

JULY, 1963
VOL. 17, NO. 1



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

**WESTERN
OPEN
GOLF**

**TOURNAMENT
BEVERLY C. C.
JULY 22-28**

JULY MEETING

MONDAY, JULY 8, 1963

McHENRY COUNTRY CLUB

Golf, Dinner

and

Educational Program

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

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE — July, 1963

Dateline: June 14

It's difficult to say just which time of the year is busiest for many of us. Spring has its rush and expectations. Fall for many means construction or reconstruction to solve some chronic problems. Even Winter finds us with more things to be done than ever thought possible years ago. But I think the month of June is probably filled with more urgency than any other. Growth is usually at its peak and we are gunning to have our courses looking their best. Extracurricular items such as tennis courts, flower beds, swimming pools, club house grounds, and others all fall due during the month of June. Club activities are in high gear.

If we were all fortunate enough to have a full staff year round our problems would not be as great, but shaping up a good crew is our greatest challenge. Just about the time our new crew members know their hay foot from their straw foot, the season is at an end and they disappear with the falling leaves, and we face the same challenge with the next season. So it goes.

It is during these times of stress that we might find ourselves becoming complacent about certain things. The old saying "If you can't lick 'em, join 'em", does not, in my opinion, mean we should give up our ideals or principals entirely, but should continue to have faith in what we believe to be true. However, we must work with a variety of persons, some subordinate, some superior, and it is this variety of persons that requires us to be flexible enough to weather today's unsurmountable problems so that we may be around tomorrow.

John Ebel, President

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AL JOHNSON

MEET THE BOARD

This month we have the distinguished honor of introducing one of the Midwest Association's most colorful and enthusiastic members of the Board. "Al" Johnson has been a member of the Association for some 14 years, serving as Secretary-Treasurer for six years and doing an outstanding job. Presently he is our Second Vice President acting in the capacity of Chairman of the Arrangements Committee.

Al started his life as a Golf Course Superintendent way back in the days when he was attending Iowa State College as a Student in Agronomy. He was employed in turf nursery work for several years before going back to Iowa State College to supervise the maintenance of the Athletic fields and golf course in 1937. During his 14 years at Iowa State he became the President of the local golf course Superintendents Association. His first job in the Chicago Area was as Superintendent of Indian Hill Country Club where he remained for seven years. Now he is located at the Park Ridge Country Club where he is doing a man sized job in renovating many of the problem areas at the club. Just recently he completed the installation of a badly needed drainage system.

Al is married to quick witted and happy go lucky Susan whom most of you have met at our annual dinner dances and at our national conferences. I think she is the one responsible for the spark in Al's eyes.

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SPREADING IT THIN

Al Bertucci's son is now home from the University of Illinois. He plans to return to Illinois for his final semester and his degrees in Education and Math.

Walter Piepers wife is recovering from whiplash suffered in an auto accident some two years ago.

Amos Lapp is now the proud grand father of One granddaughter and eight grandsons.

Harold Fredricksen of the Evergreen Country Club, plays second base with a local soft ball league and recently made two outs of a tripple play.

They have started to clean up the mess left by the burning of the Club House at the Itasca Country Club. The place was completely destroyed. It looks as though business is running almost as usual with a building nearby converted to a Clubhouse.

The Lake under construction at Westmoorland involves the removal of quite a hill of sand, the cut is almost verticle and cliff swallows make new homes in holes drilled into the sand cliff almost as soon as the new surface is exposed. It is fascinating to watch them work. Don Strand says they may make new homes 4 times a day.

The Mole was so flattered with the headlines in the last issue he went into the burrow and hardly got out. He didn't know anybody cared.

Peter Bild's son Ronny, plans to specialize in turf at the University of Illinois. He has completed his first year.

FROM PURDUE

Turf managers in the Midwest area will be able to purchase a limited amount of Evansville creeping bentgrass this fall. Foundation stolons have been provided to nurseries growing under certification as follows.

Warrens Turf Nursery of Illinois
Godwins of Michigan
Chester Hybrids of Indiana
Modern Turfgrass Nurseries, Kentucky
Links Nursery of Missouri

This dark green, fine leaved, dense turf should do well at medium management, close cut. Its wear

resistance exceeds other bentgrasses. It is somewhat slower in starting in the spring. Its competition in **Poa annua** should be outstanding according to Dr. W. H. Daniel.

FROM THE ILLINOIS TURFGRASS FOUNDATION

University of Illinois

For your information —

The Illinois Turfgrass Field Day is scheduled to be held in Urbana on September 16, 1963.

Also, the Illinois Turfgrass Conference will be held in Urbana on December 5-6, 1963.

Both these dates should be put on your calendar as worth while educational programs.

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LAST MONTH'S MEETING

Our last meeting was held at the Beverly Country Club in conjunction with the local Chapter of the Club Managers Association. The day started out with Golf and Lunch followed by Dinner and Entertainment. Eighty-four turned out for golf on one of the nicest days of the year. The skies were clear and the temperature was up near 90 degrees with little or no wind. The golf course proved a little too tough for most of the entrants in the Blind Bogey but Benny Kronn from Twin Orchards, one of our Superintendents, shot a 78 gross score, followed by Harold Michels and Mike Mininni with 79's. The Blind Bogey prizes were won by M. Luchon, Alex Zagone, Tom O'Connor, Adolph Bertucci and Bill Sialli. Frank Dinelli, Henry Lange, Charlie Rack and F. D. Wielly were also winners. Bill Brown, H. Rodgers and W. Miller were last on the list of winners for the day.

All in all it looked like every one was enjoying the day. For those that stayed long enough they were rewarded with some very fine entertainment by The Three Twins. They were hilarious with their wit and humor. Some of the songs and jokes were originals.

NEXT MONTH'S MEETING

The July Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held at the Mc Henry Country Club in McHenry, Illinois on July 8, 1963. Harold Michels will be the Host Superintendent. He says that there will be boating available for those interested. This sounds like a lot of fun for the non golfers. After dinner there will be our usual Business meeting and Educational program. Co-Chairmen of the Educational Committee, Warren Bidwell and Dudley Smith have a good program for us. They have planned a return of Dr. Harry Gunn, speaker at our fall clinic last year. He is to be joined by a Chairman of a greens committee from a unnamed club and a Superintendent yet unnamed on a panel. They will conduct a question and answer session concerning our dealings with our members. Another portion of this panel discussion will deal with handling the men on the grounds crew under our supervision. Dr. Gunn is a psychologist.

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LOCAL NEWS

Word comes to us that new irrigations systems have been installed and are operating in A-1 condition at Joe Dinelli's course at North Shore and at Red Sellers course out Rockford way.

Ray Davis' son was recently married and is on his Honeymoon. Congratulations. As you know Ray is at the new Par 60 Arlington Classic Golf Club. He invites us over for a little turf enjoyment both on the track and on the course.

Paul Voykin is now in his new Maintenance Shop. If you really want to see the ultimate in golf course maintenance equipment and storage facilities stop over and take a look at his shop at Briarwood Country Club in Dearfield, Illinois.

How did you like that picture of Bill Stuppel and the gang in the latest issue of Golfdom Magazine?

Most of the turf damage in the Chicago area has finally been eliminated. The courses have never looked better.

Frost damage was reported in some of the outlying areas as late as last week, June 22, 1963. Now it looks like we are really in for a good old hot spell.

WHAT'S NEW IN INDUSTRY

In a recent release to Superintendents we noticed a new product that is being manufactured by: — Aquatrols Corp. of America and W. A. Cleary Corporation. The product is called, Stoma-Seal.

Stoma-Seal is designed to check WILT on greens, tees, fairways and other turfgrass areas. It is claimed that this new formulation effectively closes the stomata of the leaf. Vital moisture loss through the stomata by transpiration is reduced.

It is pointed out that this product has worked well on all fine turfgrasses but it is recommended that this product should not be used on Merion Bluegrass.

The following is an excerpt from a paper entitled "The Control of Wilt on Fine Turfgrass" presented at the Rutgers, Cornell and Massachusetts Turfgrass Short Courses — Winter of 1963, by Superintendent Harry Meusel.

" . . . Wilt occurs in grass plants when Transpiration rate is greater than the rate of water absorption; that is, when the grass roots do not absorb moisture from the soil fast enough to keep pace with the loss of moisture through the leaves. Transpiration occurs mainly through the stomata in the leaves. When the stomata are open water moves freely out of the plant. When the stomata are closed, the loss of water is greatly reduced. Plants with few stomata or with closed stomata are, therefore, less likely to wilt than plants with many stomata or open stomata . . . To the classification of dry wilt and wet wilt, add a third variety: identified as 'cloudy-days wile' . . . Dry wilt occurs where the soil is so dry that there is no water available to the roots. It is easy to understand that in

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this situation, when transpiration takes place the plant is unable to replace water that is lost . . . From the evidence of experiments and from actual practice on the golf courses, the control of wilt lies with the control of the number of stomata and of the opening of the stomata, so as to govern the rate of transpiration from the grass plant . . . Tests on a larger scale at the golf course were strikingly effectively controlled wilt with this mixture."

If any of our readers have used this product or anticipate using this product please keep the rest of us in mind and share your experiences with us. Perhaps our education committee will make a report of this at our fall clinic.

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REPORTER

Did you notice the fine article by Leonard Strong in the last issue of the Reporter? It is perhaps the finest article ever written by a Superintendent. The subject dealt with the very severe damage suffered by many of the courses in the eastern part of the country last winter. The title was, "Don't Blame the Superintendent for Winter Damage." He felt the same as we of the Midwest area felt last winter when similar damage occurred in our area. Maintenance procedures had very little to do with the amount or severity of damage. Soil structure and drainage were the problem in both areas. Read this fine article the next chance that you get.

JACOBSEN

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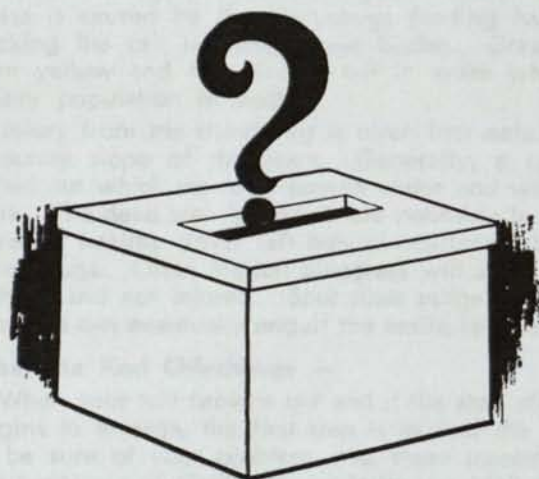
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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

1. What does PMAS stand for?
2. What is the average percentage of Nitrogen in the Ureaform fertilizers?
3. Would you get more sand in a ton of sand or in a cubic yard of sand?
4. Approximately how many square feet in an acre?
5. Approximately how many acres in a fairway 400 yards long and 50 yards wide?

6. How many gallons in a cubic foot (American)?
7. How much does a gallon (American) of water weigh?
8. Name a common term for the Helminthosporium diseases?
9. What is the area of a round green that has a diameter of 80 feet?
10. What is meant by a Broad Spectrum Turf Fungicide?

Answers on page 8.

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ANSWERS

(Continued from page 7)

1. Phenyl-Mercuric-Acetate-Solution.
2. 38 Per cent.
3. In a cubic yard of sand. 2800 lbs.
4. 43,560 square feet (or 44,000 sq. ft.).
5. 3-1/2 acres.
6. 7.48 or 7-1/2 gallons.
7. 8.3 lbs.
8. Leaf spot or melting out are both correct.
9. 5,024 square feet.
10. Any fungicide that will control two or more plant diseases.

CHINCH BUGS

From the Westchester County Farm &
Home News - June 19, 1963

Quick death of turfgrass is often caused by the hairy chinchbug, a June lawn pest. Death of the grass is caused by the chinchbugs feeding habit of sucking the cell sap from grass blades. Grass will turn yellow and then brown out in areas where a heavy population is feeding.

Injury from the chinchbug is often first noticed on a sunny slope of the lawn. Generally, a spot is killed out which seems to spread wider and wider in area. The dead area is made more noticeable by small areas of healthy clover left behind unaffected by the chinchbugs. Often Merion bluegrass will also be left behind and not injured. Spot sizes range from one foot and can eventually engulf the entire lawn area.

Where to Find Chinchbugs —

When your turf browns out and if the area affected begins to enlarge, the first step is to find the insect to be sure of your problem. As these insects suck the juices out of plants you naturally wouldn't expect them to be in the dried up dead areas of the lawn. As they soon yellow and kill grass with their feeding you would not expect many to be found in the healthy turf, either. This leaves only one logical place to look for chinchbugs and that's in the area which just borders the dead grass.

How to Locate Chinchbugs —

The best method of locating chinchbugs is to get on your hands and knees and to part the grass to the ground in this border area. By waiting a few seconds movement of the disturbed chinchbug will be noticed. These insects are less than 1/5 inch long when mature. The adult is black with white wing markings. The immature insect is anywhere from

coral-red to black with a white stripe across his back. When looking at this insect the first thing which enters your mind is that he is too small to do all the damage you found.

Other methods to find chinch bugs are to either cut off both ends of a tin can and shove it in the ground and fill with water or to place a white cloth over the border area between good and dead grass and then flood the area. After 5-25 minutes the chinch bug should be found either floating on top of the water or clinging to the underside of the white cloth.

Treatment —

When found chinch bugs can be treated with Chlordane or DDT. Where resistant varieties are found try Sevin, Diazinon, Ethion or Trithion. Water the lawn thoroughly before treating or treat after a good rain. Chinchbugs hide in the lower portions of the grass and this watering forces them up making it more likely they get a lethal dose.

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