



# The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Our 27th Year



BERT ROST

Chairman Turf Research Committee.

## THE APRIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1953 — 2:00 P. M.  
MISSION HILLS COUNTRY CLUB  
NORTHBROOK, ILLINOIS  
AL DORBAND, OUR HOST

- REGULAR MEETING
- EDUCATIONAL MEETING
- DINNER 6:00 P. M.

THE EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE HAS PLANNED A DEMONSTRATION OF AERIFICATION AND THATCH REMOVAL EQUIPMENT. THIS SHOULD BE OF UTMOST INTEREST TO ALL OF US. PLAN TO ATTEND

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

Editor, William H. Stupple, 543 Michigan Ave. Highland Park, Ill. Associate Editors: Al Johnson, Bert Rost, Paul Burdett.

O—O

### THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our first turf Conference is now a thing of the past. I want to thank Bert Rost and his Committee, Dr. Voigt, Dean Searles, Dr. Birkland and all of the professors of the University of Illinois who took part in a splendid program, Mr. Godshalk and the Morton Arboretum and Dusty Rhodes and the staff at the greenhouse for wonderful help and cooperation. The Midwest has passed a milestone, it will not be long before our turf gardens are established and the movement grows. We are on our way.

Plan to attend our summer meetings. The next one will be at Mission Hills April 6th. Our Committees are working to make the day a worthwhile one and we expect that each meeting will be of increasing interest to you.

I suggest that you keep in mind the importance of the National to each of us, that we plan to attend the Annual Turf Conference at Miami which will be held the 1st week in January 1954, and the one to be held in either Tulsa or Houston in '55. Membership and attendance at these meetings will give all an opportunity not only for education but for travel as well. The next two meetings are being held in a delightful climate. Take advantage of these meetings. The insurance benefits of joining the National are good too.

See you all April 6th at Mission Hills.

Ray Davis, President

O—O

### THE APRIL MEETING

Our April meeting will be held at Mission Hills Country Club on Sanders Road in Northbrook. Al Dorband will be host Superintendent. The meeting is called for 2 P. M. with golf if weather permits. Our Educational Committee has planned a most interesting outdoor program. There will be a demonstration of soil aeration and thatch removal from greens. You cannot afford to miss this. Dinner will be at 6 P. M.

O—O

It looks like an early spring at this time. Many of the Superintendents in the Chicago area had their greens cut before the first day of Spring and the grass was really growing. Some were talking about mowing fairways before the first of April and that will really be a first. This writer in his thirty some odd years on the course has never yet seen it done, but these are modern times and maybe we are pushing the grass a little more. Regardless, this promises to be one of the earliest and best Springs seen for many a year in this area. Usually the Springs in the Chicago area are nothing to talk about, but it really looks like the real McCoy this year.

O—O

Dave Jr. and Jock MacIntosh with their father, Dave Sr., have bought the controlling interest in Oak Hill Golf Course.

### THE ILLINOIS TURF CONFERENCE

On Saturday, March 14th, promptly at 8:30, men and women from over the state of Illinois, interested in the improvement of turf grasses, started gathering at the University of Illinois Drug Plant & Horticultural Experiment Station near Downers Grove. The response was most gratifying. By 10:00 A. M., one hundred forty had been registered and by 11:00 P. M. there were slightly over two hundred in the lecture hall at the Morton Arboretum.

In behalf of the Midwest Golf Course Superintendents Association, Park Cemetery, Playground, Soil Conservation, Highway, Landscaping, Home Owners, Garden Clubs, Turf Nurseries, Equipment & Supplies, and other allied interests, it is with deep gratitude that we wish to thank the University of Illinois for the use of their Experimental Station and the fine group of speakers which they so graciously furnished to make the first Illinois Turf Conference exceed our fondest expectations.

We wish to thank you Dean Serles, Dr. Voigt and Dr. Rhodes of the local station, for the many hours of planning you have devoted to this project so that it would bear fruit; it has, abundantly, we are grateful. Many thanks to Dr. Birkeland, Dr. Fuller, Dr. Weinard, Dr. Arnold, Dr. Linn, Dr. Daniel and Mr. Agrimonti on your fine dissertations on your chosen subjects, they were most enlightening.

We are grateful to Mr. Godshalk, Director of the Morton Arboretum, for the fine facilities furnished us for this conference, also to Mrs. Watkins, Dean Hudelson, Mr. Howard, Dr. Musser and Mr. Mascaro for their presence and participation. Also thanks to Mr. Hammerschmidt for furnishing the facilities for our lunch.

We believe, that if grass, the one plant that that mothered Illinois Agriculture, held and nurtured the soil until the pioneers came with plows and wrested from its roots a production unexcelled in Agricultural records and which gave the state its nickname "The Prairie State", had one request it could make, it would be that it needs to be better understood and improved by man so that it could serve mankind more efficiently and with greater utility.

In the realm of plant life, grass is truly mankind's greatest servant. It recreates the soil. Just by gazing upon it recreates mans soul. As if the Giver of all good above were in accord with our plans for grass, He sent his blessings in the form of rain and it fell in abundance throughout this meeting.

The following is a summary of the interests designated by those who attended.

0 Airports	7 Highways
10 Athletic Fields	50 Home Lawns
17 Cemeteries	41 Landscaping
27 Education	31 Parks
27 Equipment & Supplies	18 Playgrounds
29 Garden Clubs	25 Soil Conservation
78 Golf Courses	23 Turf Nurseries
1 Horticulture	1 Weed Control
1 Insect Control	

13 Industrial & Institutional Turf Maintenance

Chairman of Turf Research Committee  
Bert Rost

## MIDWEST REGIONAL TURF FOUNDATION TURF CONFERENCE

The conference at Purdue on March 2-4 had a total registration of 342 and in the estimation of this writer it was the best of a long string of outstanding turf conferences held at Purdue. Often holding a dim view of Superintendent participation at these conferences, we saw the light at this one. The boys did a splendid job in the role of panel members on various subjects and we think these panel discussions were the high point of the conference. These smaller groupings of the men interested in various subjects certainly were much more favorably received by those attending than the general conference meetings. All in all it was a great conference and our hats are off to Dr. Bill Daniel and those assisting him. We were very happy to see the return of Dr. Gerald Mott as M.R.T.F. treasurer succeeding Dr. Kenyon Payne, who had left Purdue. Dr. Mott was instrumental in founding the Foundation and organized the first conferences. We consider ourselves very fortunate to associate with him again.

At the Foundation Membership meeting the following were elected to serve as directors; C. O. Borgmeier, Leo Bauman and Frank Dunlap. At the Directors meeting Taylor Boyd was selected as President to succeed retiring President Mal McLaren and Frank Dunlop was selected as Vice Pres.



## THE MARCH MEETING

The meeting was held at Acacia Country Club with Herman Drafke as our host. The meeting was called for two o'clock in the afternoon and there were 40 members and guests in attendance. There was quite a discussion at the meeting pertaining to the date of the National Turf Conference and Show to be held in Miami in 1954. Also there was discussion as to how the conference should be scheduled and our Association went on record as favoring three or four half days of educational conference instead of two full days and as favoring holding the National golf tournament at Miami either before or after the Turf Conference and Show. Bob Williams, Educational Chairman, presented the following men from the Rustoleum Paint Company who gave a very interesting talk and pictures on coating wire fences with their paint. They were Pete Simmons, Steve Serbula, Jim De Boer, Ray Le Grande and Herb Lund. We were treated to a most delicious roast beef dinner and our sincere thanks go to Herman Drafke and the Acacia manager for such a splendid meeting.



## ROSEMAN SPRING OUTING AND EQUIP- MENT DEMONSTRATION

Warren Roseman announces that the Roseman Tractor Equipment Co. is having a Spring Outing and Outdoor Equipment demonstration on Monday, May 4, 1953 at Chesterfield Country Club, Glenview, Ill., from 11:00 A. M. to 5:00 P. M. and extends an invitation to all Superintendents and club officials to attend. Warren will have the new Ford Tractor and a complete line of equipment and will demonstrate them all. There will be refreshments, noon buffet lunch, all on the house.

## NEW WONDERS OF PLANT WORLD ARE CONFUSING

If you are confused over the many kinds of insecticides, fungicides, and other "wonders" which we are being bombarded with today, you are not alone.

Never have we been offered so many improved things to make our job "easier". We have super-insecticides, super-fungicides, super-fertilizers, super-grasses and a lot of other super-supers.

Several thousand insecticides alone have been registered with the Agriculture Department. Although only a few of these are in common use, the testing of them goes on. When one shows promise it is offered for sale, and an advertising campaign is started to acquaint the public with the new product. New products have been added recently to increase the confusion; growth retarders, soil conditioners, systemic insecticides and chelated fertilizers.

But don't let all this stuff throw you. We'll all come out on top in the long run if we can just live long enough. The scientists who are working out these new chemicals that are changing the agricultural picture are themselves having growing pains. (Don't tell anybody, but these fellows are just about as confused as you and I. They've got a bear by the tail and now must find a way to let him go.)

We have seen many agricultural wonders during the past decade. The latest is the soil conditioner. This chemical when applied to clayey soils changes their condition as though you had mixed peat with the earth.

The growth retarder, which we are starting to hear about, also looks promising for us in special situations, such as on traps, along banks of streams and other hard to cut spots. We are a little skeptical about it being any good for the grass, for we all know that any plant must grow to live. However, we have an open mind and are willing to be shown.

Chelated minerals is another discovery which comes to us from Florida. These chelated minerals have an important property. They cannot combine with other minerals that are in the soil to make insoluble and inert compounds.

The so-called "wonder insecticide", DDT, was thought highly of when it first came out. Claims were made for this stuff which proved to be fantastically optimistic. But if DDT did not live up to all the claims made for it, we have other insecticides which promise to do even better.

These are the phosphatic insecticides. They were developed in Germany, and the Nazis intended to use them on their enemies, namely us. Modified formulas of these deadly chemicals were developed and they are now widely used in agriculture and horticulture.

Parathion is one of the phosphatic insecticides. It is highly poisonous to humans as well as to insects, and must be handled with great care. A related product, malathion, is extremely poisonous to insects, but is less toxic to humans than is parathion. These, incidently, are the only insecticides which are effective against nearly all scale insects.

Another phosphatic insecticide is being used as a "systemic poison" in the fight against insects. The chemical is sprayed on the foliage and is absorbed by the plant parts. An aphid, for instance, can poison himself by sucking the juice from the plant.

The fungus preventing chemicals also are very effective.

So, although the picture looks very confusing right now, like the product of a mad artist, the future looks pretty bright. All we need is a little patience and the constitution to keep us living a long time.

## PRACTICAL MAINTENANCE HINTS

There have been reports that turf on greens is extremely shallow rooted this spring. If so it will be wise to be on the lookout for dessication of the grass in the early spring. Many times the grass seems to be dying for no apparent reason with plenty of moisture present. The cause is the dying out of the grass plant thru the inability of the grass roots to supply the plant. The ground may be plenty moist but if there are little or no roots to get to it the plant will eventually die if not properly cared for. So get your water systems in operation as soon as possible and if grayish areas appear on your greens it may be for this reason. The only thing you can do is to spray these areas with water until such times as the roots are able to take care of the plant in better shape.

Jimmy Bedoni, Supt. Bryn Mawr Country Club, reports that lengths of chain link fence dragged behind a tractor have done much to eliminate the mat in creeping bents on his fairwayys. Jimmy has a great deal of bent and claims that his fairways were never better than they were after dragging them with the fence wire

Here is a way to set your fertilizer spreader accurately without moving it from the machine shed. Measure the distance between openings and multiply by the number of openings. This will give you the width of the fertilized strip. This into 43,560 gives distance the spreader will travel per acre. Now take the radius of the wheel times two giving you the diameter. This times 3.14 divided into the distance the spreader will travel per acre gives wheel turns per acre. Now spread a tarp or large sheet of paper under the spreader to catch fertilizer and jack up wheel which operates the agitator. Put fertilizer in spreader, put spreader in gear and turn wheel at about same speed as it will travel in the field and turn one tenth the number of established wheel turns per acre. This times 10 gives you the rate. Sounds complicated but is really very simple.

It was noted during this open winter that a great deal of sand blew out of sand traps and this was more so in traps that had had sand hauled in during the winter. Much of this could have been saved if the Superintendent had the sand spread at the time it was hauled in instead of dumping it in piles as is usually the case. When the piles are exposed to freezing weather the tops of the piles dry out and the sand is moved by the wind. When spread there is less chance of drying out and consequently less blowing.

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We are happy to say that some of the boys who were on the sick list are back in good shape again. Mel Warneke who had to undergo two operations this winter, is up and about, and, although he doesn't look his ordinary healthy self as yet, he says that he feels fine and that under doctor's orders he has taken 45 pounds off his weight. John MacGregor has fully recovered from a gall bladder operation and says he feels better than he has in a number of years. Chester Ranby has almost fully recovered from the bad accident he had last winter when a tree fell across his legs. Chet says one of his legs pains him at times, but he is walking without much of a limp. Jerry Dearie underwent an operation in January and says he is feeling fine again. There have been numerous reports of different men being down with the flu, but altogether they seem to be a pretty healthy lot.

## 17 YEAR LOCUSTS DUE THIS YEAR

Seventeen-year locusts of Brood X, one of the largest on record will swarm out of the ground this year to plague 20 states east of the Mississippi. Numbers may reach a half million an acre in some sections. Emergence will start earlier in the South than in the North, but in most states it will take place sometime in May. Local emergence will cover a period of about 10 days. When females start cutting twigs and laying eggs it's time to get your sprayers rolling. TEPP has been found most satisfactory for the control of these periodic pests. The recommendation calls for 6 oz. of 40 percent TEPP in 100 gallons of water, sprayed with a mist that will envelop trees quickly. Repeat applications at 3- to 5-day intervals, depending on seriousness of infestation.

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More drought this year? Some Government wheathermen say this is probable. They think 1953 may be pretty much like last year, extremely dry in various parts of the country. These weather experts believe the country is in the middle of a 3-year spotty dry cycle. The U. S. Weather Bureau shies away from making weather predictions more than 30 days in advance. But it has weather charts that some of its experts interpret as indicating the dry cycle still has at least a year to go. They say, however, there is no way of predicting where drought might occur this year.

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## DAVIS OPEN HOUSE

On Thursday, March 5th, over 500 Golf Course, ark and Cemetary Superintendents visited the Davis Open House Party. The boys there reported business especially good at the lunch and refreshment counters. Did anyone mistakenly take a grey-brown top coat? The one left behind doesn't fit the guy who left late.

These boys had their names drawn for Door Prizes: Dave McIntosh, Jr., Oak Hills G. C.; Robt. M. Williams, Beverly C. C.; Ben Gee, Nordic Hills C. C.; Carl F. Hesterman, Hammond Park Dist.; Stan Arendt, Inverness C. C.; A. R. Groeser, LaGrange Park Dist.; Joe Jemsek, St. Andrews G. C.; Robt. Everly, Glencoe Park Dist.; Richard Moulds, Lombard Park Dist.; Alton Fisher, Mt. Emblem Cemetery.

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## ASSOCIATION ELECTS HONORARY MEMBERS

At the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents Directors meeting of February 2, the following were elected to Honorary Membership in the Association.

Dr. Fred Grau, Dr. William H. Daniel, Dr. Ralph Voigt, Dr. O. J. Noer, Herb Graffis, Joe Graffis, Leonard Strong, Pres. National Golf Course Superintendents.

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It is very gratifying to note the number of sons of Superintendents that are making Greenkeeping their life's work. David Mastroleo, son of Frank, is the new Superintendent at Arrowhead Country Club. Dave worked for a number of years with his father at Geneva Country Club. Joe Dinelli, son of Frank Dinelli, is the new Superintendent of Chevy Chase Country Club. Joe was raised on the course at Northmoor and has been a very promising pupil in the art of greenkeeping. Don Stewart son of the late Pete Stewart, is assisting Matt Bezek at Butterfield.

Marvin Gruening, who was assistant to Pete Bild at Woodridge Country Club goes to Midwest Country Club as Superintendent.

## SPREADING IT THIN

Bill Rueck of the Mah Nah Tee See C. C. of Rockford has about the farthest to come to the meetings. Bill just about has to take a whole day for each meeting.

John Coghill has been repairing and painting the clubhouse at Silver Lake getting ready for a good season of Golf. John says there is a lot of interest in golf, a lot of tournament activity and league play and that all this adds us to a healthy golf season.

John Darrah is working with the Cleary Corporation to promote sales of PMAS in this area.

Jerry Transier of the Smith Co. reported a new daughter January 15th, 6 lbs. 13 oz.

L. L. Sterland, Sales Manager, of the Semesan Division of the DuPont Co., was with us at the March meeting.

Mrs. Wm. Rueck, wife of Bill, has taken up oil painting and has painted the walls of the kitchen of their new home at the Mah Nah Tee See C. C. with a mural painting of Cypress Gardens. She is doing good work. Maybe someday she will be another Grandma Moses.

R. H. Marbury is leaving the district after 29 years of calling on courses and 42 years in the business. His home after April 1st will be Stuart, Florida, where Bob plans to fish and rest and keep busy at the many things a man has to do. Bob says he is going to look over the hunting and fishing situation, so if you go to Florida look Bob up.

The Glen Oak C. C. and Ray Gerber are undertaking an extensive building program this winter. Ray has a new section of his service building about under roof and when this job is completed the building will be almost double its original size; he has had the bottom of the water tank replaced and will have that job done and painted very soon and is in the middle of building a parking space that will cover a full acre of ground. Ray has been busy all winter.

Gerald Dearie of Edgewater C. C. is recovering nicely from an operation undertaken Feb. 6th. Gerald feels like a new man and is getting his strength back nicely. Gerald underwent the operation instead of attending the National Conference at Atlantic City.

Most everybody who attended the Illinois Turf Conference March 14th felt that it was a good conference. A lot of people turned out indicating that there is a lot of interest in grass in this district. The plots and flats grown in the greenhouse planned by the research and Education committees commanded a great deal of attention and the grasses grown to demonstrate the types of grass that can be grown from seed were carefully examined. The Midwest can be proud of the contribution it has made to this conference. We hope the committee is able to plan a bigger more effective one for next year.

The George Roloffs spent their vacation in Phoenix, Arizona. George says that the weather was fine and that you could play golf every day.

Elmer Bertucci, Supt. of Old Elm Club, visited Hot Springs, Missouri this winter as has been his custom for a number of years. His family was a little worried about him at one time because they had not heard from him for awhile, but Elmer says that he was enjoying the mud baths, etc., and forgot to send a post card home.

Turf looks good this spring with very few reports of snow mold in the Chicago area. However, Les Verhaalen reports that there is some in the Milwaukee area, especially on banks of greens and on tees.

Adolph Bertucci is a candidate for election to the office of constable of West Deerfield Township of Lake County in the election of April 7. We wish Adolph the best of luck.

We think these figures are official, but we may be wrong. At Davis Open House on March 4-5, there were consumed 14 barrels of beer and nine barrels of oysters besides great amounts of other food. Frank Dinelli, who claims to be the oyster eating champ of the Midwest, was not able to attend and we felt sorry for him because those three oysters were really good.

Midwest member, George Polillo of Galesburg was at the Davis Open House and he inquired if it would be possible to have a committee of Midwest members visit his course sometime in the future to help him solve his problems. This was referred to our Placement and Advisory Committee Chairman, Ray Gerber, and at our March meeting he asked for a committee to assist him in visiting George's course. Don Strand, Bob Williams and Bill Stuppel volunteered to make a trip to Galesburg with the Chairman sometime in the near future.

Ted Hammerschmidt really put on a wonderful lunch for us on March 14 at Woodridge. It was enjoyed by all who partook.

We were very happy to have with us at the Illinois Turf Conference, Dr. Bert Musser, who had made the tour of all the turf conferences in the middle west and stopped off to visit with us. Also attending were Bill Cleary and Tom Mascaro.

The George Roloff family was saddened with the death of Mrs. Roloff's mother on March 13. Our sincerest sympathies to the family.

A group of Midwest Superintendents gathered at Sambo's on the evening of March 12 to enjoy Sambo's hospitality, partake of his delicious steaks and to spend a social evening together.

It rained all day on March 14, the date of our Illinois Conference, but there were very few complaints from the Superintendents. The opinion seemed to be that we need the moisture in the ground and that the bad weather would keep some of the more enthusiastic members off the course at a time when the frost is just coming out and when a great deal of damage can be done in the way of compaction. The rain brought out the little remaining frost which was in the ground and the water soaked away and the ground began to firm up. Some of the boys observed that knotweed had sprouted right after the first of March, even before all the frost was out of the ground. There seems to be an awful lot of it this year, probably due to the bad summer and dry fall of 1952. Most of it, in most cases, is along the edge of fairways in the case of watered fairways and almost any place where the grass thinned out last season. It is the plan of many to do something in the way of eliminating the knotweed this spring by spraying. Sodium Arsenite, Arsenic Acid and 2 4, D will effectively control knotweed if applied in the right manner. However, we would like to warn those having a great deal of bent in the areas to be treated, that 2 4, D is rough on bent and no mistake.

We will be faced with very few shortages of golf course supplies this year except a shortage at this time of Bluegrass and Redtop seed.

Jimmy Bedoni is very proud of his new service building now nearing completion at Bryn Mawr Country Club. The building is completely fireproof built of brick and concrete. It measures 53 feet by 110 feet and is really a honey.

## NEW DEVICE BENEFITS GREENS AND FAIRWAYS

A new scientific development of interest and value to the golf course superintendent, and others concerned with lawn maintenance, is now on the market. It is the Evis Water Conditioner. The first and more apparent finding is that Evis conditioned water will penetrate soil further than untreated water.

That one statement alone, that Evis water is more penetrating, is reason enough for the use of an Evis. In test cylinders one inch in diameter and twelve inches long, compact dry loam was wetted with one ounce of Lake Michigan water. Penetration was three inches within one hour. Evis conditioned Lake Michigan water penetrated four and one-half to five inches within the same time. Four days later the soil wetted with conditioned water was wet ten inches from the top - there was no further penetration of the untreated water.

Golf course superintendents are interested in the best greens and fairways obtainable at minimum cost. The use of Evis water will give better grass without raising water consumption. The water will penetrate farther, bringing more soluble minerals and foods to the roots, and at the same time the roots will grow deeper into the wetter soil.

These claims, if true, are worth much to the course superintendent. Any skeptical person can prove this for himself by using the Evis Conditioned water on portions of his grass and by using raw water on the rest.

At Texas Tech. Agricultural School an "Evis" has been used on a portion of the lawn in front of the building. The improvement in appearance and sturdiness of the treated grass is remarkable. The color of the leaves is noticeably darker - the roots are more numerous and extend farther into the soil than the surrounding untreated plots. California Institute of Technology and Southwest Institute are making similar investigations.

Of further interest is the ability of the Evis Water Conditioner's ability to protect pipe and sprayheads from corrosion and scale. Old scale is removed and new deposits prevented. In the clubhouse, the results are well worth while. Boiler maintenance is reduced - dish washers are cleaned up and the tiled walls of shower rooms will be free of rust stains and scale.

Physically the Evis unit is a compact casting which may be easily fitted to the pipe line at any convenient place. There is no maintenance problem. Evis does not need tanks, chemicals or electrical connections. Installation is simplicity itself. The line is broken and the threaded or flanged unit set in as easily as a valve. Evis may even be buried underground if necessary.

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5-10-5



10-8-6

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