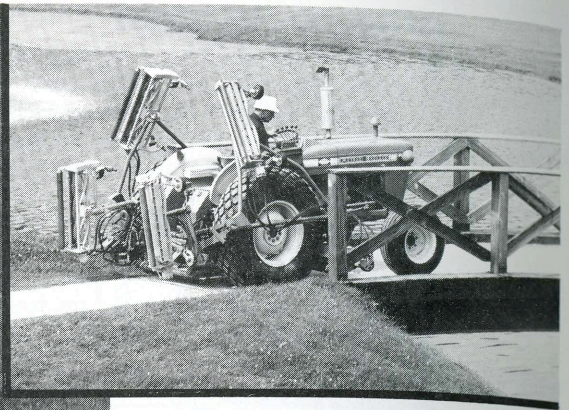
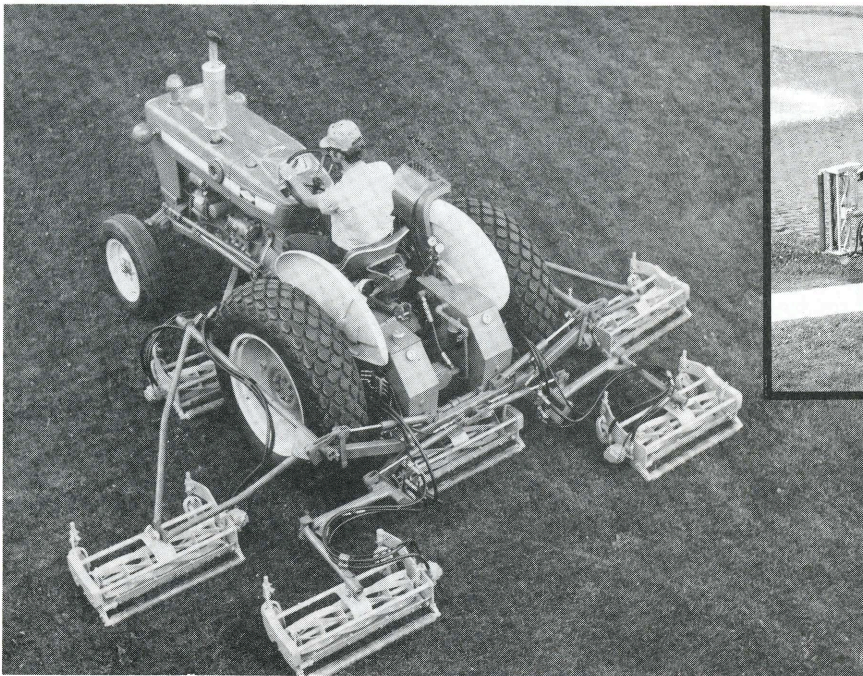


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Bob Block, Superintendent of Sportsman Country Club, presents certificate of certification from the G.C.S.A.A. to Oliver Miles and John Ebel, both Midwest Association Superintendents.

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**April Editorial by: Fred Opperman
Director Midwest AGCS**

First off I want to thank the membership in their vote of confidence by electing me to the Board of Directors of the Midwest Association of GCS. It seemed my first official duty was to play bartender in our hospitality room in Boston for our national conference. I, being a smart new director picked Monday night knowing that it would be very slow (normal closing time is midnight) since the host association held their "Boston Tea Party" that night. Well it was slow that night, that is until 11:30 P.M. and then all h--- broke loose. We not only had our whole group from the Midwest there, but we had some from Michigan, Wisconsin, New York, California, and to top it off a large delegation from England besides. Our hospitality room was just that, that night. I've been one in the past who has been critical of all the money spent on that particular room. But that night we created more friendships than money could buy.

The amusing part of the night being that at 1:00 A.M. I had to close the room and stop all drinks. I thought by signaling the crowd, by turning out the lights, that they would take the hint and go. Well the English boys took the hint and started kissing all the wives goodnight. Some of the girls there had quite a time and were almost mauled. There was also one gentleman there who, I won't mention by name, (but is the editor of this publication) was standing out in the hall telling more people to come in while I was attempting to close the hospitality room. This same gentleman, (who we all know is very young and handsome) on his way back to his room for the night was approached by a young lady seeking companionship. Needless to say she was graciously turned down. But the next morning this gentleman certainly had a spring in his step and a smile on his face.

The more serious side of my responsibilities is the education committee on which I serve. We have for the past two months now been working on the Midwest Clinic scheduled for November 13th & 14th and to be held at the Medinah Country Club again. It is the standard of our clinic to have about 75% of the speakers Superintendents and the rest of the speakers from Universities, Manufacturers, and other allied associations and trades. Our theme this year is "Responsibilities of Today".

Shortly, or if we already haven't done so, we will be asking YOU to participate in the Clinic. We try every year to get "fresh blood" so to speak or fellow superintendents who haven't been on the program and who will add a lot to the Clinic. We realize and you realize that not everyone is a gifted speaker but our Clinic is designed this way for our membership to participate. A person only learns by doing and learning is the name of the game in our PROFESSION.

As always is the case when one serves on a committee we are constantly searching and seeking new ideas or ways of improving our organization. The easiest way to achieve this goal is thru **you**. We need to hear your ideas, your comments, your gripes, your wants, your needs, and your wishes. In my particular case I want to hear your needs in what you want at the educational sessions of our monthly meetings and at our Clinic. If you would take time **Right Now** and jot down a few items that you are thinking about and send them to Roger LaRochelle or myself it would be a great help. There is an old saying that a short pencil is better than a long memory.



Dr. William Meyer

Dr. William Meyer gave an excellent presentation at the March 14 meeting on, "Research on Turfgrass Varieties."

"SATCHMO"

O, yes, I know "Satchmo" well. The article about "Satchmo" that appeared in the February Bull Sheet was very appropos — it seems like those "flight by night" salesmen come out of the woodwork about this time of the year.

The knocking on your door will ease some after you have asked a few to leave but will continue since the companies these salesmen work for usually don't keep the same men too long. A new man is just around the corner to come see you. Maybe the answer is to see salesmen strictly by appointments (other than local). O.K. guys?!

My arms (my wife's, too) would have to be stretched to accommodate all the watches I've been offered in the last few years. They know all about that watch they're going to give you but ask them about their product and all they can say is, "I just gave my last label out but so and so up the street bought six 55 gallon barrels." Woopie! Have you ever taken time to ask Jim up the street if he ever bought any? You might be surprised to find 9 out of 10 times he never even let "Satchmo" in his shop.

The Chicago area is fortunate to have some of the most knowledgeable turf salesmen in the country. They have been selling in the area for years, they work for reputable companies, and they know our problems. They will answer questions truthfully because they know they will be seeing you in a week or so. These men also are the ones, that attend our educational meetings and listen with intense interest. (By the way, some of them really do enjoy being able to attend, too.)

So why support "Satchmo"? Shouldn't we support the people that are selling to us today and will be tomorrow?

Well, I must close for now — there is a knocking on my door. I wonder what he has got for me today?

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The Village of Woodridge closed the deal with John S. Henry on the purchase of Maplecrest Lake Country Club on January 4, 1973. The new name for the 121-acre golf course is "Village Greens of Woodridge Country Club." There are plans for a \$70,000 remodeling program. A complete new pro shop will replace the old one, and for the golf course, we will have updated the turf equipment. Fertilization, weed control, and soil conditioning programs are being set up to better our turf. When the beginning of our golfing season starts, there will be a brand new image at our country club.

Leonard H. Berg, Jr.
Golf Course Superintendent

FOR SALE

1964 model F8, seven gang Worthington; 10 blade reels — reels two years old. Contact Mike Bavier, superintendent at Inverness Golf Club — 358-7030.

17-YEAR LOCUST

by Stanley Rachesky
Entomologist — University of Illinois

Most interest has been generated lately in regard to the coming emergence this June of the periodical cicada, commonly known as the locust.

Somewhere, someplace in the United States locusts do emerge each year. In order to record these emergences, numbers have been assigned to two species of locusts, the 13- and 17- year broods. According to our records, Chicago is in for a heavy emergence of Brood No. 13 of the 17-year locust. This emergence will occur north of a line from Rock Island to Peoria to Shelby to Edgar County. You almost could say that the emergence in Illinois will be north of I-74.

In the last Chicago area emergence of 1956, cicadas emerged at the rate of 133,000 per acre (an area equal to about 200 by 200 feet). In some areas of Chicagoland counts ranged as high as 1½ million an acre.

Periodical cicadas are orange to black, and about 1½ inch long with large transparent wings, and appear from May to July.

Annual or dog-day cicadas are larger, green to black, and appear each year from July to September. Ordinarily, the annual cicadas do not cause much damage. Cicada males announce their presence to the voiceless females by making a continuous, high-pitched shrill sound. The sound is produced by vibrating membranes on the underside of the first abdominal segment.

The total life cycle of the periodical cicada takes either 13 or 17 years. Otherwise, the two types have similar habits.

The adult females lay eggs in rows in pockets that they cut in small branches and twigs of trees with their long, knife like egg layer. Each female will make from 5 to 20 of these pockets, laying 24 to 28 eggs in two rows in each pocket. The eggs hatch in 6 to 7 weeks; the newly hatched nymphs fall to the ground and burrow until they find suitable roots, usually 1½ to 2 feet beneath the soil. With their sucking mouth parts, they immediately begin to suck juices from the root.

During the spring of the 13th or 17th year, depending on which brood is involved, the cicadas burrow upward until they are about an inch below the surface. When the proper night comes, they leave the ground in large numbers and head for the nearest upright object, preferably a tree. The nymph attaches itself firmly to this object. By splitting its skin down the middle of the back, it emerges as a winged adult. At first, the adults are soft and white, but they become harder and darker as the tissues dry. Mating takes place within a few weeks, and eggs are laid for the next brood.

The females prefer oak, hickory, apple, peach, and pear trees and grape vines for laying eggs. Damage occurs when the female make slits in branches and twigs in which to deposit the eggs. These small twigs and branches turn brown and die, sometimes breaking off. The damage may be severe in newly planted orchards, or on new plantings of shade trees or shrubs. Heavy population of nymphs in the soil also may affect the growth and vigor of certain trees.

The insecticide Sevin is effective in controlling cicadas. It should be applied when egg laying begins and repeated 7 to 10 days later. Read the label carefully for application rates.

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Magnesium can be supplied through applications of dolomitic limestone and commercial materials known as K-Mag and Sul-Po-Mag. Both the K-Mag and Sul-Po-Mag supply sulfur and potassium.

Editor's note: The following story on grass was sent to me by Robert Rosenthal, who is taking a correspondence course at the University of Guelph in Guelph, Ontario, Canada. This course requires three years to complete for a horticulture diploma. Anyone interested in this type of course may contact Robert Rosenthal at 402 W. Thompson, Harvard, Ill. 60033 or by telephone at 815-943-5583.

GRASS

"Next in importance to the divine profusion of water, light and air, those three physical facts which render existence possible may be reckoned the universal beneficence of grass. Lying in the sunshine among the buttercups and dandelions in May, scarcely higher in intelligence than the minute tenant 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 forum is closed, grass heals over the scar which our descent into the bosom of the earth has made, and the carpet of the infant becomes a blanket of the death.

Grass is forgiveness of Nature — her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, saturated with blood, torn with ruts of cannon, grow green 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 the elements which are its ministers, servants, it softens the rude outlines of the world. It invades the deserts, climbs the inaccessible slopes and pinnacles of mountain and modifies the history, character, the 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 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 fruits in earth or air, yet should the harvest fail for a single year famine would depopulate the world."

Anonymous

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Dr. Al. J. Turgeon

Dr. A. Turgeon from the University of Illinois was presented a check of five hundred dollars from the Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association for research work.

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A CREED

I will study the language of gentleness and refuse to use words that bite and tones that crush. I will practice patience at home lest my temper break through unexpectedly and disgrace me. I will remember that my neighbors have troubles enough without unloading mine on them. I will excuse others' faults and failures as often and fully as I expect others to be lenient with mine. I will be a friend under trying tests, and wear everywhere a good will face, unchilled by aloofness. I will gladden my nature by smiling out loud on every fair occasion, and by outlook optimistically. I will pray frequently, think good thoughts, believe in my fellowman, and do a full day's work without fear or favor.

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