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

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## The President's Message

First of all, let me thank you for electing me as your new president for 1973. It is truly an honor and a privilege to be able to serve such a fine and dedicated organization as the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Also let me congratulate you on selecting a Board of Directors that I feel represents all of us. They are a fine blend of old and new and I am sure will be able to help our association for many years to come.

Two years seems a long time, but it passes quickly. It was two years ago that I was elected as 2nd Vice President of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. During those two years many things have come to pass in our Association. We have had some times when, as a membership, we were divided and as a body were not working together for a common goal or purpose. This has passed and I now feel that our organization has "grown up" so to speak. Member participation in our meetings, turf clinics and a renewed interest in National Association affairs has shown that we are an association that can and will work together to further our profession. It is to this end that your Board of Directors will work in the coming year.

As we prepare our course and its related equipment for the coming year I think we should also prepare ourselves for things to come. We are entering a period of time when our profession is faced with ever increasing controls and regulations that we must incorporate into our daily work schedules. Pesticide laws, Occupational Safety and Health Act and new labor laws are just beginning to reach us. We must, as professional men, keep abreast and, if possible, ahead of all new rules and regulations that affect us. In this way we may better serve our clubs, our employees and ourselves. It will be the aim of this Board to keep you informed of these items that conconcern our profession and our jobs.

#### BEWARE

There are men in our area selling insurance and stating that their insurance company has been approved by the Golf Course Superintendents Association. Before signing on the dotted line, call the G.C.S.A.A. office for verification.



Editor

#### Editorial

The time of year has again arrived to hang up a new calendar for the year 1973.

At this time the Bull Sheet Editor thanks everyone who has helped make this Bulletin one of the better publications pertaining to the Greenkeeping profession.

A special thanks to you who contributed many local news items and to those of you who were kind enough to devote many hours of your time in preparing the educational articles you sent me for publication. These are the things that help make the Bull Sheet a worthy publication.

It seems to me there are only a very small percentage of our members who are willing to share their knowledge with others by writing an article for the Bull Sheet. How about making a New Year's resolution that you will contribute at least one news article each year.

The people who are really responsible for the finances that it takes to print the Bull Sheet and to get it in your mail box are the advertisers. I hope those of you who have the authority to make the purchases at your club will first look through our ads and give them first consideration. I am sure this is not asking too much of you. Keep it in mind. They are depending on you to help make this 1973 a most joyous and prosperous year. Certainly we are depending on them.

#### **Midwest Breezes**

Oscar Borgmeier, formerly of the Geo. A. Davis Co., who served the golf course Superintendents so promptly for forty years until his retirement two years ago, is enjoying the sun in Florida this winter. I am sure he would enjoy seeing some of his long time friends from the cold north. His address is C. O. Borgmeier, 2503 N.W. 53rd St., Ft. Lauderdale, Florida 33309. Give him a phone call if you are down his way.

Paul Burdett, founder of the Burdett Inc., who also retired after giving the golf course Superintendents top service for forty years, has decided to reside in Arizona during the winter months and has taken up a hobby of panning for gold. Good luck, Paul.

Bernard Kronn, Superintendent at Twin Orchards Country Club, has been busy this fall building five new greens using C15 strain for the putting surface and A20 for the collars. He also planted one hundred new trees.

Julius Albaugh, Superintendent at Westmoreland Country Club, has a three year program started at his club. As a starter he resurfaced the collars around six greens using FYL King and built two new practice pitch greens using C15 strain of grass.

Gene Palrud, Superintendent at Ravina Green Country Club, has resigned and will become the new Superintendent at the Play Boy Club, Lake Geneva, Wis., vacated by Tom Burrows who moved to Florida.

Roy Nelson, Superintendent at Ravisloe Country Club, and Mrs Nelson will be vacationing over the holidays at Canary Island. The name sure is inviting.

Charles Schultz, Superintendent at Hinsdale Golf Club, is busy planting new trees on the golf course.

I assume that all of the G.C.S.A. members have been notified by this date that their national office is moving from Chicago to Lawrence, Kansas, not Kansas City, as we were informed. How many of you have ever been in Lawrence, Kansas? My prediction is that the rug at the front door will never be worn out by the golf course Superintendents who will visit the office.

Word has reached me, and I presume you also have received the news, that our national Director of Education, Dr. Paul Alexander, is leaving our association. A year ago it was our Executive Director, Ben Chlevin. Men with the ability of Dr. Alexander are made to order for our educational department. We of the Midwest Association sure do not like the action that was taken and its results.

The annual meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Flying Carpet Inn on December 4th. A lengthy discussion took place pertaining to the G.C.S.A.A. Its results will probably be known after the conference in Boston. The election of officers and Directors was held at this time. The results are: Denis Straus — President Albey Staudt — First Vice President Edward Smith - Second Vice President Mike Bavier - Secretary Treasurer Fred Opperman - Director Clifford Behrendt - Director Directors retained from last year: Joe Grenko Robert Breen Roger LaRochelle Paul Voykin - President Emeritus

#### FEBRUARY MEETING

Nordic Country Club, Itasca, Illinois David Meyer, Host Superintendent



Passing of the gavel by Paul Voykin, right, to Denis Straus, newly elected president.

The Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association can be very proud of the clinic they sponsored on November 14th and 15th at Medinah Country Club. It was without a doubt one of the best educational meeting we ever had. The committee deserves a lot of credit for their fine job. All the speakers were excellent and the young Superintendents can be proud of their presentations. I wonder how many of you who have attended the clinic in the past years realize how fortunate we are to be invited back to Medinah year after year. The location, facilities and food are the best. Our many thanks go to the team that make it possible for us to return each year. Mr. Donald Johnson, Green Chairman, and his most able Superintendent, John Jackman.



Newly elected directors Fred Opperman, Superintendent of Glen Oak Country Club on the left, and Cliff Behrendt, superintendent Turn-Berry Country Club.

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Mr. Tim Miles, Superintendent at Joliet Country Club, is a happy man. He won you as one of the door prizes that were given away at the Midwest Association annual dance at River Forest Country Club. Sorry about the late notice.

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#### **RODENTS**

by Stanley Rachesky Entomologist — University of Illinois

Rodents cause problems to golf superintendents not only when they find their way inside your buildings, but they can really cost you some money when they start eating your shrubs. After the first ground covering snow of the year, rats, mice, and rabbits will become more aggressive in their hunt for food. Ornamental trees, fruit trees and shrubs always appear to be one of the prime targets of these little animals. Golf superintendents should plan to protect these plants now, if you have not already done so.

When these little creatures completely eat the bark off around the trunk or stem of a shrub or tree, it is known as girdling. A plant that is completely girdled will die. If the bark is just partially eaten away, the tree or shrub will be in a much weakened condition. This will cause your plants to be more susceptible to attacks by disease and wood-boring insects.

Time is running out. If the precipitation continues to fall as it has in the past few months, Chicagoland is in for a snowy winter. Trees and shrubs can be protected against rodents and/or rabbits by wrapping the lower trunk of the tree with 1/4" to 3/8" hardware wire. This should be at least 18" high and buried at least 1" under the ground. Wrapping the tree with special tree wrap is also very effective.

If your plants happen to be in areas of your property where the snow tends to drift to a depth of 18" or greater, then you will need to extend your wire or wrapper to prevent rabbits from reaching up and feeding on the bark above your protective barrier.

Mice prefer to rest and feed under a vegetative cover. Keep the vegetation around your trees trimmed to a radius of at least three feet or more.

If you feel sorry for your rabbits this winter — keep them well fed by making certain they have fresh lettuce and carrots available. This way you can enjoy your ornamentals and the wildlife on your property next summer and the year round.

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## **Summary of 20th Annual Truf Clinic**

# OF THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

By Lee Record Mid-Continent Director USGA - Green Section

The theme for the 20th Annual Turf Clinic could not have been better put during the past two days, "A Better Understanding." An understanding of one-self, an exchange of ideas during a question and answer period, or over a drink after the sessions had been concluded for the day. It made no difference as to age, as the young and the seasoned superintendent shared their views. New light, new direction, new avenues of promise were stimulated by each and every speaker regardless of his topic.

Water, loved by all, fought for in developing an irrigation system, enlarging a storage area or bringing in a well, still remains and may always remain an unsolved problem in how to use it properly. More jobs have been lost through the misuse of water than any other cause. And yet Mother Nature has had no feeling for job security and the golf course superintendent in the greater Chicagoland area these past few months, as fairways, greens and tees remained under water for countless days in many instances.

Today, we cannot look back, but ahead to the coming year and our cultural programs. Standard programs of the past may only be a memory in 1973, as 1973 may well separate the men from the boys. It will take a keen eye and added responsibility to compensate for past mistakes or cultural programs that have been neglected. Tomorrow can never be made up for today.

Low temperature kill, desiccation, fungi, compaction, leaching, soil temperature, depth of roots and most important of all, management of men, will be your day of judgment in the months ahead. Flexible programs without question will be the rule rather than the exception.

And with all this, standard pesticide products of the past will be used to upgrade and improve playing conditions for the great game of golf. Regardless if you are hosting a major national tournament or a local on the spot tournament that all so often arises, "The better the condition of the course, the better the champion can play." This is your responsibility.

Turf research is a slow, challenging process, but one that continues with much enthusiasm by our researchers. Not always do we have to look to our universities for results, as commercial organizations have contributed more than their share to the golf course superintendent. New, improved grass varieties, pesticides and equipment only begin to tell a little of their accomplishments for your success.

It's true mechanical and physical breakdowns occur. There is, however, a reason as to why this happens; lack of communication, old equipment, poor supervision or a "what the hell" attitude. Understanding and the maturing of each individual, employer or employee is important to the success of your operation. Mechanization, Men and Management will truly play a more important role in the coming decade and the decades of the future. But one must not, and cannot overlook the prime importance of the golf course superintendent, the prime role that he plays as a manager of turfgrass. An individual who must have the tools and accept the responsibility of maintaining and managing a golf course, regardless of

climatic conditions, vandalism or damage from the maintenance equipment, which he must use to meet the standards that are expected of him.

Today, our terminology deals with ounces, pounds and acres. Tomorrow, and our turf clinics in the future will have a new dialogue. "Hurry up and finish with that tile line; you have four meters or 39.93 decimeters to go." "How many hectares of fairway have you?" one superintendent was asked. "Let's see," he replied, "I have 160,000 square meters or 16.9 hectares; that's right, 40 acres." "You know," he said, "I used a little over 300 kilograms per hectare; that's a little over 34 pounds per 10 square centares."

Only this morning my son said, "It's -5°C." "Come on," I said, "it can't be that cold." He smiled. "It's 23°F.," he replied, "you had better check up on your conversion tables."

Our guest speakers gave to us their time and their thoughts dealing with so many topics. It's now up to you to evaluate and pursue the directions which will help you the most in improving your profession.

It was so well put by Ted Woehrle, "The finest Chapter Turf Clinic in the country." I can attest to that statement, as I have taken part in all types of clinics and conferences.

For me, it is an honor to be a member of your organization and to have taken part in your 20th Annual Turf Clinic. I hope you have learned as I have during the past two days, as your theme is the byline for the coming year, "A Better Understanding."



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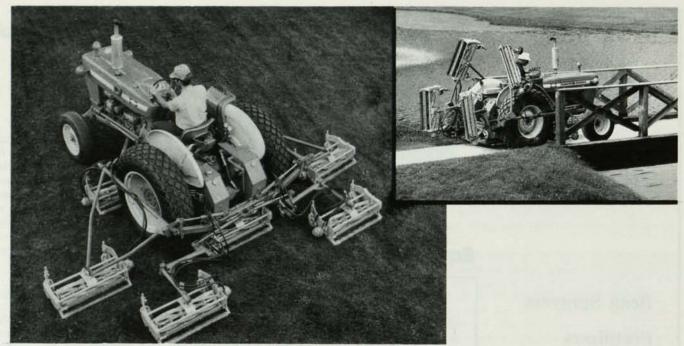
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### **Irrigation With Sewage Effluent**

A speech given by James R. Burdett at Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents Clinic, November 15, 1972. (Preceded by the film "The Living Filter")

The golf course superintendent's job is growing to be more and more of managing men, money and machines, towards the end of keeping a golf course in high class playing condition than in the days of the groundskeeper. Programs have to be initiated many times by the superintendent, so that he can be setting his own path, rather than following the line of thinking set down by his bosses. He is the co-ordinator of fertilizer, water and mowing, and he has to know what the EPA, OHSA, and the FDA are talking about, and then relate it to his board.

In an editorial in the Bull Sheet, April 1970, I quote, "Fairway watering will be a thing of the past because of a lack of water, green watering might be tolerated however, because it is next to the game." This editorial, by Roger LaRochelle, sent me to searching about and finding in my own thought a solution to the watering. This, I felt, was part of my business career. I then thought of pollution as the dumping into an environment. This was backed up this fall when I backpacked in the Colorado Rockies and was looking at trees that had fallen and were in the process of decaying. From these decaying trees we are growing another forest. This turns into recycling. Similar to that shown in the movie. Congressman Jamie Whitten put it best in his recent Appropriations Committee report, when he said:

"Today, the Congress, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and others are faced with many of the environmental groups.

"We see many projects opposed by some because it will change the type of fish or type of animal which they wish to catch and kill.

"Because a major is not at our shores, they feel that testing of weapons is unnecessary.

"Because their lights come on every night, they oppose new electric generation facilities. They are trying to stop power generation when our needs are doubling each ten years.

"Because they haven't been hungry, they oppose fertilizers and pesticides which are fundamental to agriculture production.

"Because they have jobs, they are opposed to development of areas of this country not so fortunate.

"Because their homes are not flooded, they are opposed to reservoirs.

"Millions of people have been sold against 'changing the environment' — even though it may be for the good of mankind."

In driving up to the Wisconsin symposium last month, I had Wally Phillips on the radio and one question that came to him from a listener was about where cow chips had been used for fuel (The answer was in areas where fuel was not otherwise available). Our illustrious president, Mr. Paul Voykin, can tell us about the use of cow chips in the Canadian frontier. From a personal viewpoint, Gentlemen, I submit to you that what we are doing is always working on recycling. We will continue to use the excess product of an area in working out our life cycle. In the Christian Science Monitor, September 19th, was an article on waste recycling. Up in Alaska, where the temperatures sometimes drop to 70 degrees below zero, is an experimental project, involving recycling hog "waste into protein rich pellets to be fed back to the hogs. The hogs are housed in a two story structure, with pens on bottom floor and a hothouse on top. Along the side are trenches, through which water is pumped. The hog waste is carried in the trenches to collection areas, then put through a pasteurization process that kills and extracts harmful bacteria and other undesirable elements. Finally, the recycled waste is fed back to the hogs in the form of small pellets containing more than 60 percent protein, vital to animals' growth."

Senator Merdes said the recycled material would amount to about 10 percent of the hogs' diet, with barley grown on the farm supplying the rest.

This process, as was quoted in the article, could eventually lead to hog raising in cities. "Carbon di-

oxide from the hogs would be pumped to the second floor to stimulate the growth of plant life, in turn the oxygen released by the plant life would be pumped back downstairs to further spur development of the animals. The result would be strawberries as big as plums." In this article, I find that man is utilizing and/or changing his environment to eliminate pollution. In the National Geographic, September 1971, the question rises that in taming the Missouri river, what happens to the fish? But the question, to me, meant more. When you change farms into urban areas and increase human population on this previous watershed area, what happens to the waste products of the human population?

Sewage effluent and the use of it is a fairly com-

mon concept for the past five to ten years.

Through the use of treatment plants, effluent water is available for reuse much more quickly than common breakdown of sewage. It is estimated that municipal sewage treatment plants throughout the country handle 20 billion gallons of waste water a day. This would make a river 550 feet wide, 20 feet deep, and flowing at the rate of 32 thousand cubic feet per second. Where does it all go? Close to Medinah Country Club, there are sewage treatment lagoons which will settle out the particular matter of treated sewage and then feed the excess water into lakes and streams. This water, when treated, is of a condition that the water into which it flows does not become excessively contaminated, but when the waters of one river are added to another, the persistent compounds are thereby multiplied.

At the Dorado Beach Hotel in Puerto Rico, treated waste water is being used to water the golf course, since fresh water is in very scant supply. The scarceness of fresh water has been precipitated by the "Jet Age" and increasing the demands on the drink-

ing water supply which is what Roger had mentioned in the Bull Sheet editorial back in 1970.

Jim McPhilomy at the Valley Country Club in Denver, was on the Los Almos Country Club in New Mexico for 5½ years. In a recent letter, he states "Sewage effluent has some definite beneficial advantages. For example, nutritional value, normally high nitrogen supply, recycling of moisture. However, these benefits may be outweighed by the detrimental effects derived from prolonged use of sewage effluent without an abundant supply of natural rainfall or available fresh water for flushing the often toxic elements through the root zone of the turf grass areas."

I have been informed that with the use of certain wetting agents, the flushing of these toxic elements is still critical, but not as critical as without their use. "If during the minimal rainfall periods, we had a minimum of 1/4 to 1/2" of natural rainfall to leach these elements through the root zone, the turf grass responded as if from a daily fertilizer application. I found it better to withhold some moisture during these severe dry periods rather than continue applying the normal amount of sewage effluent for irrigation." Jim goes on to tell me that in Los Almos, the annual rainfall is seventeen inches. He also says that sewage effluent changes from plant to plant and also within the same plant, in different tests.

(Continued next issue)

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The Editor Wishes All of You Health, Happiness and Good Luck During 1973