



# The Bull Sheet

*Official Bulletin*

*Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents*

*Our 29th Year*



GEORGE ROLOFF  
Supt. Roselle C. C.

THE MAY MEETING  
ROSELLE COUNTRY CLUB  
ROSELLE, ILLINOIS  
MONDAY, MAY 9, 1955  
GEORGE ROLOFF, OUR HOST  
SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT  
DINNER 6:30 P. M.  
BUSINESS MEETING  
EDUCATIONAL MEETING  
MR. DONALD M. KIRK, GUEST SPEAKER

WE EXPECT A GOOD TURNOUT FOR OUR SPRING GOLF TOURNAMENT. GET YOUR CLUBS OUT AND PLAY. THERE WILL BE A LOT OF NICE PRIZES.

THE EDUCATIONAL MEETING WILL BE SOMETHING YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS.

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

I wish to take this opportunity to invite the members of our Association to Roselle Country Club on May 9. The occasion will be our annual spring golf tournament and regular meeting. Bill Krafft, Golf Committee Chairman is making preparations for a big day. There will be plenty of nice prizes, so you had better shine up those clubs and get into the tournament. In the evening we will have dinner in the clubhouse and a short business meeting. Our educational meeting will follow, and Peter Bild tells me that he has been fortunate enough to get Mr. Donald M. Kirk of the Pure Oil Company to give us a talk on lubricating oils. It promises to be a big day and I hope I see you all there.

Yours for better turf.

George Roloff, President.

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### COMING EVENTS

Spring Golf Tournament and Meeting, Roselle Country Club, Monday, May 9, 1955.

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

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

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

Joint meeting with Wisconsin Greenkeepers Association at McHenry Country Club, McHenry, Ill. in September.

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

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### NEW MEMBERS

New members elected at our last meeting are Thomas A. Jenkins, Orval V. Decker, Gerald Frederick Dearie, Kenneth R. Reed, Harry Riekelman Jr., Frederick C. Gernhardt, Clifford J. Rasmussen.

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### THE APRIL MEETING

Some of the members thought that they were going to get in a little golf at Ed Stewart's River Forest Country Club on April 11, but although the weather up until that time had been beautiful, it rained most of the day and no golf was played. There were 63 in attendance at the meeting and enjoyed a wonderful roast beef dinner and at the meeting we had the pleasure of listening to Dr. Keith Barons of Dow Chemical Company, who gave us a talk on "Recent Developments in Chemicals for the Golf Course Superintendent." His remarks were listened to with great interest and our thanks to him and to our Educational Committee for the privilege.

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We learn that George Roloff is a second time grandpa. There are now two boys, the last being born on St. Patrick's day. Our congratulations, George.

At our last meeting, President Roloff appointed Frank Dinelli and Bill Stupple as members of the Policy Committee.

### MR. DONALD M. KIRK TO BE OUR GUEST SPEAKER

At our meeting at Roselle Country Club on May 9, we will have the pleasure of having as our speaker Mr. Donald M. Kirk of the Pure Oil Company. The title of Mr. Kirk's discussion will be "Taking The Mystery Out Of Engine Lubrication".

Mr. Kirk is Consumer Sales Manager, Division Consumer Sales Manager and Automotive Engineer for the Midwest Division, which covers Illinois, Indiana and the Western half of Michigan. He has been associated with the Pure Oil Company for 30 years, most of the time in sales activity and the past 10 years as Automatic Engineer in this territory. His educational background includes Chicago public schools, Northwestern University, as well as Company and Industry programs.

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### THE SPRING DINNER DANCE

On the evening of Saturday, April 23, the faithful of our organization and their guests gathered at beautiful Midwest Country Club to enjoy the hospitality of our host, Marvin Gruening and his charming wife. 128 members and guests sat down to a delicious roast beef dinner and at nine o'clock and from then on into the wee hours of the morning enjoyed the music of Hardt's Melodiers. Those dancing to the music of the orchestra, were unanimous that this was the best we had ever had. It was a great evening and was enjoyed by all, especially those who drew some of the wonderful door prizes.

Prize winners; 1—Joe Nye, 2—Amos Lapp, 3—Ralph Jacks, 4—Mike Pollacci, 5—Mrs. Bert Rost, 6—Don Swenson, 7—Ray Gerber, 8—Mrs. C. R. Strand, 9—Mrs. Louis Petges, 10—John MacGregor, 11—Henry Weight, 12—Bud Jackson, 13—Mrs. Chuck Daugherty, 14—Don Strand Jr., 15—Mrs. Parr, 16—Harry Gansel, 17—Mrs. Ray Davis, 18—Mrs. George Roloff, 19—Mrs. Freske, 20—Mrs. Warren Roseman, 21—Mrs. Russ Reed, 22—Ed Stewart.

Some of the prizes were donated by George A. Davis, Inc., Paul Burdett, Roseman Tractor Mower Co., Al Sharpser's Sod Nursery, Flynn Fence. Our sincere thanks to them all for helping to make the party a big success.

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### JOHN F. BEIER

John F. Beier, for many years the Greenkeeper of the Pickwick Golf Club, passed away on Friday, April 8. Since 1941, when the Navy took over Pickwick, he was Superintendent of Grounds at the Naval Air Station, Glenview, Illinois. The Navy kept 18 holes of golf in play, so his interest continued in the golf course. John was 70 years old when he died.

He came to the United States from Germany, when a young man. During the 1920's he was associated with Joe Roseman, Sr., as a foreman on construction jobs. After completion of Pickwick Golf Club, he remained there as Greenkeeper. John had a host of friends. Always anxious to accommodate anyone, he was kept too busy to think about himself.

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We don't know, or at least can't remember, a nicer April than this one, at least up until the time of this writing. After the rains of the 10th and 11th of the month, everything freed up marvelously and things really popped. We venture to say that the spring was at least two and maybe three weeks ahead of any we have had in a number of years and that is really a big break for us in the Chicago district. Spring is generally late in coming, but this year it has been delightful. However, we can remember last year when we had snow in May. Keep your fingers crossed and hope for a good day at Roselle on May 9.

## NITROGEN USE AND WHY

Robert M. Williams

Supt. Beverly C. C., Chicago, Illinois

When Dr. Daniels asked me to present this report he stated that he would like the practical reasoning behind the fertilizer program at our club and a resume of the actual program we follow. So let's reverse the wording of our title and start by discussing, WHY USE NITROGEN?

Nitrogen promotes vegetative growth, increases the green color of the leaves, and increases the succulence of the plant. Of course if we use too much nitrogen we get a weak, yellow, non-resistant plant. Our objective then is to find the happy medium so that we produce a good healthy plant and in turn a good healthy turf. Naturally we must keep a balance of other nutrients too in order to make the plant react in the proper manner. However, this report is designed to deal primarily with the nitrogen factor.

Our fairway soil varies from heavy clay to light sandy silt, so we naturally will vary our fertilizer program on these areas. The grass type is predominantly bent grass with poa annua and poa trivialis mixed in. The height of cut is 9/16ths in the Spring and Fall, with about 3/4 inch in Mid-summer. Our annual nitrogen application will total approximately 2½ lbs. per 1000 sq. ft. This is usually applied in three applications. We start our program off in late February or early March by applying about 1 lb. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft., along with phosphorus and potash. The past two years I have used 6-12-12 for the purpose @ 700 lbs. per acre. Then we follow up with Milorganite at 5 to 800 lbs. in early August and again in September, if we have funds left and if the grass needs it.

This Spring I will vary the program by eliminating the phosphorus in the mixture in an effort to make our spring sodium arsenite treatment of poa annua more efficient. We have been trying some mixtures of Nugreen and muriate of potash for this purpose.

I have noted that over the past 8 years we have reduced our application of fertilizer to the fairways. It appears to me from both soil tests and turf condition that we are building up some of the depleted reserves of fertility. This same fact seems to be borne out in the green program as well.

In 1954 we used 5½ lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 on the greens. In 1953 the figure was 4¼ lbs. Prior to that time we were using from 7 to 9 lbs. per 1000 per year. Along with the decreased use of nitrogen we have decreased to a greater degree the amount of phosphorus and increased the quantity of potash so that we end up the year with a nutrient ratio of about 5-1-2 on the greens and about 5-6-4 on the fairways.

The past two years I have been interested in watching the correlation between the summer condition of greens on various courses and the fertilizer practise on those greens. My observation is only a repetition of what so many of the older superintendents have told us in the past, that Greens should be kept slightly on the hungry side in the hot and humid weather. Greens that are seldom if ever given a square meal of nutrients will thin down and be victimized by disease, and have no color. Those that are overfed and usually overwatered too are devoured by disease and wilt, and usually appear trampled to death around the cups.

Our practise for fertilizing greens begins in November when we apply approximately 2 lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. to the greens in a dry organic form of either Milorganite or corn gluten. This gives us a head start in the Spring by bringing out color and growth several weeks ahead of the usual spring applications. Also we do not have to rush around in the Spring trying to get the first treatment on the greens. With this procedure we can wait until we have the irrigation turned on which is usually about April 15th, and then go ahead and start our mid-spring fertilizing

which is generally a complete fertilizer, such as 10-8-6. We use about 75 to 100 lbs. of this material at this time. After these two treatments, we have no set schedule but depend more upon the weather conditions and the appearance of the grass as indicators of when and how much we shall fertilize. We have been using the same material throughout the summer months for the past several years and in about the same proportions. The materials are Nugreen and Muriate of Potash. The Nugreen is DuPont's synthetic organic with 45% Nitrogen content. The Muriate is Sunshine Brand from New Mexico and is a white sugar like material containing 63% potash. We normally use this combination at the rate of 6 lbs. of Nugreen and 2 lbs. of potash per green of approximately 5000 sq. ft. of area. Thereby we yield 2.7 lbs. of nitrogen and 1.26 lbs. of potash. Dividing this figure by 5 to ascertain the quantity per 1000 we get approximately ½ lb. of nitrogen and ¼ lbs. of potash. We have found this amount to be adequate under our conditions for a period of 3 to 6 weeks.

One of the primary factors guiding our choice of this material is cost. The application of 6 lbs. of Nugreen and 2 lbs. of potash costs 58¢ for the Nugreen and 9¢ for the Potash or a total of 57¢ per treatment per green. Another factor guiding our choice of this material is the fact that this fertilizer has a high safety factor as pertains to burning of the turf. It will burn and burn good if used improperly through quantity or time of application. I have learned by experience not to apply this or most any other material in the real hot weather where daily temperatures run over 90 degrees or when the soil is wet. When the Nugreen and Potash mixture is used it should be diluted in 100 gals. of water per green and then watered in lightly. If the weather continues hot for a long spell I usually apply the Nugreen without the potash and at the rate of 6 lbs. per green in 100 gals. of water and in this case no wash in is required.

This past year we tried out several plots on our fairways where we used the dry Nugreen as a fairway fertilizer. With the high analysis of 45% and the pelletized form, I felt that the kernels would be spaced apart from each other as they fall to the turf and if they burned it would be a very minor one. By applying only 50 lbs. per A. I would get about ½ lb. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. Also, 1 ton of this material would cover my 18 fairways of approximately 40 acres, at a cost of \$160.00. Our tests worked out quite well with the biggest problem being the adjustment of the spreader to this low rate. We will do some more work along this line this coming season.

In summary I would like to repeat that we are using about 2½ lbs. of nitrogen per 1000 sq. ft. on fairways per year. On greens we are using about 5 lbs. per 1000 per year.

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Bill Krafft, formerly Superintendent at Southmoor C. C., has moved out of the district and is the new Superintendent at the Valparaiso Country Club, Valparaiso, Indiana. However, Bill says that he will still attend our meetings and continue his duties as a Director and Chairman of the Golf Committee of our Association. Bob Chamberlin who was recently at Kankakee Country Club will take over at Southmoor.

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Frank Dinelli is being kept busy these days with his annual spring garden club circuit.

Oscar Borgmeier says that more arsenate of lead is being sold to golf courses this year than for a number of years. The reason seems to be because lead has not been used as much since chlordane came into general use and the superintendents find that chlordane is not the final answer and that lead is necessary to control Poa Annuua, and Chickweed.

## MERION RUST REPORT

During 1954 rust conditions affecting MERION Bluegrass were reported in some areas in the country. Rust appeared suddenly, unexplainably, and in various degrees of moderately intense infestation.

As MERION has been almost completely disease-free through years of testing and propagation, the appearance of rust has become a matter of some concern to turf specialists. Accordingly intensive research is being conducted at Pennsylvania State University on rust under a grant-in-aid awarded to that institution by the MERION Bluegrass Association. It is expected that this activity will provide additional knowledge and more efficient methods of positive control.

For the time being, the Turf Research Foundation submits the following suggestions for those who have a rust problem on their turf:

*Rust is not Necessarily Fatal.* It starts as brown spots near blade tips in late summer and its lesions can cover entire plants unless checked. Rust will usually not destroy the turf which is rapidly restored under favorable conditions.

*Rust can be controlled by cultural means* when it attacks turf which has become too dry and lacks available nitrogen. Such attacks occur when spring fertilization has been exhausted or lack of moisture renders unavailable plant food present in undissolved form. In such cases the remedy is to apply nitrogenous fertilizer and moisture promptly when first rust symptoms appear.

*Rust can be controlled by decrease in watering* when it develops following excessive moisture conditions. MERION Bluegrass should not be heavily watered in periods when average rainfall provides for the needs of the turf.

*Rust can be controlled by "air drainage"* when it starts in areas where wind movement is restricted by hedges and enclosures. Thinning of shrubbery or removal of obstacles is found to be most effectual.

*Rust can be controlled by removal of clippings* for re-infection is usually a causative factor. Inasmuch as rust starts at the leaf tips the collection of clippings can prevent its spread to other parts of the plant.

*Rust can be controlled by elimination of loose organic surface fertilizer* which may be furthering the propagation of rust fungus. Such fertilizer should be under the ground, not on top.

*Rust may be destroyed by a good fungicide.* Best results reported to date have been obtained with PHYGON XL. Also Captan, Teresan and sulphur (at temperatures over 80°) will stop rust.

*Turf Research Foundation  
Bulletin No. R-202  
The Golf Course Reporter*

Edward Wohlenberg of the Navajo Hills Golf Club stood for and won the post of Matteson, Ill. Park Commissioner in election the 19th of April. Do a good job, Eddie.

Harry Drafke of Acacia C. C.—instructing the new workers in the art of watering. "If it rains be sure to get the hose and sprinklers inside before they get wet."

John Boettger of Idlewild C. C. says hail as big as golf balls hit his greens and fairways during March. They are still sadly pockmarked and beat up, and all the roofs on shelter houses around the course have to be replaced.

Malathion is a first cousin to the insecticide parathion, but is less toxic to warm blooded animals than parathion. On the other hand, malathion will kill some insects which are not fazed by parathion.



**HAROLD REED**

As we mentioned in our last issue, Harold Reed has resigned as Superintendent at Ridgemoor and Clifford Rasmussen, who was Harold's assistant there is the new Superintendent. Harold's son, Kenneth, is now assistant to Gordon Brinkworth at Brookwood Country Club.

Last fall there was much evidence of severe damage to Merion Bluegrass turf due to rust. Turf was severely thinned out and some of it went into the winter in poor condition. We noted this spring after an application of complete fertilizer that the grass snapped back in beautiful shape again.

Well, it looks like it is really new car time on the north side. Emil Eiser at Shore Acres has joined the crowd with one of those red and white Fords. Emil says that now he knows what it is like to ride in a fire engine. Gabe Rosset also weakened and bought a Cameo beige, titian red, Buick hardtop the other day. Gabe says that he was headed for an all red outfit but Lotti stopped him in time.

You have to be careful with these new automatic gear shifts these days as Susie Johnson found out the other day. She left the new Chevie in drive while she got out to open the garage door. As she opened the door she turned around and was pinned to the door by the car which had inched forward. It damaged the door and Susie but we are happy to report that she is in good condition now, fortunately. The moral of this story is that it doesn't pay to put the car in the garage, Susie. Let Al do it.

Emil Cassier's wife has been quite ill and undergone surgery at the Sycamore Community Hospital. Here's hoping for a quick recovery, Mrs. Cassier.

Roy Robinson of Old Orchard says he's a grandpop for the 12th time. His son, Roy Jr., became the father of a 6 lb. 7 oz. girl recently. Roy says that after the first ten times it hasn't bothered him.

Mike McDonald is up and around after his accident last fall. Mike runs the driving range at Rob Roy.

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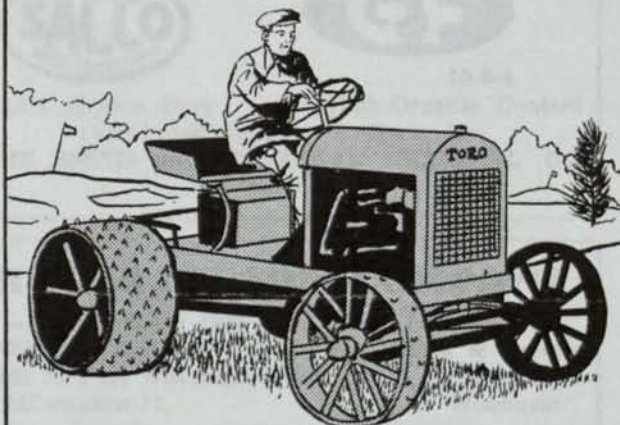
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