



# The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Our 29th Year

UPCOMING EVENTS

Joint meeting of Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association, Michigan Golf Course Superintendents Association, and Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents at Kankakee Valley, June 7.

### THE JUNE MEETING

**KANKAKEE VALLEY GOLF CLUB  
KANKAKEE, ILL. — TUESDAY JUNE 7  
HERMAN WOHRLE, OUR HOST**

**JOINT MEETING OF MICHIANA GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOC., CENTRAL ILLINOIS GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS ASSOC. AND MIDWEST ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS.**

**GOLF — FISHING**

**BUFFET DINNER 6:30 P. M.**

**O. J. NOER, GUEST SPEAKER**



**HERMAN WOHRLE**  
Supt. Kankakee Valley Golf Club

**THIS PROMISES TO BE ONE OF OUR BEST MEETINGS OF 1955. LET'S HAVE A BIG TURNOUT TO GREET OUR FRIENDS FROM THE OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, WE KNOW THAT O. J. NOER WILL BE ONLY TOO GLAD TO HELP YOU.**

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

#### THE PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

Our June meeting this year will begin a new relationship with other organizations engaged in our line of work. For many years we have met annually with our neighbors to the North in Wisconsin and there is rarely a meeting goes by that we do not have some members of that group with us. This June we are having a meeting with two more neighbors, the Michiana group who are located to the East and with the newly formed CENTRAL ILLINOIS GOLF COURSE SUPT'S ASSOCIATION which joins us on the South. We hope and believe that this meeting will lead to many joint meetings and a close relationship with each of these associations.

The place will be at Herman Woehle's Kankakee Valley Golf Course located on the bank of the Kankakee River. We have met here before and have always had a good time here. It is most convenient for all of the associations meeting this June.

We have all been busy but it is likely that we will be quite ready for a day off by Tuesday, June 7th. O. J. Noer will be our speaker and can always be counted on to add a great deal to our everyday outlook.

See you all Tuesday, June 7th at Kankakee Valley.  
George Roloff, President

#### COMING EVENTS

Joint meeting of Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents Association, Michiana Golf Course Superintendents Association and Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Kankakee Valley Golf Club, Kankakee, Illinois, June 7, 1955.

The July meeting, White Pines Country Club, Bensenville, Ill., July 11, 1955.

The August meeting, Oak Hill Golf Club, Palos Park, Ill., August 8.

Annual Picnic, Round Lake Country Club, July 18, 1955.

Joint meeting with Wisconsin Greenkeepers Association, McHenry Country Club, September 12, 1955.

Annual Fall Tournament and Meeting, Itasca Country Club, Itasca, Ill., October 3, 1955.

Les Verhaalen, Charlie Smiley and John Stampfl journeyed down from Wisconsin to attend our meeting at Roselle. Les said he thought it might not be raining in Illinois as it was in Wisconsin. However, despite the rain, the three played and John did so well that he took a prize home with him.

Nels Johnson was in an auto accident on May 12. He suffered severe injuries to his legs and an operation was necessary. He seemed to be getting over that all right when he had a relapse and it was found that he had internal injuries. Nels was in the hospital all month and expected to go home about the first of June. At last report he was getting along fine and should be up and around in the near future. We hope we will be seeing you soon, Nels.

The Burdetts, junior and senior, spent Sunday, May 22 at Dunes Park. They report they had a fine time with their boat. The water was cold but the waves were calm. Paul says they do not go out more than a mile or so into the lake to avoid getting caught in a squall.

#### THE MAY MEETING

We have been having tough luck with the weather at our first two outdoor meetings this year, as far as the game of golf is concerned. It rained and was cold at our April meeting at River Forest and at our Spring Golf Tournament at Roselle, it rained steadily all afternoon, spoiling the after-

noon for a number of Superintendents who had their golf clubs all shined up for the occasion and were raring to go. It was just unfortunate on these two days, for these are about the only bad days we have had all spring up to this time. However, in spite of the weather, there were 19 brave souls who started. Not many finished 18, but due to conditions, Dave Mastroleo, acting as Tournament Chairman in the absence of Bill Krafft, declared that anyone finishing 9 holes would be eligible for a prize. Among the starters was Frank Mastroleo, Senior's President and we have to give Frank credit for being a pretty rugged guy. In spite of the weather, we had a very good turnout for the meeting. Some 89 Superintendents and friends sat down to a most delicious and ample roast beef dinner. If anyone went away from the table hungry, it was his own fault. Club manager Dennis Luellen certainly went out of his way to see to it that we had a most enjoyable time and plenty to eat. Our Association's thanks to Mr. Luellen and to our President, George Roloff for a wonderful time.

After dinner, Mr. Donald Kirk, consumer sales manager and automotive engineer of the Pure Oil Company gave us a most interesting and informative talk on the subject, "Taking The Mystery Out Of Engine Lubrication." In fact, Mr. Kirk was so interesting and had to answer so many questions that the time grew late and President Roloff declared that the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and other business of the association be deferred to our next meeting. We certainly could not help but learn a good deal about the subject of oils and lubrication from Mr. Kirk's talk. Our many thanks to him and to the Pure Oil Company for their courtesy.

Although there was no regular business meeting, President Roloff called a short Directors meeting following the educational meeting.

#### GOLF PRIZES

1—Bob Breen, clock, 2—Frank Mastroleo, knife sharpener, 3—Rocky Bolte, tackle box, 4—Dave Mastroleo, steak knives, 5—John Stampfl, car blanket, 6—Jock MacIntosh, brush set, 7—Dom Grotti, thermos jug. Door prize, Jim S'apicka.

#### WISCONSIN NOTES

The Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents met on Monday, May 16, 1955 at Meadow Springs Golf Course, Jefferson, Wisconsin. Frank Kress was host superintendent. Those in attendance were guests of Meadow Springs Golf Course at a buffet lunch at noon. 31 members of the association played golf in the afternoon on the well groomed course. Over 40 members and guests enjoyed a very fine turkey dinner served family style.

This being the annual election meeting the main business was the election of officers.

Delbert Stollenwerk was re-elected president. (Washington Park Golf Course, Kenosha, Wis.)

Arnold Wessel, re-elected vice-president. (Ozaukee Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis.)

Robert Howe re-elected sec. treas. (R. L. Ryerson Co.)

Charles Shiley elected director. (North Hills Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis.)

Meetings will be held at the following clubs throughout the summer:

June 13—Hillmore Golf Club, Lake Geneva, Wis. Audie Williams, Supt.

July 11—Merrill Hills Country Club, Waukesha, Wis. Albert Decker, Supt.

Aug. 15—Shorewood Golf Club, Green Bay, Wis. Owen C. Williams, Supt.

Sept. 12—Joint meeting Mid West-Wisconsin. McHenry Country Club, McHenry, Ill. Al Purvey, Supt.

Sept. 19—Tuckaway Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis. Fall tournament meeting. Clifford Decker, Supt.

Oct. 17—Ozaukee Country Club, Milwaukee, Wis. Arnold Wessel, Supt.

## THE JUNE MEETING

Our June meeting most certainly should be one of the best of the year. We are meeting with the Central Illinois Golf Course Superintendents and the Michiana Golf Course Superintendents at Herman Woehrle's Kankakee Valley Golf Club at Kankakee, Illinois on Tuesday, June 7. Besides getting together with the superintendents of the other associations, we will have the pleasure of having O. J. Noer as our speaker for the evening. As is always the case, O. J.'s presence at our meeting will be most valuable to us all. There will be a golf tournament in the afternoon, and for an added attraction, Herman says the fish are biting good and that those not playing golf, or even if you do play golf, bring your fishing tackle along. There are even rumors that there will be a nice prize for the one catching the biggest fish. It should be a great day, and to make it easier for some who have to travel a great distance to get there, there will be rooms available at the club house for those wanting to come down on Monday and spend the night there. Please make reservations with Herman if you are interested. Here's how to get there. From Kankakee, take Route 17 six miles east until you cross the Kankakee river bridge and one block east of the bridge is a sign about Kankakee Valley Golf Club. Turn south on blacktop road three miles into the club property. Of course, anyone coming in from the east will have to adjust himself to these directions. Let's all turn out to make this joint meeting something to be talked about.  
SPRING, 1955

We can't remember in the last 40 years, at least, when there ever was a spring to compare with the spring of 1955. There might have been weather to compare with it, but if there was it was a mighty long time ago. Spring in the Chicago area is usually a great number of cold, wet days with a few nice days in between. This year the weather has been nice all the way thru from the middle of March with the exception of a few bad days, two of which were our meeting days in April and May. During April there were not more than four or five nights when there was any frost. In May there were a few snowflakes in the air the morning of May 9, with a killing frost the night before. Since then there has been, up to the time of this writing, but one frost and that was a killing frost in some sections. The spring was three weeks ahead of usual on the middle of May. It has certainly been a busy time for golf courses and especially a good break for daily fee courses. Play from all accounts has exceeded that of any year for a long time. It has been a great spring for new construction on courses, but it has been pretty tough on the Superintendent, what with the shortage of labor and everything coming on at the same time. Club members expect turf perfection with the weather and from all observations in the Chicago area, golf courses are coming pretty close to the mark. It is a great tribute to the superintendent to accomplish as much as he has done this spring. When we travel from one course to another we cannot help being impressed and amazed at how much is being done in many cases with so little help. Precipitation early this spring was far behind normal. The dry weather started in March and with some warm days coming together the latter part, there was some loss of turf due to drying out on backs of greens and other high spots. Many of the superintendents could not get their irrigation systems in working order soon enough and grass suffered. It was found that there were very few roots to the grass in such areas and as soon as the tops dried off, grass began to wither. Some greens in fact, were so short of roots that the turf became spongy and when play began they became rough and were very difficult to cut without scalping the turf. To some of the oldtimers, it looked like another drought year such as 1934 was, but we are glad to say that the good all day rain of May 22 took a big load off of our minds as far as irrigation is concerned.

## WEATHER AND THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENT

Evening red and morning gray  
Sends the traveler of his way  
But evening gray and morning red  
Brings down rain upon his head.

Joe Graffis predicts a change in the weather when his big toe aches. Bill Stupple knows, too, when his back aches. These are common ways of weather predicting.

In nearly all walks of life the weather plays a most important part. No where is this more important than in the turf profession. We hope for the proper proportions of temperature, sunshine, and rainfall, and quite often are so blessed. Sometimes, we are cursed with unbalanced atmospheric conditions of temperature and rainfall extremes. At such times it takes all the ingenuity you possess to alleviate the effects.

Over a period of many years and responding to frequent calls for advice—which we are loath to give—when the turf, especially on greens and tees has suffered severe damage during a hot spell, we believe that mismanagement of water especially, and fertilizer to a lesser degree, are the important factors. Naturally all the fungus diseases are ready to sprout during hot weather, too. But, here an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

So it is all important to know in advance, if possible, when dangerous weather is in the offing. The U. S. Weather Bureau spends great sums of money to predict weather, and the weatherman's predictions of 24-48 hours in advance are better than 80% accurate. You, yourself, can do a pretty good job of weather prediction by watching your thermometer and barometer. There are many amateur prognosticators. Some of their methods are not as funny as they may sound. Mostly, they base their predictions on keen observation of wind direction and cloud formations.

Talking with several experienced Superintendents develops the following observations:

During June, July and August, watch your weather closely. You can fairly accurately gauge hot spells 48 hours in advance. If a rainstorm is anticipated go easy on the water and forego it entirely. A double dose of water may be the beginning of trouble. Forget about the fertilizer and weed killers until a cool front moves in. Frequent light watering on greens and tees during hot spells is preferable to soakings.

So, for fun and help in your profession, take a keen interest in the weather. Your knowledge of weather and its advance diagnosis will positively help your and may save you some grief.

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Our August meeting will be at Oak Hills C C with Jock and Dave McIntosh. They have promised a good dinner and they always have an excellent golf course.

Jerry and Beryl Dearie of Edgewater are the proud parents of a daughter Debora Lee, born Wednesday, April 27th at 4:46 P.M. Jerry, who is the son of Gerald Dearie of Medinah C C, is already buying golf clubs for the Women's Professional Golf Champ. The Future Champ weighed in at 7 pounds 12 ounces.

Gordon J. Duguid Jr. weighed in at 8 lbs. 13 ounces on April 22nd at 8:20. He joins his proud parents, Gordon and Pina and a brother and a sister. Wonder what has happened to our guiding weather man, Bill Stupple. Bill usually picks the day to insure good weather but we have been slipping lately. Maybe our committee that picks the days has not been consulting as it should with Weatherman Bill.

## EARL S. BELL

**DIRECTOR** Earl S. (Smiley) Bell died of a heart attack on May 14 while at a restaurant in Kansas City, Mo. Mr. Bell had successfully recovered from quite a period of illness last year.

Smiley was born near Lenexa, Kansas, February 3, 1899. He first entered the golf game in 1915 as operator of a horse drawn mower at the Mission Hill CC, Kansas City where he later served as caddy master. He later assisted his father, Henry Bell, in construction of the Kansas City CC and the Indian Hills CC before entering into the course operation and construction business of his own. In addition to building and operating the fee course Armour Fields GC in Kansas City, he also operated Smiley's Golf Practice Tee, a driving range.

He was widely known in the golf field of the area and advised on construction and built several courses in the Kansas-Missouri area. He is past president of the Heart of America Golf Course Supts. Assn., past director of the Central Plains Turfgrass Foundation and of the Midwest Turf Foundation. He became a Member of the Golf Course Superintendents Association in 1940 and has served on several committees. He was appointed Director of the GCSA in 1953 to fill out an unexpired term and was elected to a full term at the Miami meeting with duties as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee. His death will be a loss to the entire membership and his many friends in golf.

He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Rose Bell, his father and three brothers, all of the Kansas City area. Pallbearers at services from Lutheran Church in Merriam, Kansas on May 18 were Henry Elmer, P. L. Pepper, Howard Denny, Dudley Day, Chester Mendenhall, all of the Heart of America Assn. All other members were honorary pallbearers. They as well as all members of the Mission Rotary Club, of which Mr. Bell was a member, attended in a body.

## SPREADING IT THIN

Among the busiest of Superintendents this spring has been Mel Warneke of Evanston Golf Club. Mel has installed a brand new irrigation system during the last fall and winter and has been busy this spring sodding the ditches. Mel says that he has laid about 9 miles of sod cut 15 inches wide, and that's a lot of sod. Mel has also dug three lakes on the course and figures to use about three acres of sod to finish off that job. Mel figures to have plenty of water for his irrigation needs this summer.

Mrs. George Roloff was in the hospital after having undergone a serious operation at the time of our meeting at Roselle. We want to wish you the best of luck, Mrs. Roloff and hope for your speedy recovery.

Jock Anderson says that business has been extremely good at Bonnie Dundee this spring.

Mrs. Emil Cassier was reported well on the way to good health again after an operation in April.

A number of Superintendents were the guests of Oscar Borgmeier at Ridgemoor Country Club on May 20 and found the course in excellent condition. Cliff Rassmussen is doing a fine job his first year as Superintendent there.

It is reported that Harold Reed is now settled in Florida and is doing a little work in the landscaping business at the present time.

Bill Krafft is not only the Superintendent at Valparaiso Country Club, but is Chairman of the Green Committee as well.

Norm Johnson is now Superintendent at La Gorce Country Club, Miami Beach, Florida. The best of luck to you in your new job, Norm.

George Davis and his family are all back from Hawaii again after vacationing there. George says there is no better

place to spend a vacation than the Hawaiian Islands.

It is a great relief to some of the boys with fruit trees on the grounds that there was not really bad frost this spring during the critical blooming period. Fruit trees were covered with blossoms this spring and it looks like a good year for fruit.

Ray Gerber reports that canker worm damage to elms was especially severe around his part of the country this spring. Some trees which were not given prompt attention were practically stripped of foliage. Generally a spray of arsenate of lead at the rate of 5 or 6 pounds to 100 gallons of water is sufficient to control canker worms if the spraying is done at the proper time. However, Ray says that in order to be sure of getting the worms that he also added DDT and Nicotine Sulphate.

We have received word that Charles Wilson, west coast representative of the Green Section is to become, as of July 1, O. J. Noer's successor as agronomist of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission. We understand that O. J. is to give up travelling around the country and devote his full time to his job as sales manager at the plant.

Mrs. Geo. Roloff wife of our President was in the Sherman Hospital in Elgin for 10 days early in May. Ruth has fully recovered and feels much better.

We recently had a letter from Bill Rueck. Bill is in Monterey, California doing landscape work. He says it is very lovely there, but would like to come back to the Chicago district next spring if he could get into golf course work again.

We understand that Joe Graffis has been under the weather lately. Last report was that he was entering a hospital for a checkup. We hope it isn't anything serious, Joe.

The rains of the week of May 22 thru May 29 have more than made up for the shortage of moisture this spring. However, as is the case most of the time, we had too much for our present needs and some of the superintendents were hard pressed to get their work done during the week. Not only was there a lot of water, but high winds did considerable damage to trees in the area.

## The Mole and the Gopher

The advanced season continues on its merry way. Grass has reached full summer vigor, seed set has made cutting extremely tough and mowers have had to be lapped in much earlier than usual, work has piled up to the extent that Supts are looking forward to having school boys available on a full time basis again.

It looks as though we will have a long season of golf this year. We will earn our vacation in California next February.



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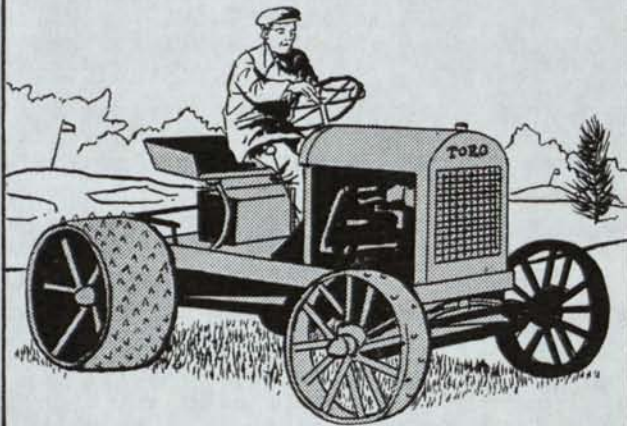
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