

Vol. 5, No. 10
April, 1952



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Our 26th Year



Dr. William H. Daniel
Turf Research & Extension
Purdue University

The April Meeting

Monday, April 7 at **Sambo's**
6600 GUNNISON ST. CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER IN AFTERNOON
DIRECTORS MEETING IN AFTERNOON

DINNER AT 8:00 P. M.

REGULAR MEETING AT 7:30 P. M.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

The Educational Committee has
Arranged A Most Interesting
Program. Don't Miss It!

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE AT BENHART'S HALL, ROSELLE, ILL. THURSDAY, APRIL 17.

THE BULL SHEET, monthly publication of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Editor; William H. Stupple
543 Michigan Ave. Highland Park, Illinois.
Associate Editors; Bert Rost, Al. Johnson.
Art Director; Paul Burdett.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is the object of the officers of your Association to continue the policy of maximum benefit to the members. Those who attended the March 10 meeting at the Hotel Sherman will realize the benefit of the fullest cooperation of the Midwest membership. The educational program at that meeting, I believe, was one of the best ever presented to our members. We wish to continue to serve the members in this manner and it is my hope that they will come to realize that it is to their utmost benefit that they attend every meeting.

On April 17, we will have our annual Spring Dance at Roselle. These informal dances have become traditional and an integral part of our Association activities. I am sure that as a social gathering there is nothing better for our organization than these gatherings. I hope that you will plan to attend and help to make the event a big success.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a schedule of some of the summer meetings. These offerings of golf courses for our meetings were purely voluntary and entirely unsolicited. It is planned to have informal golf meetings in between the regular meetings this summer and we have a number of offerings for these meetings also. These in-between meetings are for the benefit of those who like to get together more than once a month for a game of golf, a bull session, a game of cards, or, just to get together.

Let's make it a big summer.

Ray Davis, President.

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GEORGE A. DAVIS OPEN HOUSE

On February 21, Geo. A. Davis Co. had their annual open house at the warehouse at 5440 Northwest Highway, Chicago.

Oscar Borgmeier reports that there was a record turnout for the affair and that the boys did away with 7 barrels of oysters besides other varied and sundry refreshments.

Winners of the door prizes were as follows:

1. Ed. Duehr, Supt. Midlothian C. C.
2. George Abbot, Supt. Joliet Park District.
3. Thos. Evert, Supt. Lake Bluff Park Dept.
4. Thos. Mooney, Chicago Park District.
5. Dick Buchen, Chesterfield Golf Club.
6. Clarence Mueller, Supt. Glendale Golf Club.
7. Robert Breen, St. Andrews Golf Club.
8. Herman Kamholz, Supt. Cary C. C.
9. W. Wegener, Butterfield C. C.
10. Bob Chamberlin, Kankakee C. C.
11. Garceau, Eng. Catholic Cemeteries.
12. Bob Williams, Supt. Beverly C. C.
13. Bob Duguid, Supt. Evanston C. C.
14. J. A. Williams, Mgr. Glencoe Community G. C.
15. John Coutre, Supt. Chevy Chase C. C.

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Amos Lapp of St. Andrews Golf Club is almost ready for spring. With the mowers overhauled, new sand in the traps, 100 of the new Augustine Ascending Elm planted on the grounds, Amos looks forward to a good season.

Joe Jemsek, owner of St. Andrews and Coghill, is back from a two months stay in Florida.

Geo. Dahlman of Coghill attended the meeting at Columbus and surely looked well and happy.

ON THE AILING LIST

Chester Randby, Supt. of Knollwood C. C., suffered a compound fracture of the leg during tree removal operations at his club when he was pinned between trunks of two fallen trees.

Leonard De Bruyn (Brownie), Supt. of Ridge C. C., has been ailing all winter and is confined to his home.

Bob Marbury, representative of Alliance Hose and Rubber Co., underwent an operation during the early winter and reports that he still doesn't feel so good.

Red Sellers reports that his kneecap, which was broken by a fall in January, is almost completely healed and Red reckons his leg will soon be as good as ever.

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THE OUTLOOK THIS SPRING

Certainly the Spring of 1952 looks quite different than 1951 as concerning the availability of many products used in the Turf industry. In line with the general situation affecting business, prices and availability of merchandise, a general loosening up occurred during the Winter months. It is almost possible to say that shortages are out of the window. Metals have been made available for the manufacture of civilian goods so we find dealers' warehouses and shelves well-stocked this Spring.

Specifically, mowing machinery, while not in over-supply, will fill the bill. Tillers, Compost Mixers, Aerifiers, Leaf Sweepers, Rollers, all are available plentifully. The sprinkler situation is much improved and there is plenty of rubber. You do not have to worry about replacing your tires this Spring.

Grass seed is a little lower in price on some items than 1951. There is no over-supply of any item, however, and from the looks of the lawns around, it would not surprise the seed trade if stocks will be cleaned up by the end of Spring and some item will run out before.

Fertilizers and chemicals are not in over-supply. Nitrogen is scarce. The farmers want it for raising big crops. After July first, this situation should be much better.

It is a great feeling of relief to have the "rat race" temporarily slowed down at least and let's hope that we can both re-arm the country and keep civilian production in balance.

C. O. Borgmeier

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COMING EVENTS

- April 7, Regular meeting, Sambo's, 6600 Gunnison St.
- April 17, Spring Dance, Benhart's Hall, Roselle, Ill.
- May 5, Regular meeting, Timber Trails C. C.
- June 2, Regular meeting, Ridgemoor C. C.
- July 7, Regular meeting, Chesterfield C. C.
- August 4, Regular meeting & Picnic, Kankakee C. C.

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ANNUAL SPRING DANCE

The annual spring dance of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held at Benhart's Hall at Roselle, Illinois, on Thursday evening, April 17. George Roloff, Entertainment Chairman, promises us a good time and says that, after numerous consultations with weather experts, etc., that he doesn't think it will snow that night, so don't worry about it. George says there will be dancing, card playing, buffet supper and don't forget the door prizes. Come early and stay late.

Reservations must be in by Monday, April 14.

PURDUE ANNUAL TURF CONFERENCE SUMMARIZED

At the annual Purdue turf conference March 3-5, Dr. N. J. Volk, associate director of the Indiana experiment station, opened the meeting with a brief, historical rundown. Formerly speakers at the Purdue meet used to draw heavily on experiences from attendees, Dr. Volk told. Now the regional turf program is great enough so that the conference has some research facts to offer attendees.

J. Porter Henry, green chairman of the Algonquin Golf Club, St. Louis, next gave a humorous account of troubles experienced by all golf club green chairmen. They should not be thin skinned, nor be appeasers nor be "yes men," Henry said. Also, you have to satisfy both the professional and the 100-shooter. A green chairman should have a broad knowledge of technical problems confronting greenkeepers. Such knowledge enables greenkeepers to outline problems of cost and construction requirements to other club members tactfully.

Henry Gilbert, landscape architect on the Purdue horticulture staff, told the golf course superintendents, cemetery managers, commercial dealers and other turf workers how to care for shrubs. He advised them to space shrubs in natural, informal settings, except for foundation plantings. Shrubs should be spaced three-fourths of their optimum spread for most pleasing results.

Rejuvenating old shrubs came in for mention too, with how to make shrubs bloom, their pruning and mulching. Gilbert showed slides of all types of shrubs and their arrangement.

Noer Talks

Dr. O. J. Noer, agronomist with the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, showed slides of turf trouble areas on golf courses from Washington, D. C. to Washington state, from Miami to Montana. He illustrated the value of puncturing compacted greens and fairways in order to improve grass. Some of Dr. Noer's slides showed the performance of various grasses for different purposes.

Discussed also were fertilizers and their application on fairways, greens and their use in combination with weedicides. Dr. Noer also talked about turf drainage problems.

Eric G. Sharvelle, plant pathologist at Purdue, told the turf conferees about his summer trip to Ireland and England. With slides he illustrated the tour, including the site of the 1951 British Open (in Ireland).

Tree manicuring came in for discussion by Carl Fenner, city forester at Lansing, Michigan. He began with tree planting and care, discouraging the planting of walnut and most other nut trees. They are too susceptible to damage by insects and diseases, Fenner believes.

The forester outlined how to repair mechanical tree injuries, how to avoid environmental troubles, how to spray for tree insects, how to remove dead trees and how to prune them in his slide-illustrated talk.

Stan Graves, golf course superintendent at Westwood Country Club, Cleveland, traced the installation of his new water system from plans to final placement. It is important to choose a contractor with high grade equipment; to select suitable pipe and fixtures by a reliable manufacturer; and to lay the pipe—once construction has begun—right up to where the trencher quit for the night in order to avoid caveins of soil during and following rains.

Helping Graves during the question and answer period that followed was Porter Dix of the Johns-Manville Company.

Dealer Traces History of Materials

Paul Burdett, commercial dealer in turf materials, traced the swing over the past 7 years from old to new materials. He stressed that the rate, the concentration, the amount of rainfall, the relative humidity, the growth stage of the grass, the type of season, the method of application or machine used—all affect how a turf material responds on grass.

Dr. C. M. Harrison, head of the Department of Farm Crops at Michigan State College, informed his listeners about the requirements of grass and its culture. Also, he stressed the importance of planting species and varieties which are adapted to given conditions and for particular uses. Dr. Harrison cited experimental data which suggests that the ryegrasses and red top severely retarded the growth and development of bluegrass and red fescue when grown in combination with these species. He recommended reduced seeding rates and more careful attention to seedbed preparation, fertility requirements and time of planting grass seed.

Harold Bohling, nurseryman and landscaper at Munster, Indiana, told how his firm establishes lawns on various types of areas and on areas of varying size. He recommended simplifying operations so that power machinery could be used to a maximum.

Carol Lawrence, landscape architect with Upjohn Laboratories, Kalamazoo, Michigan, traced establishing large lawn-playground areas from the time the company decentralized from the city to when the new building and playground facilities were established. By slides, Miss Lawrence showed grass that was growing beautifully on a 1,600 acre tract on what she said was originally poor soil.

City United in Turf Improvement.

Robert Duke, landscape architect with Western Electric in Indianapolis, Indiana, began his turf talk on the Indianapolis Yard-Parks Program with how city citizenry began their local beautifying campaign. After being branded a dirty city by John Gunther a few years ago, an Indianapolis newspaper, botany groups, turf specialists, fairs and the city Hobby Show were welded into a home and factory, yard-beautifying program. Contests of various kinds and a 6-weeks high school course taught by seven Indianapolis high schools have heightened interest in the landscape improvement program.

In a sectional meeting this time, Eric G. Sharvelle gave his group up to date findings on turf disease control as it is found today in Ireland and England. He believes that feeding a fungicide to grass—a "systemic" fungicide—has definite possibilities. Sharvelle conferred with an English fungicide manufacturer who is experimenting with the method.

Other speakers in this panel were Dr. Charles Wilson, extensionist with the Green Section, U. S. Golf Association; Dr. John Vaughn, Michigan State College plant pathologist who helped test Acti-dione, a turf antibiotic; and William Klomprens, graduate assistant in plant pathology at the same college. While Acti-dione has been effective in controlling melting out disease, it is not available commercially as yet.

Dr. Wilson said that there is no substitute for good turf management in helping to control disease. Fertility levels, water management and drainage, aeration both above and below standing turf, mechanical damage and compaction, the degree of mat formation—all these affect the ability of proved fungicides to prevent or cure infected turf. He listed the fungicides and combinations that helped or cured various conditions in the 1951 National Cooperative Turf Fungicide Trials.

Helping close down the meeting the morning of March 5 was Dr. W. H. Daniel, MRTF extensionist and researcher, with a description of the 4-year turf management curriculum offered at Purdue. Dr. Wilson gave another talk, this time on how people with turf trouble could help themselves by asking at the right places. Dr. R. B. Alderfer, Pennsylvania State College soil technologist, presented the results of extensive experiments showing the effects of soil compaction on the loss of rainfall by runoff.

The discussion on weeds in turf was particularly interesting. Dr. O. C. Lee gave a very up to date talk on chemical crabgrass control in turf. A great deal of work has been done along this line and it looks like real progress is being made. Chemical Poa Annu control by Lawrence Munzenmaier was of great interest to those of us who have been stressing the necessity of research on Poa. Much of his work dealt with pre-emergence kill of the grass. Dr. Noer spoke on how management affects weeds. Dr. Noer has always contended that poor turf management is the greatest contributing factor to weedy turf.

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INFORMATION AND PLACEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

The policy of the Information Committee is to carry out its duty in such a way that there will be no embarrassment on the party asking for its service.

The Committee will not visit a Club unless they are invited to do so by the Superintendent in charge of the course. He must also be a member of our Association.

If the Superintendent wishes and weather permits, he may arrange for a game of golf, and inspection of the course can be made at this time. If he also wishes, he may invite his chairman to join in the game or the tour of the course. After arriving back at the Clubhouse or any other place the Superintendent chooses, the inspection can then be discussed and recommendations made.

When properly handled, no other employee or member of the Club will know the purpose of the visit made by the Information Committee.

Any member wishing this service, will notify the chairman, he in return will ask two or three other members of our Association, depending on the location of the Club where the visit is to be made.

No part of any visit made to a Club by the Information Committee will be permitted for publication.

The Placement Committee has been asked by the Chicago District Golf Association to help find a man capable of taking care of the nine-hole golf course and the practice putting green at Hine's Hospital and also to make an inspection about every other week at Great Lakes. Other than this he will be expected to give his full time at Hines. He will be employed from April 1st to October 1st. The salary to be determined at time of interview.

Make application to the Chicago District Golf Association, LaSalle Hotel, Room 241, Chicago 2, Illinois.

Ray Gerber, Chairman

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President Davis, speaking of his plans for next winter's vacation, says, "I like the East coast of Florida better than the Gulf coast, but either one is better than being up here froze to death."

MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION ELECTS

Midwest Regional Turf Foundation members on March 4 re-elected Mal McLaren of Oakwood Club, Cleveland, president. Elected to vice-president was Taylor Boyd of the Camargo Club, Cincinnati. Dr. Kenyon T. Payne, Purdue plant geneticist, was re-elected treasurer and Dr. W. H. Daniel, Purdue turf specialist, was elected executive-secretary.

Directors elected were Taylor Boyd, Camargo Club, Cincinnati; Carl Bretzlaff, Meridian Hills Country Club, Indianapolis; William Stuppel, Exmoor Country Club, Highland Park, Illinois; Les Verhaalen, Brynwood Country Club, Milwaukee, and Ward Cornwell, Lochmoor Country Club, Detroit.

To provide better distribution among the various in-state subdivisions of the foundation, the executive-secretary, the treasurer and Dr. Fred V. Grau, director, U. S. Golf Association Green Section, Beltsville, Md., were all made ex-officio directors. They were replaced by 3 of the elected directors, raising the total number of directors to 12 instead of 9.

Directors continuing unexpired terms include Edward Fifield, Gary, Indiana, Municipal Golf Courses; Joe Graffis, GOLFDOM magazine, Chicago; Al Linkogel, Westwood Country Club, St. Louis, and Mal McLaren of Cleveland.

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M. R. T. F. CONFERENCE AND MEETING

The Midwest Regional Turf Foundation Conference and meeting at Purdue University on March 3-5, had an attendance of 275. It was, I believe, one of the most successful to date. Dr. Daniel and Dr. Payne are to be congratulated on the fine job done.

The Turf Conference went over in fine style, especially the simplified method of splitting up the various sessions. Especially interesting to many was the report of work being done on Poa Annu control. It begins to look as though we are beginning to get somewhere along the line of Poa Annu control. The rest of the program was also tops and all who attended were well satisfied and glad to have been there.

At the banquet on Monday night, we again had the privilege of being entertained by the Purdue University Glee Club under the direction of Mr. Al Stewart. They are truly wonderful.

It was found that of the total attendance, slightly over half were members of the Foundation. Dr. Daniel is doing a splendid job, but he can only do so much with the money now available. The amount received each year is about half what is really needed. They have the ball rolling, so lets get behind and keep it going. If anyone has any doubt as to where to apply for membership, the address is, Dr. W. H. Daniel, Executive Secretary, Midwest Regional Turf Foundation, Purdue University, West LaFayette, Indiana.

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The Editor wishes to thank Al Johnson and Bert Rost for taking over the editorial duties and getting out the March issue of The Bull Sheet while said Editor was loafing in Florida.

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One hundred and thirty-eight Greenkeeping Superintendents attended the 18th Annual Greenkeepers and Turf Short Course at Iowa State College, Ames, Iowa, March 10-11-12. It was a spirited meeting covering all phases of turf maintenance on courses and football fields.

DORMANT OIL SPRAYING FOR CONTROL OF SHADE TREE INSECTS

Ernest F. Herrbach
Horticulturist, Standard Oil Co.

Shade trees in full foliage and in vigorous health are one of the most beautiful of all our natural heritages. They constitute the principal feature of any sizeable landscape plan, and whether it be winter or summer their massive, graceful lines add greatly to our enjoyment and pleasure in being outdoors close to nature.

People in general are becoming more conscious of the value of having healthy, vigorous shade trees growing in their playgrounds, school yards, parks, home living areas, golf courses, etc. In spite of this increasing awareness of the value and need for shade trees, all too often these trees are subjected to severe insect attack leaving them devitalized and often destroyed.

Many of the insect pests most injurious to shade and ornamental trees and shrubbery have the habit of living over winter on some part of the exterior surface of their hosts in such positions and in such forms that they can be destroyed by covering them with a spray of petroleum oil. This practice is called "dormant spraying" because it is done when the trees are dormant (not in an actively growing condition) and the oil sprays used are termed "dormant oils."

The value of dormant oil, such as STANDARD Dormant Spray Oil No. 1 (DENDROL) in shade tree insect control is limited to the sucking insect group chiefly, and in this group principally to the scale insects. On first thought it might seem that the value of dormant oils in the entire scheme of shade tree insect control is somewhat restricted and of relatively minor importance. This is not so however, because of the fact that the scale insects are the most generally prevalent and destructive — frequently the only truly important pests causing significant damage to the most valuable trees in given localities. Hence, it often happens that effective control of threatening outbreaks of scale by use of a dormant oil spray may provide all or most all of the insect control required to keep the trees or shrubbery in a healthy condition.

Chewing insects, with some exceptions do not overwinter on the tree and are thus not susceptible to control by a dormant spray of any kind. Pine bark aphid, spruce gall aphid, and spruce mite overwinter on the trees and thus they can be controlled by dormant oil spray application.

Scale insects are very small, soft-bodied with sac-like, rounded or pear-shaped bodies that are found attached to the bark of all parts of trees and shrubs. During most of their lives they are affixed to one spot, although when the louse-like young are hatched, they crawl for short distances to new locations. In spite of their small size and apparent helplessness, some of the scale insect species are among the most destructive pests attacking shade trees and shrubs. They reproduce in tremendous numbers under favorable conditions, producing masses of insects that may completely cover the bark of branches and twigs.

Nearly all scale insects are subject to destruction by dormant oils. All are not easy to kill, however, and it is, therefore, necessary to work out different strengths of an oil spray that will be effective against the various species. Some, for example, as the Oak Kermes, require a six or seven per cent spray for their control, while others as the San Jose scale, need only 2½ to 3% oil for equally effective destruction. Other typical recommendations are:

Oyster shell scale - 6 to 7% (6 to 7 gals. to 94-93 gals. water)

Scurfy scale - 4 to 6%

Cottony maple scale - 4%

European elm scale - 4%

The best time to spray from every standpoint is to apply dormant oils in early spring when the trees are dormant, but as close as possible to the time when growth starts. The season should be advanced far enough so that mild temperatures are prevalent, or in other words, after danger from severe freezing weather is definitely past. If at all possible, bright, calm, warm days should be selected for spraying.

The different kinds of shrubs and trees vary greatly in their relative susceptibility to injury from oil sprays. Certain species, such as hard maple, Norway maple, hickory, copper beech, and weeping beech are dangerously susceptible and should never be sprayed with dormant oils. Butternut, walnut, mountain ash and boxwood should be sprayed only if critically required. As far as is known, all other common shade trees can be sprayed safely if proper precautions are taken.

Instances of tree injury from the use of the safest oils, such as DENDROL, are extremely rare, and it is worthy to note that DENDROL is one of the very safest dormant oils that can be used.

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CONGRATULATIONS

Bill Malpede of Pistakee C. C. is a father for the third time. The boy was born on January 23.

Harold Reed of Ridgemoor C. C. is now a grandfather. The new baby, a boy, was born February 1 to his daughter, Mrs. Elaine Johnson. Harold is recovering nicely.

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THE MARCH 10 MEETING

Mr. Waren Roseman with the assistance of Mr. Howard Foster and Mr. Herman Burns of Romy Hammes Tractor Sales, Kankakee, Ill. showed several movies which were both educational and entertaining.

A film of a Rattle Snake Hunt in Okeon, Oklahoma and "Holiday for Bill" were most entertaining while a third film on Water Pond Construction using the Ford Tractor and Dearborn Implements proved very educational.

In the other half of our educational program, Al Johnson, Educational Chairman introduced a panel of Superintendents who gave practical research talks on various subjects.

Ray Gerber, Supt. Glen Oak Country Club gave a resume of his experiments last fall with Nugreen, a synthetic urea product. Don Strand, Supt. Westmoreland Country Club spoke on modern, up to date methods of topdressing greens, Bert Rost, Supt. Park Ridge Country Club spoke on his work on weed control with 2,4-D and 2,45-T. Bob Williams, Supt. Beverly Country Club, gave an interesting talk on research being done with by-products of corn refining as a possible source of fertilizer.

There was a good turnout for the meeting in spite of the miserable weather and all who attended were enthusiastic about the type of program presented at the meeting.

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Carl Beckstrum of St. Charles C. C. reports that his son, Charles H., is now at Camp Gordon at Augusta, Georgia. He went in the infantry the first week in February.

Mrs. Emil Cassier, wife of Emil of the Sycamore C. C., spent two weeks in December in the hospital undergoing a major operation. She is recovering rapidly.

SPREADING IT THIN

Mr. and Mrs. Al Hintz of White Pines C. C. spent 3 weeks at Gulfport, Mississippi and Northern Florida in January.

Mrs. Frank Dinelli, wife of Frank Dinelli of Northmoor C. C., underwent an operation in January at the Highland Park Hospital. We are very happy to report that Mrs. Dinelli is fully recovered and is feeling fine. We are also sorry to report that Mrs. Dinelli's mother passed away in February.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Reed of Ridgemoor C. C. spent 5 weeks in Florida during November and December. They toured the state, stopping where they liked and had a glorious time.

Bill Stuppel was elected Director of the Midwest Regional Turf Foundation at the recent meeting at Purdue. "I will do my best", says Bill.

Quick thinking and action on the part of Art Benson, Supt. of the Aurora C. C., saved the life of 9 year old Wm. Bullock of Aurora, Saturday, February 2. The boy was sliding on the ice on the reservoir at the club and dropped into a hole in thin ice. His companion ran to a neighbor for help, who sent him to the clubhouse. Art was called, put planks and rope in the truck, and with several helpers, rushed to the pond. The boy's body was out of sight, but the neighbor was able to show Art where it was and Art jumped in, holding the rope in his hand, located the boy and dragged him out. They put him in the truck, rushed him to the clubhouse, where Art worked over him for 15 minutes before more experienced help arrived. By that time the boy showed some signs of breathing and under the care of an expert from the Public Service Co., the boy was completely revived. Art says it took three stiff shots to revive him and he shook for two days. An interesting aftermath on this event was Art's comment that several of the club lawyers had told him that even though the pond was guarded by a six wire barb wire fence and posted, that the club would have been held responsible in the case of the death of the boy, as this was "an attractive nuisance."

Ray Moses, Supt. of the Aurora Park Dept. says this is the first February that Aurora has not offered a single day of skating on the ice ponds. The records date back to 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Chapman of Edgewood Valley C. C. continued their Columbus trip to visit relatives in Pittsburgh. Roy had a wonderful time, visited the museum and sight seeing in the district. The hills of Pittsburgh proved startling to Roy, and he also has become quite an authority on Dinasauros. Roy's son Donald is now a security guard in the Navy building in Tokyo.

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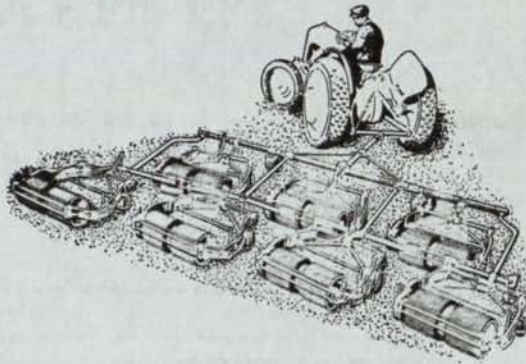
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