

Vol. 5, No. 2
August, 1951



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

1926-1951
OUR
25th
ANNIVERSARY



Superintendent,
Roselle Country Club,
George Roloff

THE AUGUST MEETING

MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 1951

at

ROSELLE COUNTRY CLUB

Roselle, Illinois

PETER BILD WILL BE OUR HOST

George Roloff will be our Host

GOLF TOURNAMENT

BUFFET DINNER

EDUCATIONAL MEETING

There will be a Question Box conducted
by Al. Johnson, Educational Ch.
and assisted by a Panel of Experts

DON'T MISS IT.

AUGUST GUEST DAY AT BONNIE DUNDEE COUNTRY CLUB, DUNDEE, ILLINOIS

THE BULL SHEET STAFF

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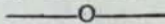
The President's Message

It was not so many years ago that many greenkeeping practices were closely guarded "secrets". Methods were supposed to have been passed down from father to son and the greenkeeper was very loath to give away any of these so called secrets and on some courses if a "rival" happened to pay a visit, all secret practices were hidden until he left. In fact, other greenkeepers were not welcome to come around and see what was being done. This shortsighted practice prevailed up until about 25 years ago when the first greenkeepers associations were organized. I can remember attending meetings where a man would have liked to ask a question but would not do so because he was afraid that he would be showing himself to be ignorant. Many times when a question was asked, nobody would be willing to answer. How things have changed. Today you can go to a meeting, or call on a brother Superintendent and get willing answers to your questions. The closer cooperation and better feeling between Superintendents has, without doubt, done much to make the Superintendent what he is today. There is no doubt in my mind that the most respected man around the golf club today is the Superintendent, an honor which was formerly mostly enjoyed by the pro or club manager. Superintendents today are doing a great deal of experimental work on their courses and are passing on the results and their findings to their fellows. This is a wonderful thing for all of us, and I would like to see more of it done. With all the hundreds of acres of various types of fine turf to work with and with the intelligent cooperation of the Superintendents, we can do more and more to advance our profession. The enthusiasm shown at Woodridge for our proposed turf gardens at the Morton Arboretum at Lisle, is proof of the Superintendents thirst for knowledge, and I am sure that they are all behind us in putting over this project and will do all in their power to make it an outstanding achievement.



PLEASE NOTE

The National Tournament and Field Day scheduled for September 17-18, will be held on September 10-11 instead. The reason for the change, according to Dr. Daniels, is on account of better facilities for accommodations at the Union. This makes it necessary for us to change the date of our joint meeting with Wisconsin Greenkeepers to September 17 instead of September 10 as originally scheduled.



AUGUST GUEST DAY

Our August guest day will be held at Bonnie Dundee Country Club, Dundee, Ill. on Monday August 20, 1951. Association members Jock Anderson, owner and Al. Rausch Superintendent, will be our hosts. Come out and have a good time.

SPREADING IT THIN

Mrs. Ray Davis, wife of the popular Ray Davis, supt. of Meadham C. C., had a meeting of the Ladies Picnic Committee on July 16. The Committee consisting of Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Amos Lapp and Mrs. Paul Burdett, met in Elgin and bought prizes for the children.

Ray Davis sprayed for mosquito and fly control, using the Natural History Survey formula. Ray and Mrs. Davis sat out the first evening after the spraying was done, and Ray reported. "We sat there and we could see the little devils sitting on the long grass over by the pump house looking over at us sitting there as comfortable as you please, and they were wondering how come they couldn't get thru to their usual evening meal. I went out to the garden to pick some beans and they sure were hungry there." Ray reported that the spraying gave protection for 28 days. He used 12 pounds of wettable DDT and 3 pounds of Lindane in 100 gallons of water.

Ralph Wymmer Jr., who has been greenkeeping superintendent at Glen Eagles Country Club, has left Glen Eagles and gone to work for his father in the real estate business in Gary, Indiana. We will miss Ralph and wish him a great deal of success in his new venture.

Walter Fuchs, for 16 years Superintendent of the Cedar Rapids Country Club, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the new Superintendent at Glen Eagles. Walter came to work on the fourth of July. He is a member of the National, past President of the Iowa Association, and will be a valuable addition to the Midwest. At this time his family is staying in Cedar Rapids and Walter is making his home in rooms at the club.

George Davis of George A. Davis, Inc., announced over the radio July 16th that he hoped to retire in "the very near future and go to Hawaii to live with his family". When this does come to pass, our best wishes will go with George. His life has been spent in the service of golf clubs.

Ray Gerber of Glen Oak Country Club smashed several fingers in the door of his service building and has been unable to play any golf. Ray advises everyone to buy one-section overhead doors as one is less likely to catch his fingers in these.

Frank Mastroleo, genial Superintendent of Geneva Country Club, reports that things are normal over in Geneva. Frank is getting the work out and now has a fairly large crew, three men and himself. The greens are good, the fairways fine and everything is under control except that Frank has a pain in his leg.

Walter Wallace of Cherry Hills was in bed the week of July 16th with an attack of appendicitis. Hope you are feeling better, Walter.

Peter Bild of Woodridge treated the fairways with a mixture of 2,4-D and Esteron 2,4,5-T starting the week of July 16.

Emil Cassier applied Esteron 2,4,5-T to his greens at Sycamore for clover control. He used 1 teaspoonful in one gallon of water in a pack sprayer and treated only the spots. While there was some discoloration, the clover was thinned out and Emil reports the treatment very satisfactory. Emil suggests that a smaller dosage might be used and the treatments be more frequent.

THE MOLL.

Talk Given By Dean Searles at the Monthly Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents at the Woodridge Country Club, July 9, 1951

I suppose many of you have wondered why the Dean of the College of Pharmacy is interested in such a station as the University is proposing to establish at Lisle. I only need an example to closely identify our close relationship to agriculture. Charles F. Kettering, Director of Research at General Motors, established a grant of \$50,000.00 at Antioch College because he said he wanted to know what made the grass green. His concern was very simple as the action that takes place in the growth of a blade of grass and makes it green is comparable to the completed reaction of the carbon atom in the combustion of an automobile engine. He felt that if he could reproduce this reaction in the laboratory he could increase mileage five-fold. And again, because of the chlorophyll of that green grass which I noted was turning brown already and getting dollar spot, as you call it, was due to the failure of the proper interchange between oxygen and the $C O_2$, the same thing by which you and I live. Or again, if you think of the rotting sweet clover in Northern Wisconsin which gave birth to one of our most important blood anti-coagulant. It took us 6,000 years to discover that grandma's bread poultice was not such a bad thing after all. Bread was the first fabricated food of man and the molding of bread may have contained penicillin but it took 6,000 years for Fleming to discover it. In the very short period of three years time, pharmaceutical industry had formed a source of supply from less than enough to inoculate one white mouse to 2,100 billion units.

You can probably see, therefore, why we in Pharmacy are interested in agriculture. There is a long list of vegetable plant materials the chemist has not yet prepared and probably will not for generations to come. I was interested about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ years ago to learn that Armour and Co. was interested in garden sage. They asked me where there was a reasonable supply. I named two or three drug firms and they replied they had taken their entire supply. Further inquiry brought out that they wanted 1000,000 pounds as they were still making sausage. The products of the garden are the backbone of medicine or pharmacy. It might interest you to know that throughout this vast area surrounding Lake Michigan, there formerly grew some 765 drug plants but in our zest to grow corn, make golf courses and highways, we turned over the soil and took away from ourselves many natural products, saying "What good are they?" I recently witnessed the first injection of a substitute for blood plasma. This is a pretty important item now in view of a request for blood plasma by civil defense authorities. This substitute plasma was derived from something usually found in your soup—it was an extract of the okra plant. We have further interest in chlorophyll as derived from grasses other than the two-bits a hole because of its commercial value.

On behalf of the University I came to the station shortly before our entrance into World War II. My experience in World War I in the Medical Division, Chemical War Service, clearly indicated to me that the United States of America had stripped itself of the natural source of drug plant materials, even quinine. So we are in-

terested to see what we can do to restore to our own country those valuable drug materials which are essential to many phases of medical research and investigation. When we proposed that the State of Illinois re-investigate the possibility of re-establishing drug plants not only native here but that could be brought here from foreign countries and successfully grown, we discovered that the Desplaines Station had one man and a broken-down plow. We were given two acres and successfully grew and supplied to our hospitals many drugs for a period of 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ years. This was sufficient evidence to the President of the University that it was appropriate for us to establish a station here (Desplaines). A Federal project started in Florida in 1915 on castor beans to supply oil for airplane engines ended up in tung oil. This gives a few ideas upon the vast potentialities of a Research Program.

Although the President of the University was in accord with the plans for the Station, we lost our land to the Douglas Airport. I had long been attracted to the Morton Arboretum principally because of the labeling of plants on the grounds. Of course my interest was in those drug plants of which there are some 400. Upon inquiring from Dr. Gotshalk whether there was any adjacent land available for sale to the University at a figure less than \$600.00 per acre, he replied that he felt that the directors would be willing to sell to the University a portion of land if we would agree to establish on that site Educational Experiment Station commensurate with thoughts and concepts of their organization, namely to provide an educational opportunity for the people of the State of Illinois to further their interests whether in their homes, in their hospitals or wherever it may come. I was able to return to the University and assure them that we had the chance to obtain land upon which we could place a permanent Station and buildings. Further, Dr. Gotshalk gave us the opportunity of signing a lease for an additional forty acres. His actions pointed out the type of cooperation that can be expected from the Arboretum.

The University has failed through three legislative sessions to secure appropriations for the creation of that building simply because Dr. Dior pointed out there were not a sufficiently large number of citizens in Illinois aware of or interested in their own University. I hope you will not be offended when I tell you that the University is yours—not mine. I only work there and you own it, it is up to you to present in very logical order a proposal to the Senators and Representatives of your Program. There should be no question of your securing one man for the work. In fact, if your story is good enough, you can get ten. As has been stated in the papers, Governor Stevenson has promised to spend 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ billions of your dollars for your benefit. If you don't have, therefore, experimental greens on that ground which you are not going to have to buy, if they are not properly cared for, as some of you seem to doubt, it will be your fault for not having told us specifically what you need. Then, having secured our blessing as to your judgment, it will be your next responsibility to tell a certain group, called the Budgetary Commission—and may I tell you that I know all of them personally and they begin working in October of every legislative year and they stay in session continuously until the session closes in June. They are the men that give you the money.

FERTILIZING BY FOLIAR ABSORPTION

The ability of plants to absorb internally many chemicals sprayed upon the leaves has developed a new method of plant feeding. 2-4D weed killers are absorbed thru the pores of the leaves and certain insecticides, known as systemic poisons are absorbed by the plant and kill insects that attempt to feed on the plants juices for months afterward. Because plants are not selective in the chemicals they absorb, only a true liquid plant food can show best growth response and safety of application.

Fifteen years ago, culture by hydroponics developed that plants can be grown without soil if the plant foods used are of purest form. It showed that soil bacteria etc. were not necessary except to make certain fertilizer materials available. With roots in gravel or cinders the fertilizing solution was absorbed and moved up thru the plant stems to the leaves unchanged in form. The complex manufacturing action for growth, which occurs in the foliage, completed the process and sap stream carried to other plant parts to nurture entire plant.

Fertilizing by foliar spraying of plant foods that agree with the plants growth processes, puts the elements for growth directly where they do their functions. Soil analysis is very valuable but often in comparison with tissue tests made of plants in the soil tested we find that the soil is rich in locked up plant food and the plant starving. Plants of all sizes, from seedlings to mature trees benefit from foliar feeding. Tree feeding by foliar absorption is of great economic importance. Trees in city parkways, where it is impossible to feed by the soil method, may be spray fed. In up to sixty minutes all the fertilizer so applied is absorbed and in the very place, the leaves, where the roots would translocate it by soil feeding. In from two to seven days the new color and growth is usually noted. Trees in clay or poor subsoil that are not doing well may be helped to health by foliar spraying fertilizer that could, perhaps in no other way, get into the sap stream. Evergreens readily take it in thru their needles and show very good growth response. A single treatment can not supply a trees needs for a season and three may be necessary but insecticides may be added to the solution to accomplish two jobs at one time. Improvement in lawn beneath trees sprayed may be seen due to drip from the leaves.

Of almost any plant, grasses are best able to benefit from foliar absorption of the true liquid solution. Nearly the entire plant above ground is storage for plant food. Low cut grass plants whether on greens, tees or fairway need a high amount of growth elements in the leaf in order to have the ability to withstand traffic of play and provide the close knit turf desired. An influence against clover and some other weeds is physiologically possible and has been reported but it is not fully known whether it has occurred because of the stronger growing grasses.

Plant tissue tests and reports from golf superintendents prove that the clippings from greens become a valuable fertilizer for use in flower gardens etc. due to the true liquid fertilizer that has been absorbed.

The run off of the applied solution is taken into the soil and becomes a supply between treatments, usually three weeks apart, for the quality of growth desired in modern greenkeeping. Because the applied solution is in ion exchange with the soil it does not become tied with other elements of the soil and so made unavailable for growing plants, and being a solution, a uniform depth of fertility is provided the soil. Of course fertilizing by foliar absorption method demands that the material applied should not be washed off or watered in after applying.

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BUYERS GUIDE

C. O. Borgmeier

June 30th is the year end for many concerns engaged in the seed, fertilizer and implement business. It is the time for harvesting instead of planting, the end of the spring rush. Machinery manufacturers now begin to plan their production schedules and models for next season. Seed crops are harvested and begin the process of curing and cleaning for another planting season. The fertilizer and chemical business, with tremendous tonnages involved, must secure the necessary raw materials for planned production.

The picture on every hand is one of shortages. Dry weather in the northwest has reduced Rye Grass, Fescues and Bent crops. In the middle west too much rainfall during June and early July has seriously interfered with the harvesting of Blue Grass and Red Top. There will be no large stocks of Grass Seed available for 1952. Lessened home building activity will probably reduce the demand and keep prices within bounds. Grass Seed is not covered by price control, however.

With Aluminum, Copper and stainless metals out of the picture for non essential use, the picture on mowers and other machinery for turf maintenance is very cloudy. Larger allocations of steel to mower manufacturers in the last quarter of 1951 may help, but right now the quantity and quality of machinery that may be available is very much of a question mark.

Reports from all over the country indicate good business at fee clubs as well as private golf clubs. New construction of recreational facilities is still banned, but this restriction will probably be eased or lifted if world conditions settle down and the probability of war becomes less. By next spring much dislocation should be ironed out and a clearer picture available in the recreational set-up.

BRIDGE BUILDING AT SYCAMORE

Emil Cassier, Superintendent of the Sycamore Park District, reports that he has just completed the construction of two new bridges across the Kishwaukee river on the Park District golf course. These bridges are 80 feet long and placed on 3½'x3½' piers, sunk 4½ feet below the river's bed. The framework of the bridges are 20 inch steel beams placed 6½ feet apart and cross irons welded in to lay plank on. The floor of the bridges is of 3 inch plank soaked in creosote and on top of this laid 3 inches of fine asphalt. Hand rails are welded on to steel beams. The cost of the two bridges was \$3500. Outside of a paint job once in awhile, expense and trouble should be kept down to a minimum and the bridges should last many years.

Emil Cassier has rebuilt his number 5 green, making the hole longer and the green larger than before. C-15 stolons were planted the last week in July of last year and today the green is in perfect shape.

Ira Jury, formerly foreman for the late Andy Gillette at Forrest Hills Country Club in Rockford, is now the Superintendent of Forrest Hills and is doing a fine job.

Ray Anders, Superintendent of Mauhahteese Golf Club at Rockford, reports that the 5½ inch deluge on Sunday, July 8, washed out some of his bridges and flooded the course.

Bel Mar Country Club at Belvedere, Ill. was still under water 4 days after the heavy rain. Six greens out of the nine were totally under water. Red Overmeyer is the new Superintendent at Bel Mar.

Amos Lapp reports that everything is in good shape at St. Andrews and that George Dahlman has things in fine shape at Coghill.

There have been reports of chickweed in putting greens. Pete Stewart reports that dusting with arsenate of lead has given good results.

THE MEETING AT WOODRIDGE

The July meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at Woodridge Country Club, Lisle, Illinois on Monday, July 9, 1951. Association member Peter Bild was our host. We were very fortunate in again having a beautiful day for our meeting. In fact we were very lucky for the day before there was a deluge thruout the whole day, the total rainfall totaling between 3 and 4 inches for the day. However, Woodridge was in fine shape on Monday, there being very little casual water in evidence. Woodridge is located in that beautiful rolling, wooded part of DuPage county around Lisle. Many of the fairways are cut thru virgin timber and many of the greens are small, making accuracy of play of prime importance. Notwithstanding, there were some really fine scores for the day. Jock McIntosh copped the honors with a fine 72. I'll bet your handicap is going to be cut, Jock. Stan Arendt and Bill Saielli also turned in good scores. Probably the most popular spot on the course was at the refreshment stand which was located in a strategic spot close to a number of tees and greens, making it very convenient for the boys to rest awhile and to sample the amber brew. Refreshments were by courtesy of C. O. Borgmeier of the George A. Davis Co. In addition to our regular golf prizes, prizes were donated by Bob Marbury of the Alliance Rubber Co. and Warren Roseman of the Roseman Tractor Equipment Co. A number of the old timers and others who arrived too late to play the course, engaged in a hot putting contest. Ed Stewart and Oscar Borgmeier battled it out to the last hole with Ed the ultimate winner.

Quite a number of the Superintendents visited the Morton Arboretum, a report of which you will find elsewhere in this issue.

Ted Hammerschmidt, club manager, provided us with a delicious buffet dinner which was much appreciated by all. After dinner, all business of the Association was postponed until the next meeting, and the meeting was then turned over to Bert Rost, Turf Research Committee Chairman.

Prize winners were as follows: 1st Low Net, Jock MacIntosh; 2nd Bill Saielli; 3rd Bob Chamberlain; 4th Bill Stuppel; 5th Ed Muzik; 6th Stan Arendt; 7th Joe Canale; 8th Geo. Roloff. 1st Blind Bogey Don Hanbay; 2nd Emil Cassier; 3rd H. Hasbeurger; 4th Frank Mastroleo; 5th Jerry Transier; 6th Mike McDonald; 7th Tom Ohlinger. Putting contest; 1st Ed. Stewart; 2nd Oscar Borgmeier; 3rd Bert Rost.

We want to thank Peter Bild, Ted Hammerschmidt, and all others who assisted in making this a really fine meeting.

John Coghil of Silver Lake was hospitalized with an attack of virus pneumonia during the first week of June. We are happy to report that John is recovering and hopes to play golf at the August meeting at Roselle.

Pat Leith, daughter of Willie Leith, Pro-Supt. of Elgin Country Club, recently won the Chicago Womens District golf championship at Ridgemoor Country Club.

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TURF RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

On Monday, July 9, a number of the members of the Association with several officials of the University of Illinois met at the Morton Arboretum near Lisle, Ill., and were conducted on a tour of the Arboretum by Mr. Clarence E. Godshalk, Arboretum Director. First, we visited the hedge planting near the Administration building and then were taken to the Thornhill building which was the site of the home of Mr. Joy Morton, son of J. Sterling Morton, founder of the Arboretum where the University of Illinois has purchased a 10 acre tract of land and have leased another 60 acres from the Arboretum. On this land we have selected a five acre plot for the establishment of possible experimental plots under conditions which might be found in any part of Illinois. Part of the area is rolling with good air and surface drainage and part with poor drainage. On the site, we explained to the officials of the University why we had chosen this area and they agreed that we had made an excellent choice and that it would fit into their plans for the station very well.

We then returned to Woodridge Country Club where we had a fine buffet dinner and the following men were introduced and each gave his views of the proposed experimental gardens. Those who spoke were Dr. Birkland Head of the Dept. of Horticulture of the University; Mr. Godschalk; Mr. Dillon, Chairman of the Green Committee of the Chicago District Golf Association; Dr. Tehon, Botanist from the Natural History Survey; Dr. Weinert, Head of the Division of Floriculture of the University; Dean Serles, Dean of the College of Pharmacy of the University; Dr. Ralph Voight, Chief of Plant Drugs Experiment Station of the University and Mr. Dunton, member of the Board of Supervisors of DuPage County. Among the things stressed by the speakers was the fact that the University is owned by the people, and that it is up to us to let them know what we want. That funds to build and operate the Station will have to come from an appropriation from the State Legislature. That we will have to furnish the University with a blue print and exact specifications just as to what it will take to construct, direct and maintain such experimental area.

We of the Turf Research Committee, wish to take this opportunity to thank the above mentioned men for their time and help and hope that it will be the beginning of a very successful and enjoyable project in which every citizen of the State of Illinois in some way will sometime benefit.

Bert Rost, Ch. Turf Research Comm.

—O—

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5-10-5



10-8-6

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