



Vol. 8, No. 4
OCTOBER, 1954

The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

26th NATIONAL TURFGRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI — JANUARY 16 - 20, 1955



MEL WARNEKE, Superintendent
Evanston Golf Club

THE OCTOBER MEETING
ANNUAL FALL GOLF TOURNAMENT

EVANSTON GOLF CLUB

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1954

MEL WARNEKE, OUR HOST

GOLF TOURNAMENT IN AFTERNOON

DINNER 6:30 P. M.

PRIZES — PRIZES — PRIZES

SPECIAL MEETING AND GOLF DAY
SOUTHMOOR COUNTRY CLUB - TUESDAY, OCT. 19

BILL KRAFFT, OUR HOST

GOLF IN AFTERNOON

DINNER 6:30 P. M.

SPECIAL MEETING - 7:30 P. M.

THE BULL SHEET, official monthly publication of THE MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS. Editor, William H. Stupple, 543 Michigan Ave., Highland Park, Ill.

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THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our joint meeting with the Wisconsin group was quite successful in spite of considerable handicap because of the weather. 60 people trudged around Charlie Shiley's beautiful golf course trying to keep on the wonderful fairways and to keep the pelting rain from running down their necks. All the golfers enjoyed their day and shared in the prizes. 110 sat down for dinner. Cards were played by the rest during the afternoon.

Our own outdoor activities reach a fitting climax at our own annual tournament next month at the beautiful Evanston Country Club and our host will be Mel Warnecke. Mel has hosted us many times in the past and has always been wonderful. It will be a real pleasure to play over his course.

To top off this event, our Golf Committee will spend \$300 for prizes from the treasury and will garner considerably more from our tradesmen. It will be a great event and we know that you will not want to miss it. Our annual tournament is always well attended and I advise all who will be playing golf to come early. That will be a great day.

It is with considerable satisfaction that I watch the continued interest in our activities during my all too brief term of office and I am constantly indebted to all who are serving so well and efficiently on our various committees. We have done well. I am grateful to all of you.

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AN ANNOUNCEMENT —

The Morton Arboretum at Lisle Ill. announces that it plans to hold a meeting the last part of October to discuss the control of the Dutch Elm Disease and Phloem Necrosis in all their phases. All Golf Course Superintendents will be invited to attend and a card will be sent to advise us of the date and the speakers. Watch for this card and save a day the last half of October.

The movement of the Dutch Elm Disease and Phloem Necrosis over the country has been watched carefully and the damage of these two diseases to the Elm has been studied and fought every inch of the way. Authorities have learned considerable about the diseases and methods of preserving your trees and will discuss them at considerable length at this meeting. The matter will be of great interest to you and to those authorities of your club that you think should attend the meeting with you. Watch for your announcement.

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COMING EVENTS

Fall Tournament, Evanston Golf Club, October 5.
Special Membership meeting, Roselle Country Club, October 19.

Fall Dance, River Forest Country Club, Nov. 6.
26th National Turfgrass Conference and Show, St. Louis, Mo., January 16-21, 1955.

1955 Midwest Regional Turf Conference, Purdue University, March 7-9, 1955.

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our September meeting was a joint meeting of the Wisconsin Greenkeepers Association and the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents. Everything was just wonderful but the weather. It seems that all the rain was in Wisconsin that day. We found none in Illinois when we started out in the morning, but as soon as we hit the state line we found rain and coming home that evening we found no rain in Illinois. In Wisconsin, however, it rained day and night, steadily for 36 hours. In spite of the weather 60 hardy souls played golf in the afternoon. It was a shame that the weather spoiled our chances of playing Charley Shiley's beautiful North Hills course under ideal conditions. Charley had the course in perfect shape and everyone who played was loud in their praise of the condition of the course. As usual the Wisconsin men were the perfect hosts. We had a nice get together, a most wonderful roast beef dinner in the evening. Guest speaker of the evening was Dr. Jim Watson who gave us a most educational talk on some of the things he is finding out by research and some of the conditions of golf turf thruout the country. There were 110 assembled for dinner and Wisconsin President Del Stollenwerk did the honors in a most creditable manner. Present and introduced by President Stollenwerk were Dr. Jim Watson, Dr. O. J. Noer, Midwest President George Roloff and Midwest Vice-President Frank Dinelli. It was a most successful meeting and we will be looking forward to meeting with the Wisconsin boys at McHenry Country Club, Al Purvey host, next September.

The Midwest-Wisconsin trophy was won again by the Midwest golfers, however, by a very narrow margin. As, Del Stollenwerk mentioned, it is supposed to be a travelling trophy, but thus far has failed to travel. However, better luck to the Wisconsin boys the next time.

GOLF WINNERS

Members of the winning Midwest team were, John Coghill, Gordon Brinkworth, Dick Buchen, Bill Saielli, Don Swenson. Members of the Wisconsin team were Ray Mertens, C. Ryan, T. Koetting, F. Iverson, Howard Gabby.

BLIND BOGEY

1. P. Jensen, 2. T. Koetting, 3. Adolph Bertucci, 4. C. Decker, 5. Tony Kozenski, closest to the pin on No. 3, 6. Irv Bertram, 7. Frank Mastroleo, 8. B. Fox, 9. Julius Goffo, 10. Dick Buchen, closest to the pin on No. 16, 11. C. Ryan, 12. C. Packett, 13. R. Eilers, 14. Barney Wendt, 15. John Crewe, 16. Julius Buchen, 17. L. Erhardt, 18. Chuck Daugherty, 19. M. Frost, 20. M. Storm, 21. T. Jarzena.

Our many thanks to Paul Jensen and Irv Bertram for their work in running the tournament and to Club Manager Ted Bosche for his hospitality in opening the club house for us at North Hills on Monday.

O—O

From all reports all the Midwest members arrived home safely from Milwaukee, in spite of the terrible weather. Several stayed overnight in Milwaukee and enjoyed a good nights sleep before returning home.

The Wisconsin men had quite a busy month of it. They had their annual Family Picnic on Sunday the 12th, the meeting on the 13th and their annual Fall Tournament at Butte Des Mortes Golf course at Appleton, Wisconsin, on the 20th. Jack Taylor was the host for the Annual Tournament.

THE OCTOBER MEETING

Our regular meeting will be on Tuesday, October 5 at Evanston Country Club. Mel Warneke will be our host. This will be our Annual Fall Tournament and there will not be much of a business meeting but the day will be a field day for our golfers and also for the non golfers who will spend the afternoon inspecting Mel's beautiful golf course. Our association has donated a substantial sum for golf prizes and some of our dealer friends have been so kind to offer donations for prizes, also. So, even if you haven't had a club in your hand all summer, this is your opportunity to get out and win a wonderful prize. Bill Krafft, our tournament chairman, who has done such a wonderful job all summer, says the prizes will be bigger than ever. There will even be a putting contest for those who feel they are too old or incapacitated to tour the course. It's going to be a great day, so don't miss it. Remember the date TUESDAY, October 5.

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SPECIAL MEETING AND GOLF DAY

There will be a special meeting at Southmoor Country Club on Tuesday, October 19. The purpose of the meeting is to act on the proposed change in our by-laws pertaining to regular membership. However, we are combining a special golf day to it to give us another day of golf. Golf in the afternoon, dinner 6:30 P. M. and the meeting to follow. Bill Krafft will be our host. Let's have a good turn out.

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WEATHER CONTROL IS STILL A GOAL OF THE EXPERTS

A new twist has been added to experiments involving rainmaking. Now certain weather scientists are claiming the possibility of creating clouds which could be used to cut down on sunlight, particularly in hot, dry areas.

In fact, there seems to be a revival of weather control experiments in general. In the past rainmaking attempts were usually of an inconclusive nature. There are some who claim they can produce rain provided certain conditions, such as humidity, are favorable. What they seem to be saying, in effect, is that if it is ready to rain they can hurry it up a little.

So little was heard about rainmakers recently that the subject was practically forgotten. But at least two official organizations have not given up on the possibilities of weather control. Government scientists in both the Weather Bureau and a committee specially appointed by the President are tackling the problem with renewed vigor.

In addition to these government bodies there are, of course, many large and small private concerns, as well as individuals, who would like the honor and profit which would be forthcoming to the inventor of the first surefire rainmaking system.

When one considers the remarkable collection of inventions which enable man to completely control the heat, light, and humidity of his own home, maybe it isn't stretching the imagination too far to expect that someday he can turn nature on and off at the flick of a button.

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NEW MEMBER

We welcome Floyd Sander, assistant to Bob Williams at Beverly C. C., as a new member of our Association.

DRY WEATHER AHEAD

Assistant Chief of the U. S. Weather Bureau I. R. Tannehill, says that the country is now in a dry cycle that is likely to hold on for seven or eight years longer. Mr. Tannehill bases this statement on records that go back to the Civil War. He finds that there are dry cycles every 20 to 24 years. These cycles correspond with what is known as the "Hale double sunspot cycle," after its discovery in 1908 by an astronomer named Geo. Hale. Just how this solar influence causes these changes in our weather nobody seems to know. But it is a curious fact that these changes to dry and back again to wet start about three years before each low point in sunspot activity. The dry cycle begins rather abruptly as it did in late 1951 and continues off and on for two to four years. This is followed by one or two wet years and several dry years again. We can remember back to the drought years of the 1930s, with severe drought in 1934 and 1936 with 1935 a wet year in between. Looking forward, we can expect another wet cycle to start in the 1960s, probably 1963 and another dry cycle in the middle 1970s. Although a good deal of the country has had a severe drought this summer, in the Chicago area we have had one of the wettest summers on record. So maybe we have had our wet year and look out for plenty of dry weather in 1955.

JUNE—JULY RAINFALL IN THE CHICAGO AREA

It is interesting to note the variation of rainfall within the Chicago area. This will help to explain why some courses are harder hit than others when heavy rains fall and are followed by hot weather.

Comparative data of precipitation for the Chicago area during the month of June, July 1954.

	June	July
Highland Park	6.53 inches	7.09 inches
Barrington	9.11 inches	6.32 inches
Glenview	5.07 inches	6.16 inches
Kenilworth	4.52 inches	5.52 inches
Evanston	3.98 inches	6.99 inches
Lombard	4.89 inches	4.13 inches
Chicago (loop)	4.00 inches	5.55 inches
La Grange	5.89 inches	4.81 inches
University of Chicago	2.73 inches	6.37 inches
Chicago (Airport)	4.27 inches	4.58 inches

During the months of June and July our rainfall was very spotty with considerable variation in totals for the two months. It is interesting to compare the areas and the precipitation. For instance, Lombard received less rainfall in the two months than Barrington received in the one month of June. The two month total for Barrington was 15.43 inches. For Lombard, 9.02 inches. The normal would be 3.61" for June and 3.20 for July for a total of 6.81" at the airport.

This information should help to answer a lot of questions regarding comparative conditions within our area. Why one course is so wet when another is fairly dry. Why one course closed up due to rain when another was open. Why the turf on one course is reacting different from the other. Why chemical treatments differ in their reactions.

Bob Williams

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CONGRATULATIONS

As we go to press we learn that Mr. and Mrs. Joe Kelly are to be parents for the second time any day now. Our congratulations and best wishes.

SPREADING IT THIN

The attitude of the various supts. of the district seems to be that the difficulties of the season are about over and that the strain has relaxed a little. Only fall construction remains and the usual construction work that must be done during the fall.

Play since the Labor day week end seems to be holding at an unusually high level and the prospects seem to be that it will continue till freezeup. While there is a shortage of labor since the kids have gone back to school, there seems enough to get the jobs done.

The summer was a vicious one in the whole district. The rains kept the grass green thru out our district but in the northern section sometimes came down too fast and caused the fairways to die out, disease ran rampant in parts of the south side at various times and caused considerable difficulty. The attacks were spotty and it was difficult at times for one supt. to understand how another could be in trouble. However, constant attention, treatment and care prevented a wholesale runaway of greens as happened in 1949 and could have happened this season.

Recovery from the summer is about complete, tempers are calmer and frayed nerves healed.

Remember, boys, it's a great job in the winter.

One sure sign of the fall season, Gerber took off for a week in Minnesota with Mrs. Gerber.

Gordon Brinkworth is setting his mind on writing his talk to be given at the National meeting this winter.

Don and Mrs. Strand finally ought a television set. Reports are that it is a big one. Clair Robert Strand plans to get married.

Ray Davis on the way to the Milwaukee meeting speculated that it should be a good day, "we leave home by fast time and come home by slow time so we will have lots of time to have a good time."

Watching construction work going on on Highway 45 and particularly the effectiveness of the air hammers on the concrete, Bob Breen of Fresh meadows commented " that's what I need to aerify my greens."

The gopher has heard so many reports about past National meetings that he is looking forward to having a real good time at the St. Louis meeting in January. The mole is pointing for the 1956 meeting in Long Beach, Calif.

The Mole and the Gopher

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Marion Mendenhall, Superintendent at Kenwood Country Club, Cincinnati, has found a cheap and easy way to protect bridge flooring from golf spike damage. Roofing paper is placed down the center of the bridge floor and 1 x 2 inch wood strips are nailed along the sides and this area is filled with a mixture of cut-back asphalt and screenings. The cut-back asphalt is a liquid that can be purchased by the gallon from any asphalt plant. No heat is required during the warm weather. The screenings and asphalt are mixed together as you would concrete. The walk area is then filled with this mixture and raked smooth. The surface looks like asphalt but remains soft enough for the golf spike to punch into it making it easy for the golfer. Cost of material will run about 15c per sq. ft. giving a good cheap walk that the golfer will walk on.

The Green Breeze

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The report on the Fall Field Days at Purdue will be in the November issue. The meeting was too close to the end of the month to get the news in THE BULL SHEET.

PRACTICAL MAINTENANCE HINTS

We can't remember a summer when iron chlorosis was so evident in golf turf as it was this summer. In fact, many greens looked like they were about to pass out due to this chlorotic condition. Prompt treatment of affected areas by the Superintendent, however, brought almost miraculous results. Greens were sprayed with Iron Sulphate at rates ranging from 1/2 to 2 pounds per green and in a few days the turf fully recovered in most instances. In places where turf had thinned out considerably it was necessary, of course, for the grass to fill in again, taking a little longer for full recovery. Greens which were a sickly yellow and brown color took on a vivid green color again. It was found necessary to repeat this treatment a number of times during the summer. As to the cause, we are not absolutely sure, but excess amounts of water resulting in a shallow root system probably had much to do with it. We have heard, too, that our greens are getting too much phosphate fertilizer and this has been mentioned as a cause. However, this we will leave for further discussion. Turf in watered fairways was also in a weakened condition this summer, with bad attacks of dollar spot in the Poa Annuua and Bent turfs. It occurs to us that a chlorotic condition was also present and it may be helpful to give the fairways a shot of iron several times during the summer to help keep the turf vigorous. About 8 to 10 lbs. of Iron Sulphate to the acre sprayed on the leaves and not washed in seems to be about a proper amount.

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