

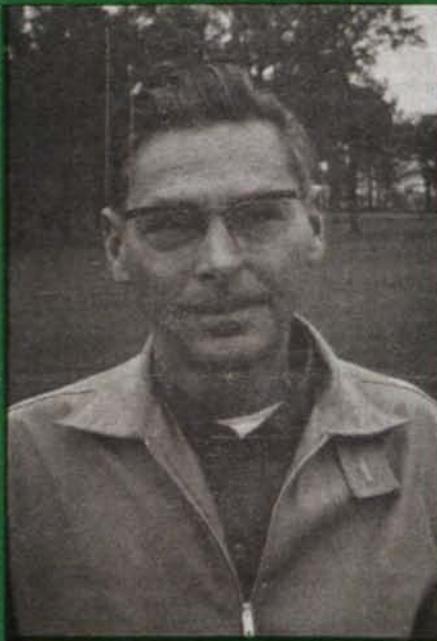
OCTOBER, 1962  
VOL. 16, NO. 4



# The Bull Sheet

*Official Bulletin*

*Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents*



**TROY MENEES**  
Superintendent  
Edgewood Valley Country Club  
La Grange, Illinois

## NEXT MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1962

EDGEWOOD VALLEY COUNTRY CLUB  
LA GRANGE, ILLINOIS

Annual Golf  
Tournament

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

TED WOHRLE, *Editor*,  
8700 So. Western Avenue  
Chicago 20, Illinois

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

To some of us a golf course is a place of employment. To many others it is a place of enjoyment. To a fortunate few a golf course has a more profound and almost reverent significance.

One morning last week at about 7:45 A.M. I noticed that a large expensive automobile was being driven very slowly up the driveway and through the parking lot of our club. At that time I thought to myself that it was a little early for golfers to be arriving. Otherwise, it was an insignificant event. About ten minutes later I saw the car leave. That's strange, I thought.

The next morning the same thing occurred. Now my curiosity was aroused. A thin, gaunt looking gentleman drove his car slowly through the parking lot and into the rough adjacent to #1 fairway. I recognized him as an exceptionally fine gentleman who has been a member at our club for many years. When he reached the fairway, he stopped the car and sat looking out over the golf course. Apparently he was appreciating the sight of the early morning sun and shadows across the rolling terrain. Perhaps he was recalling many wonderful days that he had enjoyed this golf course.

I was respectful of his silent thoughts because I knew that he had less than sixty days to live. A golf course gained a final admiration from a man about to die.

Donald Gerber, President

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#### "WONDERFUL LADY" — PENS POEM TO GOLF

From the City of Long Beach, California and the desk of Mr. B. K. Jones, Director of Golf we received the following poem. It was presented to Mr. Jones by Jane Carsten, "a wonderful lady past sixty years old who plays golf three or four times a week." — Western Office of USGA —

Remember the days of yesteryear  
When greens were made of sand  
And fairways framed with thorny rough?

Today, there are few, who would understand.  
And on and on, through the course of time  
there were better courses made;  
And I've found diversity and charm  
on the ones that I have played.

But picture a course as fair as ours,  
covered with carpets of green;  
From the brow of the hill to the last fairway  
it's as lovely a sight as eyes have seen.

Yet, there are some, who will sing their gripes  
— perhaps not meant to be —  
But these are a few of the ones I've heard  
from the first to the eighteenth tee:  
"I could have made a better drive  
but the tee was slick and wet".

He could not believe he moved his head  
when the ball and club-head met.  
"My second shot would have made the green  
but a tree was in my way."  
The next he dubbed, and tore the turf  
and let the pieces lay.

We face new problems day by day  
and none are quite the same —  
So it's not the course where weakness lies,  
but the way we play the game.

And as I look o'er the lush fairways  
where thousands of feet have trod,  
I will say aloud . . . "is there one of us  
who could do a better job?"

Jane Carsten  
Recreation Park Golf Course

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#### THE HUMOR DEPARTMENT

by Brown Mc Patch

A golf course superintendent hospitalized for minor surgery came out of the anesthesia after the operation and asked, "How come all the shades on the windows are pulled down?"

"The house across the street is on fire", the nurse explained, "and we did not want you to wake up thinking the operation was a failure".

"Experience is a good teacher but a queer old soul . . . she gives the test first, THEN explains the lesson."  
— Wesleyan Methodist

Service is the rent we pay for the space we occupy in the community.

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#### LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Voykin are the proud parents of a baby girl born the 22nd of August. The father reports that he is doing fine.

They named her Cathaline Ann.

Mr. and Mrs. James Burdett announce that they now have a baby girl born on Labor day, September 3rd.

John Coghill of Silver Lake Country Club is building a new Short nine holes. The par for the course will be 29. It looks like a real test of the short game. The construction is being done by Ray Didier. The greens are very large and well trapped. The tees are all over 4,000 square feet. John is planning for an opening date in August of next year.

Coghill Country Club is also adding 18 new holes to their present courses. The new course is designed by Dick Wilson. It should be one of the finest new courses in the Midwest.

The new nine hole course in Lansing was dedicated on September 16. A plaque was placed on the course in memory of the late Ben Hagge, the General Manager.

The Kankakee Country Club is building nine new holes this fall.

River Woods Country Club is nearing completion.

In a recent statistical review of the operations of 50 clubs the firm of Harris-Kerr-Forester and Company report that the average maintenance cost per hole was \$3,307 for 1961-62 and this is 3.9% greater than 1960-61. The past ten years also shows a steady rise in golf course maintenance costs and the 1961-62 average of \$3,307 per hole exceeded 1952-53 by 45%.

Our last monthly meeting was held at the beautiful Racine Country Club, Racine, Wisconsin. This is one of the most attractive courses I have ever seen. The natural beauty of the course cannot be surpassed. The course was in excellent condition. The Wisconsin chapter is to be congratulated for making the arrangements at such a fine club.

Warren Bidwell and his Education Committee have been working hard during the past two weeks making

up a very enticing program. This is to be our 10th Annual Fall Clinic. An anniversary is certainly in order. In order to make this a success we should have a large attendance. Try to make this program. The dates again are Tuesday and Wednesday November 27th, and 28th. The complete program will appear in the November Issue of the *Bull Sheet*.

The October monthly meeting will be held at the Edgewood Country Club. Troy Menees will be the host Superintendent. The Club is located in La Grange, Illinois.

There is no Educational program scheduled for this meeting because of our Annual Golf Tournament. Paul Voykin the Chairman of the Golf Committee promises us that there will be prizes for everyone playing in the tournament. Come early and have fun.

## SOIL COMPACTION

DONALD V. WADDINGTON

University of Massachusetts

### I. General Considerations

Compaction is a term used to designate the condition of being pressed or packed closely together. Compacted soils are a major problem to turf growers, because herein lies the cause of many undesirable conditions.

A look at some of the symptoms or indications of compaction will bring into light some of these undesirable conditions. Some of the most common conditions which are associated with compaction are:

#### 1. Platy soil structure

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2. Hard soil
3. Dry spots
4. Standing water and wet spots
5. Shallow root systems
6. Tolerant plants such as knotweed and clover

Any one of these conditions is a good reason for one to suspect compaction in that particular area.

The causes of compaction are well known and, unfortunately, often well practiced. Some of the most mentioned causes are:

1. Traffic by man and machinery
2. Excessive tillage
3. Rolling wet soils
4. Raindrop action

Some of these causes cannot be eliminated because they are an important part of the operation of turf areas. Maintenance equipment cannot be eliminated

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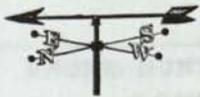
HINSDALE, ILLINOIS

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from any turf area. Players are necessary in order to fulfill the objectives of areas such as athletic fields, playgrounds, and golf courses. Although equipment and players cannot be eliminated as causes of compaction, it is possible to minimize the compaction from these two sources. Soils are more susceptible to compaction when they are wet. Traffic should be restricted on wet soils. Only essential maintenance operations should be performed, and if possible, some regulatory action should be taken on the amount of player traffic.

The roller, especially when improperly used, can be one of the most severe compaction devices available to us. Rolling should not be done when soils are wet. Using a heavier roller than is necessary for the particular job adds to the compaction problem. Tillage operations usually increase the total porosity and air space of a compacted soil, but extreme pulverization and rolling may lead to a decrease in total porosity and air space.

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