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The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents



BILL BRENNER

**JANUARY MEETING
LONG GROVE COUNTRY CLUB
TUESDAY, JAN. 5, 1965**

BOWLING — POOL

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

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President - E. F. "Al" Johnson
1st Vice-President - Adolph Bertucci
2nd Vice-President - Dudley Smith
Secretary & Treasurer - Roy Nelson

DIRECTORS

Ed Braunsky	Douglass Jabaay
Anthony Meyer	Kenneth Lapp
Walter Fuchs	Gerald Dearie

The President's Message

May I extend my sincere thanks to all members of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents for their confidence in me in electing me President of the Midwest Association.

It has been my desire in my past sixteen years with the Midwest Association to help in any way I could for the betterment of the Association.

In December your officers and directors selected Committee chairmen, and may I say that with no exception each chairman seemed to have the desire and enthusiasm to do their very best.

As an association let us, each member, get behind every committee that the year of 1965 may be one of the most cordial and fraternal years that we can possibly make it.

May I extend a sincere Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the officers, directors and my family.

Sincerely,
Al Johnson, President

JANUARY MEETING

The January Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents will be held on January 5th, 1965. This is a Tuesday. The meeting is scheduled to be held at Long Grove Country Club. Bill Brenner will be our host. If you come early enough you will be able to bowl or play pool so come early and enjoy yourself. Our guest speaker for the educational portion of our meeting will be Dr. Jim Watson of the Toro Manufacturing Co., of Minneapolis, Minn. He will speak to us on "Winter Protection of our Greens." It sounds like one that you won't want to miss.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents was held at the Glendale Country Club on Monday, December 7, 1964. Clarence Mueller was our host. A delicious chicken dinner was served family style. This has always been a treat when we visited Glendale in the past and this year was no exception.

Dinner was followed by our annual meeting and election of officers and directors. Al Johnson was pinch hitting for President Bidwell. The big item on the agenda was the reports of the various Committee Chairmen. Without exception all committees reported in a business like manner with great progress shown for the year of 1964. President Warren Bidwell and his Board of Directors and Officers are to be congratulated for a very successful year.

The results from the election are as follows:

President — E. F. "Al" Johnson of Park Ridge Country Club; 1st Vice President — Adolph Bertucci of Lake Shore Country Club; 2nd Vice President — Dudley Smith of Silver Lake Country Club.

New Directors — Douglass Jabaay, Cress Creek Country Club; Ed Braunsky, Hickory Hill Country Club; Gerald F. Dearie, Medinah Country Club.

Directors serving one more year are:

Walter Fuchs, Gleneagles Country Club; Kenneth Lapp, Fresh Meadows Country Club; Tony Meyer, Woodridge Country Club.

Under new business the assembly voted to direct the Board to look favorably upon the request of the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation for money to buy a Climate Control Chamber for the University of Illinois.

ANNOUNCEMENT

This year the Chairman of the all important Benevolence Committee is Ken Lapp. His duty is to coordinate any arrangements that might be necessary if one of our members becomes sick or passes away. This includes anyone in the immediate family of one of our members. If you hear of some member becoming ill or passing away contact Ken immediately at WO 8-4034. The success of this program depends on each one of us.

DUTIES OF THE PLACEMENT COMMITTEE EXPANDED

The duties of the Placement Committee have been expanded to include the placement of Assistant Superintendents and Students (trainees) as well as the Superintendents. If anyone wishes to have his name put on a list of the available, please send Roy Nelson, our Secretary, a Resume of your qualifications and he will file it for future use when someone is looking for an Assistant, Student or Superintendent.

This is being tried for the first time so if you are looking for a student Assistant next summer, just contact Roy Nelson and he will supply you with names of men that are available. If you presently have someone in your employ that is interested in moving to another Club to further his education in becoming a Superintendent, have him write a Resume of his qualifications and mail it to Roy Nelson, 2900 Woodworth Place, Hazel Crest, Illinois

Roy Nelson, Chairman of the Placement Committee, has been contacted by the Riverside Country Club concerning names of available, or interested Superintendents for the Position of Superintendent at their Club. If anyone is interested in applying for this position please write to Mr. Schulz, Chairman of the Grounds Department, Riverside Country Club, Riverside, Illinois.

A new Superintendent has been hired at the Olympia Fields Country Club to fill the vacancy of Warren Bidwell who is moving to the Philadelphia Country Club. Oscar Miles has been hired to start his duties February 1, 1965. Oscar comes to this area from Quincy, Illinois. He received some of his training here in the Chicago area before moving to Quincy.

BOARD MEETING

Newly elected President, Al Johnson called his first Meeting of the Board on December 10, 1964. At this meeting the Chairmen of the various committees were appointed. The Committees and Chairmen are as follows:

Research and Education — Gerald Dearie and Dudley Smith.

Arrangements — Adolph Bertucci and Anthony Meyer.

Entertainment — Walter Fuchs and Douglass Jabaay.

Golf — Ed Braunsky and Douglass Jabaay.

Membership — North section, Adolph Bertucci; West



Front row, left to right: Ted Woehrle - President; Leroy Mueller - Director.

Back row, left to right: Ben Warren, James Burdett, Howard Cutler.

Election of directors was held on Thursday morning, December 3, 1964 with Jim Burdett, Ben Warren and Howard Cutler being elected to the Board for three years. It was decided at this meeting to donate a sizeable amount of money towards the purchase of a Climate Control Chamber for research work to be conducted by the Plant Pathology Department at the University of Illinois.

At the Board Meeting of the ITF immediately following the closing of the Conference the Board held its election of officers and Ted Woehrle was elected President and Jim Burdett was elected Vice Presi-

Jack-Of-All-Trades, Master of None

By William Sell
Port Washington Country Club

As I was preparing this paper on Jack-Of-All-Trades, I know of only one of our fellow superintendents that has been on the program at the International Turf-grass Conference, and he's an import from the Chicago area. Perhaps public relations is stressed more strenuously in our suburb to the south. Is it possible that this may be one of the reasons the superintendents have more prestige and salary in the Chicago area? I'm not sure, but it's food for thought.

I feel certain that personal rating comes under public relations. How are we rated? For example—when we attend our local meetings, do we pay our respect to our host, and his club, which grants us the privilege of holding our meetings there, by dressing in the proper attire for the dinner hour, I hope.

I have recently been told that one of the country clubs in the greater Milwaukee area, has demanded—yes, demanded—that the superintendent be dressed fitting for his position at all times. This means no work clothes, but slacks, sport shirts, blazers and etc. If more country clubs would demand this of their superintendents, it would mean much to our profession.

My compliments to the Board of Directors of the Ozaukee Country Club for making this demand of Ronnie Verhaalen.

From greenkeepers to golf course superintendents, and perhaps in the near future—Executive Director of Golfing Grounds—sounds important, doesn't it? I can't think of any other sport where so few give so much enjoyment to so many.

Maybe the golfing public is fortunate that we are jacks and not masters of all the professions and skills that have been mentioned, for if we were masters there wouldn't be any golf course superintendents.

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SOME IMPORTANT TURF DISEASES

M. P. Britton
Fusarium Blight

Recent investigations by workers at Pennsylvania and elsewhere have shown that the fungus **Fusarium roseum** is capable of infecting Kentucky bluegrass, bentgrass and red fescue. Under favorable conditions of temperature, moisture and soil fertility, susceptible grasses may be rapidly killed. The killing out of entire stands of turfgrass within one week has been reported. In Illinois the disease has been observed only on Kentucky bluegrass.

Fusarium blights is reportedly most severe when the turf is grown under high nitrogen fertility or deficient calcium levels. Observations in Illinois tend to confirm that the disease appears to be most prevalent on well fertilized lawns. It usually occurs during hot, humid weather in July and August.

In Kentucky bluegrass lawns, the disease commonly occurs in circular patches, rings or partial rings varying from a few inches to over two feet in diameter. Characteristically the grass leaves in these areas are light yellow-green at first but rapidly become light tan as they are killed. An examination of the crowns, roots and rhizomes during this period reveals an extensive rot of these structures.

Although a number of different fungi have been isolated from these diseased plants, **Fusarium roseum** was the one most frequently obtained. Inoculation studies have shown that **F. roseum** is capable of causing a severe blighting of the leaves of Kentucky bluegrass, bentgrass and red fescue. However, rotting of the crowns, roots, stolons and rhizomes has not been reproduced by artificial inoculation with this fungus. The Research reports certainly show that **Fusarium roseum** is important in this disease and future research may show that it is the only pathogen involved.

Some control of the disease has been obtained with the fungicide Dithane M-45.

Helminthosporium Leaf Spot Diseases of Bentgrass

Two species of fungi in the genus **Helminthosporium** commonly cause leaf spot diseases of bentgrasses in Illinois.

Helminthosporium erythrospilum Drechsler is the cause of "red leaf spot." The leaf spots caused by this fungus are straw colored in the center and are surrounded by a margin of reddish-brown. Occasionally the straw-colored centers are absent and only the reddish-brown discoloration is apparent. Individual spots are nearly circular but irregular shaped areas are formed when several spots run together. Infected leaves usually turn light green and then yellow before they wither and die. Infected areas can be readily seen by the yellowish cast these diseased leaves impart to the turf. Red leaf spot occurs most commonly in late April and May but may also be active in October and November. In the studies in Illinois this fungus has not been isolated from bentgrass during June, July, August or September. This disease has been adequately controlled with 2-3 applications of zineb at a rate of 2-4 ounces per 1000 sq. ft.

The second disease called "**Helminthosporium** leaf spot" is caused by the fungus **Helminthosporium sorokinianum** Sacc. ex Sorokin (synonym **H. sativum** P.K. & B.). The leaf spots caused by this fungus first appear as minute water soaked areas that develop


into a small, circular, brown spot surrounded by a yellowed zone of leaf tissue. This yellowed zone later turns dark brown and the central brown area becomes tan. Leaf spots may be so numerous that the leaves wilt and die causing a thinning of the turf. Under extremely hot wet conditions infections may result in a blighting of the leaves without the formation of typical leaf spots. This blighting involves the entire leaf and is first evident by a wilting of the leaves, even though abundant moisture is present in the soil. The wilted leaves die quickly and become straw colored. Infections of leaves of adjacent plants may produce areas of blighted turf varying from less than one inch to several inches in diameter. When these blighted areas coalesce large irregularly shaped areas are formed.

Helminthosporium sorokinianum has been isolated from bentgrass during every month from April through November. However, the disease usually does not become damaging until late May or early June when periods of hot, humid weather normally occur. Severe outbreaks are most prevalent in hot, humid weather, especially if rainfall has been abundant.

This disease has been adequately controlled on the turf plots at the University of Illinois with several fungicides applied once a week on a preventive schedule. The better materials, Dyrene, Difolitan 80W and Dithane M-45, should give adequate control on golf course putting greens. For further information on control see Mr. J. D. Butler's article on Fungicide Testing in 1964 in these proceedings.

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GRASS-KILLING DISEASE

"Newsletter" G.C.S.A. of New England

A lawn-killing disease that is difficult to control and spreads alarmingly rapidly, threatens to destroy lawns and golf greens throughout the eastern half of the United States.

Plant Experts have identified a fungal disease that threatens to wipe out lawns and golf greens all over the eastern half of the United States .

First observed in 1959, but only identified this year, Fusarium blight, an uncontrollable lawn disease, has already caused hundreds of thousands of dollars in damages to several eastern localities.

Even the Merion Kentucky bluegrass on the White House lawn was completely destroyed by the disease last year.

A Massachusetts golf green was completely wiped out in one week's time. In several Long Island communities, one week of mid-80 degree temperature and fog provide the proper conditions for the Fusarium blight to destroy the sodded lawns of several hundred homeowners at a cost of \$8,000 each last year. When the fog cleared, the lawn grass was dead.

Prof. Houston B. Couch, plant pathologist at Pennsylvania State University, Colleg of Agriculture, University Park, believes that the Fusarium threat poses a major problem to every golf green and sodded lawn in the eastern United States.

The disease spreads rapidly. It is transmitted by mowing equipment, shoes and the air. The spores of the Fusarium fungus, once started, are extremely difficult to check.

Signs of the blight appear only after it is too late to control it. "Haloos" of dead grass around green grass are the final signs of the infection on lawns.

The only thing that can be done is to completely resod the lawn, after fumigating with methyl bromide. The White House lawn was redone this way.

Some hope is provided by the commercially available fungicide, Dithane M-45, only if it is applied in time to halt the fungus in the invisible early stages of the disease.

The disease seems to thrive best in cooler sections of the country, stated Dr. K. W. Kreitlow, plant pathologist at the Beltsville, Md., station of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Fusarium roseum is the organism causing the disease, which spreads with "Alarming rapidity."

— Science News Letter, 86:11 July 4, 1964

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—E. C. Harville.

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