

MARCH, 1963
VOL. 16, NO. 9



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



MARV GRUENING
Host Superintendent
Midwest Country Club

NEXT MEETING

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 1963

MIDWEST COUNTRY CLUB

**BRING YOUR BEST COLORED
SLIDES FROM YOUR COLLECTION
WE WILL SHOW THEM**

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, MARCH 1963

Dateline Feb. 16, 1963.

Programs for Educational Meetings, Clinics and Conferences in the Turf Field are becoming more difficult to formulate. They must be informative yet entertaining. They must not be too technical nor too elementary. Committees responsible for such programs now-a-days have their work cut out for them.

Many of our primary problems have been more or less solved during the past 10 to 15 years and only the complacent fail to recognize that our succeeding problems present a continuing need for education. Longer playing seasons, more traffic, rising costs all present as great a challenge as any we have had to face. Once these are solved others will loom into the foreground.

We of The Midwest Association are indeed fortunate to have available to us educational programs at our monthly meetings, our fall clinic, Turf Conferences at Purdue and Illinois Universities, plus The National Conference and others. It is often said that if an individual gained only one small idea from such a gathering it would be worth while for the superintendent, his club and golf in general. True. Even if everything presented is not space-age new a little "refreshing" never hurt anyone, and it always helps the new-comer along the way.

To me one of the most important benefits of a turf conference is *Inspiration*. Whether you are painting a barn or kissing a cow you need inspiration to do a better job. Webster says Inspiration means also the act of drawing air into the lungs. So you see you even need inspiration in order to breathe. Same with maintaining a golf course. Inspiration not only helps you do a better job, but also makes your job spiritually more gratifying. I can't remember all of the substance material delivered at every conference I've attended but I can honestly say that I've never failed to be inspired in my work as a result of such a meeting.

And for all of our intelligence what good would it be without the Inspiration needed to put it to proper use?

John Ebel, President

1963 WISCONSIN TURFGRASS CONFERENCE

Wisconsin Center Building, Madison

March 25-26

PROGRAM

Monday, March 25, 1963

10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon — Registration — Lobby of Wisconsin Center.

1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. — General Session in Auditorium. E. R. Hasselkus, Chairman.

Welcome — Robert J. Muckenhirn, Assoc. Director, Agricultural Experiment Station.

Let the Grass Plant Talk — Eliot C. Roberts, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

Turf and Ornamental Insect Problem — John L. Libby, U. W. Department of Entomology.

Developments in Turf Fungicides and Disease Control — Robert T. Miller, E. I. Du Pont de Nemours and Company, Wilmington, Delaware.

Keys to Turf Weed Control — Malcolm N. Dana, U. W. Department of Hort.

6:30 P.M. — Banquet — Middleton Sportsmens Club — O. B. Combs, M. C. (program to be announced) R. C. Newman, Chairman.

Tuesday, March 26, 1963

9:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon — General Session in Auditorium, R. A. Wiese, Chairman.

Safety in the Use of Turf Equipment — Roger J. Thomas, Jacobsen Manufacturing Co., Racine, Wisc.

Nitrogen Fertilization of Turfgrasses — R. R. Davis, Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster, Ohio.

Mineral Deficiency Symptoms in Turfgrass — James R. Love, U. W. Department of Soils.

Fertilizers and Fertilizing Materials — Richard A. Wiese, U. W. Department of Soils.

1:30 P.M. to 4:30 P.M. — Golf Section — D. C. Smith, Chairman.

Auditorium

Comparative Value of Bent Grass Strains for Greens — Eliot C. Roberts, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa.

Locating a Golf Course Green — Kenneth Killian, Robert Bruce Harris Landscaping Architecture, Chicago, Ill.

Green Maintenance Problems — James L. Holmes, Midwest Agronomist, USGA Green Section, Chicago, Illinois.

Developing a Water Supply for an 18 Hole Golf Course — Charles E. Stewart, Consulting Irrigation Engineer, Homewood, Illinois.

Control of Aquatic Weeds — C. R. Walker, Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Dept. of the Interior, La-Crosse, Wisc.

The following note was recently seen hanging on a wall at our printers.

MEMO TO ALL EMPLOYEES

Nobody minds a man having a morning eye opener, and it's OK to have a bracer around 10 A.M. and a couple of drinks before lunch — and a few beers on a hot afternoon to keep a man healthy or at least happy is fine — and of course everyone drinks at a cocktail hour and a man can't be criticized for having wine with his dinner and a liquor afterwards — and a hi-ball or two during the evening — BUT this damn business of SIP, SIP, SIP all day long has got to stop.



DUDLEY SMITH

MEET THE BOARD

This is another article on one of our Board Members. It is the intention of the Editor to introduce all the Board members to the membership. This was started last year and now we are introducing the new members of the Board for 1963.

Dudley Smith came to the Chicago area in the Spring of 1959. He took over the responsibilities of Silver Lake Country Club.

Prior to coming to Silver Lake he acquired a B.S. degree from Penn State in 1954 studying under Dr. Burt Musser. While attending Penn State he worked at the United States Military Academy at West Point during his vacations. After finishing school he became the assistant Superintendent at the Hercules Country Club in Wilmington, Del. for two years.

Uncle Sam hired him for two years in the Army and upon discharge he returned to Hercules until John Coghill hired him to become Superintendent at Silver Lake.

Dudley originally came from Kingston, New York where his folks still live. He is not married but is looking.

President John Ebel has appointed Dudley as Co-Chairman of the Educational Committee along with Warren Bidwell.

He has his work cut out for him this coming year. Not only does he run 36 holes of regulation golf, but

now he will be asked to maintain an additional 9 holes. These nine holes will consist of seven par threes and two par fours.

LOCAL NEWS

John MacGregor Retires

John MacGregor has recently retired from the Kahn Bros. Co. He had devoted several years with the Company after spending many years as the Superintendent at Chicago Golf Club. John has spent most of his years devoting all of his efforts in organizing our National association, participating in it and guiding it, helping other Superintendents and when he retired from Chicago Golf he continued in work that was close to what he was used to and became a sales representative of one of the finest supply houses in Chicago. We are going to miss John. Let's all hope that he continues to attend our monthly meetings. Good Luck to a grand old gentleman.

Jim Raines formerly with Illinois Lawn Equipment has now joined the Staff at Kahn Bros. Co. to replace John MacGregor. We will be seeing a lot of Jim, I'm sure.

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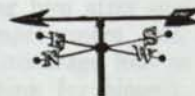
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The Voykins Have No. 4

Shortly after returning from California Paul Voykin called and notified the Bull Sheet that his wife Donna had just given birth to their fourth baby daughter. They have named her Shannon Beth. Congratulations.

The Midwest Buys Tape Recorder

At the last Board meeting the Educational Chairman was authorized to buy a tape recorder. It was felt that the Association would benefit in many ways by this new piece of equipment. Talks could be recorded and then reprinted, motions could be recorded for the minutes, questions and answers could be recorded, talks of interest could be played back to our members and many other helpful things could be accomplished. This is just one more way in which the Association is attempting to help the membership.

One of the fine presentations heard at San Diego outlined the five most important points in selling. The talk was presented by Joseph E. Burger, Public Relations Director of the H. W. Nootbaar Company, Pasadena, California.

These points were given in the order of importance.

1. Character; This is the priceless ingredient. This is what you are in the dark (Sincerity)
2. Industry; Work, Work, Work.
3. Ability; Plan your work and work your plan. Knowledge is power. Keep it simple, stupid.
4. Courage; 46% of the salesmen call on a customer once, 24% call twice, 14% will call three times, 12% call four times and 4% will call five times. It has been proven that 60% of all sales are made on the fifth visit or attempt. So you need courage.
5. Personality; Use your eyes, ears, and big mouth and Smile, Smile, Smile. You must be a good listener. Listen with your eyes. Use your big mouth and keep it shut.

He likes to use these letters TNT. TODAY, NOT TOMORROW.

One of the greatest reasons for failure is disappointment.

Don't ever set a goal, set a purpose.

NEW PRODUCTS

Is There a Future For "COATED" FERTILIZERS?

Slow-release fertilizers — granules that free nutrients as the plants need them — may someday own the market. That's the opinion of researchers who have found a simple way to "train" fertilizers to spoonfeed plants.

One of the most interesting "slow-release agents" is a plastic coating around the granule. It's much like the polyethylene coating inside a "Mr. N" Ammonium Nitrate bag, except that *this* coating has breaks in it. So soil moisture can reach the granule and gradually dissolve it.

The advantages which researchers figured a "fertilizer pill" would possess have all been borne out in their trials.

The end result should be a higher yield, because of greater efficiency of fertilizer use, and less loss of nutrients through leaching and fixation in the soil.

There is at least one disadvantage at the moment — cost. Researchers believe coated fertilizers will become

inexpensive enough for general use with mass production, but some old-time fertilizer peddlers aren't so sure.

It is possible, though, that the price is *already* in the ball park for specialty fertilizers. Turf specialists, always in search of slow-releasing nutrients, might pay a premium to cut out split applications. Lawn owners and lovers of ornamentals could be close behind. *Trials indicate that coated fertilizers keep a lawn blue-green all season without burning.*

A product manufactured by Eli Lilly and Company is now on the market.

While in San Diego we noticed many new pieces of equipment that might be worth mentioning. One is a new top dressing machine manufactured by the Ryan Landscaping Equipment Co. It is self-propelled. It utilizes the concept of double agitation in the hopper, plus additional agitation on the distributor which enables the unit to spread material at a uniform thickness even when material has a high moisture content. Special tires will not mark up the turf. This machine looks like the machine we have all been looking for. Now that we are able to purchase ready mixed top dressing materials it looks like top dressing is on its way back as part of routine golf course maintenance.

Another piece of equipment which looks promising is the new MC-2 Vertifier by West Point Products Corp. It is a vertical puncher that will core holes in a golf green at the rate of 5,000 sq. ft. in 30 minutes. Simple clutching arrangements permit fast transportation between greens. This of course is done with the punching mechanism disengaged.

Do You Have an Assistant?

In dealing with an assistant your oral communication should be directed largely to keeping him posted on plans and developments, criticizing privately and constructively, explaining your delegations clearly, counseling him after performance review toward his own self-improvement, and backing him up when he deserves it. Encourage him to speak up by giving him a chance to think for himself. Make him feel free to ask for more responsibility, and get him to give you progress reports orally as often as necessary. Encourage him to explain the status of his work, problems, difficulties, and his plan for meeting these situations.

When you have to criticize, plan your approach. Begin with questions rather than allegations. Control yourself against emotional outbursts. Prior to this, of course, be sure you get the facts as fully as possible in order to rid yourself of any prejudgements. Do these things and you will have a top notch assistant.

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34th INTERNATIONAL TURF-GRASS CONFERENCE AND SHOW NOW HISTORY

The 34th. International Turf-Grass Conference and Show held in San Diego, Calif. on Feb. 11-15, 1963 is now history. The Conference was well attended considering the distance involved for the majority of our eastern members. The registration was somewhat lower than anticipated but the number of registrants still reached 1400.

The week preceeding the Conference the Local Hi-Lo chapter of golf course Superintendents were hosts to one of the finest tournaments ever conducted. They were able to secure five of the top clubs in Palm Springs. There were flights for all interested members of the Association regardless of the class of membership. The Superintendents played the Indian Wells Country Club and the La Quinta Country Club. We certainly wish to thank the Hi-Lo Dessert Association for making such wonderful arrangements for us. We were even given free electric carts for our use and enjoyment. One evening we were guests of the Canyon Country Club for entertainment. The Tournament was ended in a festive note with a colorful and tasty Steak Fry at which time the trophies were handed out to the winners of the various flights.

Our Chicago chapter team did not fare too well. The team championship was won by the local from California. One of our members did manage to come home with a trophy however, he is Bill Krafft. Bill won the third place trophy in the Pro-Superintendent Division. Nice going Bill.

A Superintendent from the New York area had a hole in one and was awarded a new electric cart as a gift.

After the Tournament all 350 participants moved on to San Diego. The registration took place on Sunday and a total of 52 Midwest members registered. This is a very good percentage for our local.

The Educational portion of the Conference was well attended as usual. The program was one of the finest presented in recent years. The various sessions were divided into the following topics: THE WORLD ABOUT US, PUBLIC RELATIONS AT WORK, ADVANCING TECHNOLOGY, NORTHERN AND EASTERN MAINTENANCE, SOUTHERN AND WESTERN MAINTENANCE, FUNDAMENTALS OF SUPERINTENDING AND PRACTICES AND PROBLEMS.

The equipment display was outstanding. Many new pieces of equipment were shown to the Superintendents for the first time. The enthusiasm was felt throughout the entire show. Traffic through the aisles of booths was indicative of the Superintendents desire to learn the most modern methods of turf maintenance both in equipment and technology.

NELSON ELECTED AS PRESIDENT

On Wednesday night February 13, 1963 Roy Nelson of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was elected President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America for the year 1963. Other members elected were: Dave Moote of Canada, Vice President; George Lamphear, Director; Ed Roberts of New Jersey, Director and the third director elected was James Brandt of Illinois.

OLD FRIENDS NOW IN CALIFORNIA

While attending the Conference in San Diego we kept bumping into old friends that formerly were located in the Chicago area. Among these were such familiar people as Gordon Brinkworth and his wife. Gordon was Superintendent of Olympia Fields C. C. prior to moving on to California. Dave Mastroleo and his Dad Frank were also there with their wives. It was nice to visit with them again. Dave is very active out there as the Secretary of their local as well as the editor of the News Letter. Frank is retired as a Golf Course Superintendent and is enjoying life in La Puente, California.

We were happy to see Bill Nuessle again. He moved west four years ago. He was formerly with Cherry Hill Country Club here in Chicago. Bill is now at the Knollwood Golf Course in Granada, California. Tom Coyne was another one of our old friends that moved to California. Tom is now at the Virginia Country Club in Long Beach, California.

We met Joe Venturella campaigning for Dick Viergever, also of California. Joe was with the Brookwood Country Club, just before moving to California. He is now with Round Hill Country Club in Alamo, California. Dick was at the Evergreen Country Club here in Chicago and is now at The Olympic Club in San Francisco.

One of our oldest and dearest friends to desert us for California was Reuben Thode formerly with the Chicago Park District. Rube told us that he confines most of his spare time to fishing. He looks healthy and I'm sure he is enjoying himself.

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TURFGRASS DISEASE CONTROL

Dr. Malcolm C. Shurtleff
University of Illinois

Turfgrass diseases vary in severity from year to year and from one locality to another depending on the environment (principally moisture, temperature, humidity, and grass nutrition), the relative resistance or susceptibility of the grass host, and the causal organism. All three actors must be present in "balance" for disease to develop. For example, if the environment is favorable for a disease and the disease-producing organism is present but the host plant is highly resistant, little or no disease will develop. Similarly, if the causal organism is present and the host is susceptible, but the environment is unfavorable, the disease usually does not appear.

We can put this in the form of a simple equation:
Susceptible grass + Disease Organism
+ + = Disease
Proper environment + Method of distribution

No disease will develop if *any one* of the above ingredients is lacking. Effective disease control measures are aimed at "breaking" this equation in one of three basic ways: (1) the susceptible plant is made more resistant or immune; (2) the environment is made less favorable for causal organism and more favorable for the grass plant; and (3) the disease organism is killed or prevented from reaching the plant, penetrating it, and producing disease.

Let's discuss these three basic methods of control:

1. *Making the grass plant more resistant or immune.* This is the ideal method of control. All grass breeders, and everyone else concerned with turf, are hoping to develop more resistant grasses. Some progress has been made. We now have grass varieties somewhat resistant to dollar spot, snow mold, leaf spot, rust, powdery mildew, and other diseases. But this important control measure is still in its infancy. For some diseases like brown patch, where the causal fungus is composed of an infinite number of biotypes or strains, the development of highly resistant or immune grass varieties is remote and may never come about. Before such grasses can be developed and released, sources of resistance in wild or cultivated grasses must be found. Then comes the long, time-consuming process of working this resistance into otherwise desirable grasses. We

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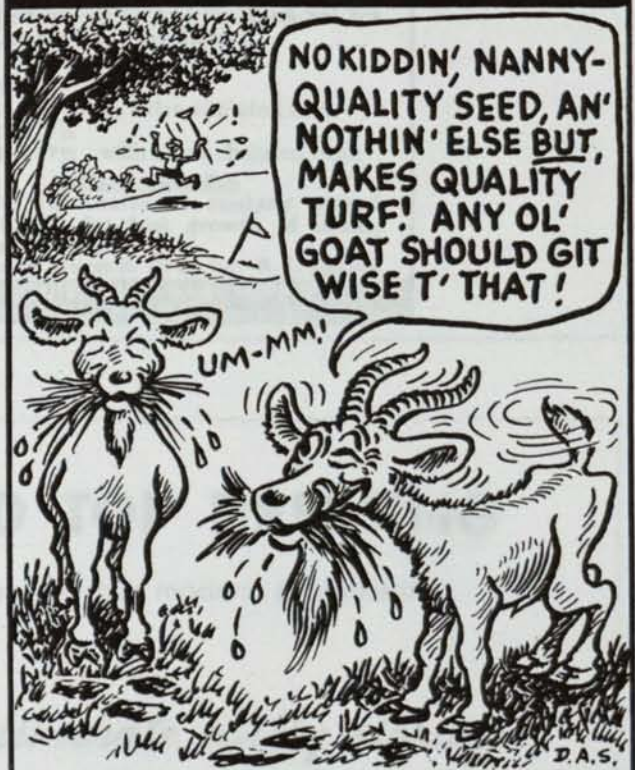
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will probably never have a lawn or fine turf grass which is resistant to all common diseases.

Another way to make the grass more resistant is through proper nutrition. Dollar spot, pink snow mold or Fusarium patch, powdery mildew, brown patch, and other diseases are less serious where a uniform level of soil nutrients is maintained in root zone. This may mean fewer and lighter applications of fertilizer plus keeping the three major nutrients, N, P, and K in balance. When nitrogen is high in relation to potash and phosphorus you may be heading for trouble, especially in hot weather.

Grass cut at the proper height also has more resistance than turf which is scalped. Without sufficient

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green leaves to manufacture food to produce new leaves, roots, and stolons, the grass is definitely weakened. Remember that the grasses in a lawn, park, fairway, or golf green are growing under artificial conditions and are more subject to attack by disease organisms than they would be in their natural environment. Healthy, vigorously growing, adapted turf grasses that are properly managed can best ward off disease attacks.

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

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(Continued next month)

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