APRIL, 1963 VOL. 16. NO 10

Bull Sheet

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

he

Official Bulletin



JOHN MacGREGOR DIES

APRIL MEETING TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1963 SPORTSMAN COUNTRY CLUB

MR. LAWRENCE MARCZINSKI HOST SUPERINTENDENT DINNER 6:30 P.M.

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

TED WOEHRLE, Editor, 8700 So. Western Avenue Chicago 20, Illinois

OFFICERS

President - John Ebel 1st Vice-President - Warren Bidwell 2nd Vice-President - Al Johnson Secretary & Treasurer - Roy Nelson

DIRECTORS

Marv Gruening Dudley Smith Anthony Meyer Adolph Bertucci Don Gerber Bill Brady

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, APRIL 1963

Dateline March 15, 1963.

On March 13th a large flock of Canada geese passed overhead at Biltmore heading north. What great power pushes these birds northward each year to a land that will turn against them in the fall and drive them southward once more through a maze of gunfire?

Ornithologists are not sure what force is responsible for this phenomenon. Is it Necessity; Stupidity; Determination; or Faith? As I watched these majestic Canadas flying along I couldn't help comparing ourselves with these birds. At the end of a difficult golfing season some of us feel that we have had it and wonder if there is an easier way to make a living. Some senior superintendents might say, "This is my last year in this business", but come spring most all of us are ready to "push north" again so to speak.

What makes us do this? *Necessity*? Most Golf Course Superintendents have many abilities and I think we could find other means of support without too much trouble. Same with the geese, they have easy living in the south. *Stupidity*? I think not. One has only to know the problems of maintaining a golf course today to know a superintendent can not be stupid. Ever have a flock of Canadians spook from your "set up" for no apparent reason when you thought everything was perpect? They are not stupid either.

Determination? All the determination in the world could not get the Canada goose to his northern home if it were not for his powerful wings and ability to fly great distances. Same with the superintendent. His determination to continue in the field of golf is not enough. He must have powerful "wings of ability" to carry him through.

Faith? This may not be the exact force or reason but I think it fits as well as any. It must be a kind of faith or instinct that makes these birds travel thousands of miles each year battling nature and man every inch of the way. The dedicated Golf Course Superintendents of America must have a similar faith or unshaken adherence to their profession for them to return year after year to battle nature and man in their quest for better golf turf.

John Ebel, President

JOHN MAC GREGOR PASSES ON TO GREENER PASTURES

John MacGregor, father to all Golf Course Superintendents passed away on March 6 after a long illness. John has showed signs of faltering several years ago but through determination was able to hold on for two years.

John came to this country from Scotland to take over the duties of Greenkeeper (a name he much preferred) at the Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois. He remained there for over thirty years during which time he became the 2nd President of our National Association and one of its founders as well as one of the organizers of our local association. He remained very active in National affairs until the end.

After retiring from the prefession he became a salesman with various supply houses so he could remain close to the life he loved and the men he associated with for so many years.

He is survived by his wife and two children, a son and a daughter. He was grandfather to three proud grandchildren.

John will be missed by many people in the field of turf maintenance.

LOCAL NEWS

Our last monthly meeting was held at the Midwest Country Club, Marv Gruening was our host. The meal was outstanding, of course it always is when we go to Midwest. Our business meeting was one of our better old fashioned meetings. A lot of business was discussed and good healthy debates were the order of the meeting. One thing we must all remember; debates should never get out of hand and become arguments. Gentlemen never lose their tempers.

All new members of the Midwest Chapter were recognized by the assembly with a standing round of applause. Roy Nelson, the secretary read off a list of 34 new members.

New Superintendents at the new clubs are, Marcus List at the Old Wayne Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois. Dick Trevarthan at the Prestwick Country Club, Frankfort, Illinois.

Ray Gerber read the report from the Advisory Committee of the National Meeting held in San Diego. Many good points were mentioned. One in particular that seems to come up quite often is that of proper recognition of our membership card in respect to visiting country clubs and having facilities offered to us similar to that given the members of the PGA. It was suggested that if proper ground work was laid before entering a strange club, especially with the Superintendent in charge of that club, we would not encounter much difficulty along these lines. More than this point however, it was felt that our membership card in the National should be sufficient for admittance to National Tournaments. The National Headquarters advises us that this matter will be taken care of with letters to the USGA and PGA reminding them of this matter shortly before each major tournament.

÷

LOCAL NEWS



MEET THE BOARD

This month we are introducing Anthony Meyer, newly appointed member of the Board of Directors of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Tony is Superintendent of Woodridge Country Club starting there over three years ago. Before becoming Superintendent he worked for Peter Bild doing some reconstruction work. Prior to working at Woodridge Country Club Tony worked at the Morton Arboretum for 10 years as bookkeeper and timekeeper. He also helped lay out roads and paths under the direction of Mr. Clarence Sodshalk, the director of the Arboretum. Tony resides with his wife Marjorie. They have six children, the oldest son is 21 and works for DuPage County Forest Preserve District. They have a daughter that is married and the rest of the children live at home. Their youngest is a son four years old.

President John Ebel appointed Tony the Chairman of the entertainment committee. Tony has scheduled our annual dinner dance for Saturday night June 1st, at the River Forest Country Club.

PHONE: HUNTLEY 2452 LOUIS SCHACHTNER Distributor BLACK DIAMOND HUMUS SOIL HUNTLEY, ILLINOIS It was reported by George Roloff that Stanley Arendt is in the Sherman Hospital in Elgin. We certainly hope that Stan is out and around as soon as possible.

Paul E. Burdett became ill while on vacation in Mexico and was hospitalized for quite some time. Jim thinks he will be home very shortly. We hope his recovery is complete and that we will be seeing him soon.

Don Gerber reported as the Chairman of the By-Laws Committee that he is in the process of sending out copies of the By-Laws to all the members for their study. Proposed changes should be considered by all members before next fall prior to our annual meeting. Some of our by-laws definitely are out dated and are in need of changing. We should all read them carefully and when there is a point that we feel should be changed we should contact Don and present it to him and his Committee.





MAY MEETING

Our May meeting will be held at the Ridge Country Club on Tuesday May 7. Charlie Rack will be our host. It has been a long time since we have been to Ridge Country Club. It is on the south side of Chicago at 103rd and California Avenue.

PURDUE'S MIDWEST REGIONAL TURFGRASS FOUNDATION TURNS OUT HUGE CROWD DESPITE THE BAD WEATHER

Registration was well over 500 for the 26th annual conference held at Purdue University. Dr. Daniel presented another outstanding educational program. Some of the papers presented were very basic and fundamental but very interesting. A good review is always necessary and welcome. We were pleased to see such a good turn out from the Chicago area. The usual President's dinner was held at Sarge Biltz's but for some reason the President didn't show up. Somebody got their wires crossed. It was fun anyway.

The President elect is Steve Fraizer of Indiana. A young capable man. No one from our local Chapter was elected because of poor attendance to the annual business meeting. We had one man nominated but he was defeated. This is a shame because we of the Midwest Association have been so very active in the Turfgrass Foundation for many years. We still have the largest number of members participating in the Foundation. Next year we should make an effort to place a man in nomination and then get him elected.

ANNUAL FLOWER SHOW BREAKS ALL ATTENDANCE RECORDS

Over 350,000 people jammed the McCormick Place for nine days admiring the beauty of Nature. This broke the total attendance record established last year by some 30,000.

Carl F. Mees, coordinator of the University of Illinois extension service, said the University's booth at the show handed out over 100,000 pamphlets to persons desiring information on lawns and gardens.

The Illinois Turfgrass Foundation participated with a booth in conjunction with the University of Illinois. President Jim Brandt announced that he was well pleased with the amount of traffic and interest in the booth which consisted of flats of lawn grasses and the various lawn weeds. He appreciates the assistance given by the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents in manning the booth. Over 35 members of our Association participated.

PAUL E. BURDETT

Seed - Fertilizers & Golf Course Supplies

Rainbird & Nelson Sprinklers and Valves Myers Pumps - Johns Manville Pipe

E. I. DU PONT & CHIPMAN CHEMICALS

Sole Distributors of HYDRAULIC FEEDERS

P. O. Box 241, Lombard, Illinois — 627-0232 Paul W. 627-0282 Jim 629-0223 The University won the Blue Ribbon for their booth which included the ITF's booth. A great deal of interest was shown and some interesting questions were asked by the people passing through the booth. One of the most asked questions involved Powdery Mildew, another was Fairy Ring and its cure, and then the usual weed questions were also asked.

POINTS OF INTEREST

While at Purdue, Bill Lyons of Firestone Country Club told us of a case where a copper wire was placed in some drain tile 13 years ago and is still keeping tree roots from entering the tile. Checking into this we find that it is quite common practice. It seems that a chemical reaction on the copper wire creates copper sulfate in minute quantities which is strong enough to kill all roots that might enter the tile.

We also hear of a manufacturer that has patented a pelleted Ammonium Sulfate. This might be another method of applying a quick shot of Nitrogen to the fairways.

Wouldn't it be nice to have a Hospitality Room of our own at the next National Convention in Philadelphia? Think about it.

GOLF

It is a science, the study of a lifetime, in which you may exhaust yourself but never your subject. It is a duel or a melee, calling for courage, skill, strategy and self control. It is a test of temper, a trial of honor, a revealer of character. It affords a chance to play the man and act the gentleman.

It means going into God's out-of-doors, getting close to nature, fresh air, exercise, a sweeping away of the mental cobwebs, genuine recreation of the tired tissues. It is a cure for care, an antidote to worry. It includes companionship with friend, social intercourse, opportunities for courtesy, kindliness and generosity to an opponent. It promotes not only physical health but moral force. D. R. Forgan

TURFGRASS DISEASE CONTROL

Dr. Malcolm C. Shurtleff University of Illinois

(Continued from last month)

2. The environment is made less favorable for the causal organism and more favorable for the grass plant. Fungi which cause all turf diseases (except those produced by nematodes) require much the same sort of environment that turfgrass requires: food, moisture, oxygen, and a favorable temperature. The basic concept here is to grow grass in an environment which will be unfavorable to the growth, multiplication, and spread of disease-producing fungi. This we can do by:

a. Keep the grass blades as dry as possible for as long as possible. Fungi, with the exception of the powdery mildews, require free moisture on the grass plant for three to 12 hours or more to infect a plant. Poling, brushing, or hosing are means of removing dew and gutted water in which these organisms thrive. There are reports of superintendents applying non-toxic, surface-active detergents to grass which prevented dew from clinging to the grass blades. The fungi couldn't penetrate without moisture and no disease developed. Poor surface and subsoil drainage result in compaction and soil aeration problems. Roots are suffocated from lack of oxygen or are "drowned." The result, too frequently, is disease. "Dead," humid air over a pocketed turf area results in disease problems. There is no wind to dry off the grass blades. If we could keep the grass dry, and this includes the thatch, we would have no disease probelms aboveground. Root rots which result in "wilt in July and August are commonly the direct result of overwatering the root zone to keep the turf soft. Keeping the soil near saturation prevents normal root growth and favors the growth of organisms like Pythium, a common water mold, to take over. Proper water control is the single, biggest environmental factor in keeping disease in check.

b. Eliminate the dead grass (mat or thatch) in which disease-organisms thrive. This helps "starve out" these fungi and forces them to compete infavorably with multitude of bacteria and fungi in the soil, many of which are antagonistic or even parasitic on the disease-producing organisms which attack grass. The thatch also acts like a sponge in holding excess moisture. Elimination of thatch has cut many a fungicide budget in half!

c. Keep large trees away from greens or install root barriers.

d. Don't injure the grass by careless use of pesticides, using a mower out of adjustment, leaving the cup too long in one spot, walking or riding on turf which is soggy, removing $\frac{1}{2}$ or more of a grass blade at one mowing, etc. Remember that anything you do to grass to weaken it, may lower its natural resistance, allowing a disease organism to "take over."

3. The disease organism is killed or prevented from thatching the plant and producing disease. We have talked about removing moisture thus preventing a fungus from penetrating. We could also mention the use of sand or other sharp particles to provide for superior surface and subsurface dainage and aeration. You can probably think of other ways to prevent distribution of organism. But the principal means of control here is chemical. We can apply a soil fumigant to the turf area before planting and kill fungi, nematodes, insects, and weed seeds - all at once, using a single chemical like methyl bromide, chloropicrin, Vorlex, Vapam, or V.P.M. Soil Fumigant. The expense is fairly high but more and more of this is being done before the seeding or soding of greens, tees, stadium turf, even home lawns. Generally a polyethylene cover is placed over the treated area to retain the fumes of the fumigant. The only problem is that disease and nematode problems may become more severe later because of the lack of competitive fungi, bacteria, and nematodes in the treated area. Once a disease-producing organism is introduced (blown, washed, or tracked) into such a

treated area there is no "biological check and balance."

This gets us down to the use of turf fungicides on *preventive* schedule, applied *before* the disease strikes. We recommend that you follow the manufacturer's directions on the package label as regards to rates of use, interval between applications, compatibility with other chemicals, grasses to be used on, etc.

The method of application is very important. We suggest you use at least 5 to 10 gallons of spray per 1,000 square feet to adequately wet the grass blades, thatch, and top quarter inch or more of soil. I would use five gallons of spray against such diseases as powdery mildew and rust which attack only the grass blades. Other diseases such as dollar spot, brown patch, Pythium, melting-out, and snow molds attack the crown and root area before growing on and over the grass surface. Here 10 gallons per 1,000 square feet is barely adequate. For diseases like brown patch, where the causal fungus is known to survive in the form of sclerotia burried in the soil, 15 gallons would probably do a better job.

High pressures are not necessary! It is much more important that the fungicide be applied evenly. This can best be done in most cases by using a multi-nozzle boom and applying the chemical equally in two directions. The time interval between spray applications should vary with the temperature, disease expected, grass condition, chemicals used, and the amount of rainfall or artificial watering. The spray interval may be as short as two or three days in hot, wet weather or be stretched out to two weeks if the weather is cool and dry. Some fungicides give some protection for a week or 10 days even when four to six inches of water has fallen as rain or been applied by sprinkler. Another chemical may only last two or three days under similar conditions. The problem is complex and one that you have to "feel out" for yourself, based on your knowledge of the chemical and its past performance, the problem turf area involved, past fungicide and other records, plus knowledge of the factors involved which cause a particular disease to flare up. It is only through the keeping of records that you can hope to determine why a certain fungicide failed - or did the job. All the fungicides in the world cannot replace a poor management program.

The equipment you use is also important. How fast can you get around and complete a spray application? If Pythium strikes is this fast enough? These are questions you have to answer for yourseelf. The important thing to get uniform coverage of the grass. This may mean putting in a commercial spreader-sticker or wetting agent to insure wetting of the grass blades plus better penetration of the thatch and soil surface.

This paper was presented at the University of Illinois at the 1962 Annual Conference.



IRRIGATION

P. A. Boving University of Illinois

1. What are you trying to do?

You are trying to provide the best moisture condition for the growth of plants in soil. This includes both water and air. But the question then arises what is the best moisture condition?

Saturation

This occurs when the soil is full of water. Flooding of low land, intensive rain storms with runoff, all lead to conditions of saturation. We are all familiar with saturated soil.

Field Capacity

This is defined by soil scientists and irrigationists as the moisture retained in a soil 48 hours after wetting when drainage has been allowed to take place. In other words, we are at a point something less than saturation, but that there is still the maximum amount of water present that the soil will hold.

Wilting Point

This point is evidenced by the curling of many plant leaves and the cessation of growth. This is a danger point in that plants often times do not immediately recover when the soil has been allowed to dry to this point.

Thus it can be seen that the best moisture condition is not one specific point, but a range between two points called field capacity and wilting point. We are very fortunate to have a range to contend with when we consider the dynamic situation of growth of plant material in the field.

These points have been determined in the laboratory and have been identified with amazing uniformity in the field, using special soils. In practice, however, soil texture and soil structure have a great influence on these points. Their net effect is to change the moisture level at which these criteria exist, and also they change the band width of optimum moisture condition. The lack of uniformity of soils for a given acreage also will create the difficulty of determining optimum moisture conditions for the total area as compared to any one part of the area.

In Illinois with our excess of rainfall over moisture used by plants, drainage becomes an absolute necessity to reduce the moisture content from saturation, at which







SH erwood 2-5030

point the plants will be drowned; to field capacity, which is the wet end of the optimum range. Drainage, however, forms a separate topic by itself and will not be discussed during this talk. Suffice it to say that drainage is an obvious necessity for good growth conditions.

So far we have considered the soil and ability to hold moisture. Now let us consider the plant and its need for moisture. Many researchers have gone to great lengths in extremely delicate experiments to determine how much water a growing plant needs per day. Their experiments ranged from Raleigh, North Carolina, to Pullman, Washington. The summation of their results lead us to believe that in the height of the growing season, i.e. in the hot summer months, we can expect plants to use between 0.3 and 0.5 inches of moisture ASPHALT DRIVEWAYS - PARKING LOTS - ETC. "Golf Course Work a Specialty" LEMONT PAVING CO. (RAY MURPHY TRUCKING) 115th & Archer Ave. (Rt. 4-A) — Lemont, Illinois RAY MURPHY CL earwater 7-6701

TA lcott 5-1495 Have Stumper - Will Travel S T U M P C U T T E R From Stump To Shavings At Real Savings No stump to dig or pull No large hole to fill No stump to haul

Otto E. Georgi 516 N. Northwest Highway State Licensed Tree Expert Park Bidge, Illinois



PRECISION BLENDED TOP DRESSING

Custom blended to your specifications by our modern equipment.

Buy when you need - Eliminate costly storage

We sell an air dried, uniform and free flowing top dressing.

ASK THE MAN WHO HAS USED IT.

HUMUS - BLACK SOIL

HENRY FRENZER

CR estwood 2-0290 2-5267 3425 Techny Road Northbrook, Illinois per_day. Young plants or mature growth in the early spring and late fall will use somewhat less than this figure. It should be noted though, that the use of fertilizers in the off-peak season will tend to increase their need for water.

II. How are you going to do it?

There are three methods of irrigation available to us. The first is sub-surface irrigation, which has to date proven rather unsuccessful for general use. The next two methods, surface irrigation and overhead or sprinkler irrigation, have proved successful over many years. Surface methods would consist of general flooding or furrow and soaking-type irrigations. Overhead or sprinkler irrigation is what its name implies. (Continued next month)

FOR THE FINEST IN TURF MAINTENANCE SPECIALTIES Manufacturers of Liquid Fertilizer Since 1939 "LIQUA-VITA" 15-10-5 15-3-8 12-4-12 The Original Liquid Plant Food for Turf Does a Fine Job — Costs Less FUNGICIDES HERBICIDES HERBICIDES METTING AGENTS A MERICAN LIQUID FERTILIZER CO., INC. and ROKEBY CHEMICAL COMPANY P.O. Box 267 - Marietta, Ohio - Phone: FR 3-1394

MERION BLUE - BENT - KENTUCKY BLUE HARVARD SOD NURSERY Chemung Road -:- Harvard, Illinois WH 3-4117 Joseph F. Dinelli John T. Banghart

Res: ME 9-9200

Nels J. Johnson, Tree Experts, Inc. ESTABLISHED 1930

Complete, economical tree service for home owners, private estates, parks, municipalities, golf courses, cemeteries, schools, industrial areas.

MAIN OFFICE
912 Pitner Avenue ----- Evanston, Illinois
Phones GReenleaf 5-1877 or GReenleaf 5-5255
PIVE ELLUMS ARBORETUM
144 Walnut Drive ----- Libertyville, Illinois

44 Walnut Drive - - - - - - Libertyville, Illinois — PHONES —

EMpire 2-1121

FAculty 5-0970

Res: OR 6-4977



USED AND PREFERRED BY

GOLF COURSES EVERYWHERE



MEYER (Z52) ZOYSIA WARREN'S TURF NURSERY

8400 W. 111th STREET :-: Phone: GIbson 8-7200 PALOS PARK, ILLINOIS

