

OCTOBER, 1965

VOL. 19, NO. 4.



The Bull Sheet

Official Bulletin

Midwest Association of Golf Course Superintendents

Equipment

Cesar Bocymier's article

**ATTEND
FALL
TURF
CLINIC**

MEDINAH COUNTRY CLUB

NOVEMBER MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1965
EXMOOR COUNTRY CLUB

— DINNER —

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

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

DOUG JABAAY, Editor
P. O. Box 305
Naperville, Ill. 60540

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Alfred Bertucci
Superintendent Old Elm Country Club

The President's Message

I should write to you about the weather, but I think most Superintendents have had their fill of storms and rain the last couple of months. Keeps you guessing, doesn't it? Did you ever stop to think of what bearing weather has to do with everything outside of the office building? Don't blame it on the weather man either because they're scared to death of the Chicago area. Their statistics for the Chicago area are always shown on the east side of Lake Michigan and never a high or low pinpointed in Chicago.

Coming Events:

Our Educational committee has a wonderful program for you for our annual turf clinic at Medinah Country Club in November. The boys have programmed well known speakers for at least one day so that speakers may move on to other turf conferences.

Our annual election in December will have the same nominating committee as last year according to the by-laws. Ray Gerber will be chairman of the nominating committee which will consist of Emil Cassier, Ted Woehrl, Don Gerber and John Ebel. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Ray or anyone on the nominating committee so that your desires may be considered by the nominating committee. Also keep in mind that your wishes of nomination can be made from the floor and not the sole responsibility of the nominating committee.

The election committee for the election of officers and directors for the coming year will be Amos Lapp as chairman, Robert Williams, Ed Stewart, Frank Dinelli and Ed Burke.

I would like to ask you that you give the nominating and election committees your fullest cooperation.

Al Johnson

Old Elm certainly lived up to our expectations as being one of the finest clubs in the Chicago area. Al could not have had a finer golf course to play on than our members found on this perfect day. Hats off to manager Peter Leonard and his staff for a luscious steak dinner. Al is very fortunate to have a grounds chairman like Mr. Pirie. I think that quite a few of us would like to have a man as understanding as Mr. Pirie. It shows out on the course.

Refreshments on the course were provided by Bob Johnson of Illinois Lawn Supply.

The Club House refreshment by the courtesy of Warren Roseman Equipment Company.

Appetizers at the Club House with the compliments of Chicagoland Cushman Co.

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GOLFING NEWS

Old Elm was the master as 62 players came in after 18 holes at our Annual Golf Championship. This year we had two divisions; under and over Fifty. Emil Mashie with a 78 was the champ of the over fifty and Pete Voykin's 79 took the under fifty. Since Emil had the low score he is the winner of the Association Championship as well. There were quite a few surprised golfers after a round on Al Bertucci's perfectly groomed golf course. The greens were fast and true, the fairway smooth and tight, the rough was rough. So the challenge to defeat par was a battle not won. This was a perfect afternoon for golf on a magnificent layout. From the comments in the locker room Al can be mighty proud of his golf course.

The low net winners were: Bill Krafft on the over fifty, Bob Green with the honors for the under fifty. The rest of the Peoria system winners are: George Druzisky, Dom Grotti, Jim Larson, Tom DeGuido, Bob Williams, Art Benson Jr., Oscar Miles, Bill Saielli, Don Theesfield, Tom Burrows, Wess Updegraff, Dick Trevaithon, Ken Goodman, El Pruss, Ronnie Rosset, Fred Opperman, Ed Fischer, Art Benson Sr., John Coghill.

More winners are: Ed Stewart, Ben Kronon, Paul Voykin, Bill Hargrave, Roy Nelson, Chuck Daugherty, Don Gricus, Chas. Rack, Pete Miekies, Paul Frankowski, Joe Canale, Adolph Bertucci, Marvin Gruening, Geo. Wellek, Frank Krieger, Chuck Carter, Joe Dinelli, Will Leith, Ted Woehrl, Jock McIntosh, Geo. Goodman, C. Mitchell.

The names of more of our prize winners are: Bill Saielli Jr., Bob Block, Bob Winter, Dudley Smith, Jules Albaugh, Harry Nielson, Lou Roseman, Elmor Lenkl, and Joe Pasacky.

I would like to take this space to say that both Ed Braunsky and myself have enjoyed setting up the golf programs for you.

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Twin Field Demonstration Days

South, Tues. Oct. 19 and North—Thurs. Oct. 21 by Illinois Lawn Equipment, Inc., of Orland Park as host. Their very successful affairs of the past have drawn such large crowds, that it was decided by the manager, Bob Johnson, and his sales staff to hold two affairs open to all turf men but principally for their largest group of purchasers, the golf course superintendents.

The twin field days will be held at two new clubs, Old Oak Country Club at 143rd & Parker Road on the South Side where Al Lagman is Greens Superintendent and Frank Aldridge, a partner in Old Orchard, is owner. On the North Side, it will be held at the recently opened Village Green Country Club in North Mundelein, Ill., at Winchester Road, 1 mile west of Rt. 45. Jack Smith is Greens Superintendent, with Ray Diddier, of golf course construction fame, the owner.

The food will be excellent and ample — beer and oysters featured. Equipment will be running all day. In the event of rain, the day following will be the rain day.

Jacobsen Mowers — Thron Sprayers — McCulloch Chain Saws — John Bean Irrigation — Skinner Sprinklers — Bunton Trimmers are but a few lines that will be shown.

Come on out and drive 'em yourself. Have a ball. Bob guarantees a good time for all!

FALL PERSPECTIVE

C. O. Borgmeier

Inflation is a heady drug that continues to stoke business activity. Generally, except for labor, overproduction and surpluses keep inflation from getting out of hand. The labor situation is bad now and will get worse as more and more welfare activities are expanded. The easy solution would seem to be, to raise wages and upgrade your help, but this can become self-defeating. You simply cannot compete with Uncle Sam. It behooves you to rely less and less on unskilled labor and hire better men who will produce more. Here the equipment manufacturers are coming to your assistance. There are machines for nearly all operations practically eliminating hand work.

For next season manufacturers are coming up with new and exciting machines to do nearly all jobs faster and better. Like new care, you will be anxious to use them.

The tremendous program of the Federal Government as well as state and local units, to expand and beautify public institutions and thoroughfares is creating a heavy demand for turf materials. Some grass seeds are much higher in price. Crops are not as large as last year: Bluegrasses, up about 20 %, Fescues up about 20 %, Bents except Astoria strong and tending higher, Rye Grass up, Perennial in short supply up 50% over last year.

There is no apparent price change on plant foods and chemicals. They are all in plentiful supply.

Insecticides and fungicides are getting more complex and varied. What is needed is a safe fungicide at reasonable cost for wide area application.

The past summer was benign to the Greens Superintendents. We had a minimum of hot weather and plenty of moisture. Now if someone will turn off the rain, we will get back to normal.

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The committee for our Fall Clinic are assembled here to finalize plans, they are: left to right — Tom Burrows, Dick Trevaithon, co-chairmen Gerald Dearie Jr. and Dudley Smith, Harold Fredrickson, Bob Williams.

This group has formulated a bigger, better more informative program than ever before. This is the promise Dudley Smith has made. "Yesterday . . . Today . . . Tomorrow" is the theme that will predominate in the four sessions to be given on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 16th and 17th.

The 13th Annual Turf Clinic will have many prominent names represented. Ben Chlevin, James Brandt, Chas. Wilson, Andy Berton, Jim Holms, Elliott Roberts, Marshal Dann, Chas. Shiley are just a few of our speakers. A full program will be sent to you in the near future. Medinah Country Club will again host this affair with Superintendent Gerald Dearie Jr. putting out the welcome mat. Make sure you mark the dates. See you at the Clinic!

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(Editor's Note: Our members are invited to contribute letters for this column. Here is your chance to sound off on any subject pertinent to turf management — including the Bull Sheet. Please specify if you prefer that your letter appear without your name and address. Selection of the letters for publication will be at the discretion of your editor.)

Dear Editor:

Years ago we came to a meeting early, when our work permitted, to play a game of golf away from our problems at home and for a change of scenery. If we won a pen or pencil, fine. The general idea was to get away and relax with good company.

How things have changed. I think that some thought should be given to a problem that is developing with each succeeding year in regard to golf prizes. I have sat and listened to the grumbles of a number of individuals about the quality, lack of higher priced prizes as well as the regularity of certain persons on the prize list. No matter who has been in charge, or what the chairman has tried to set up, it was not right. It has gotten to the point where everyone wants a twenty dollar item whether he is first or last on the list. We spend something like 375 dollars a year of our entire association's money for the benefit of our unhappy golfing few. Is this right? Could not this money be put to better use for the benefit of all? Turf scholarship, an association library, more speakers for our clinic, research projects, and so on down the line. There are many ways that this money could be spent for the benefit of our profession, which in turn is for the betterment of ourselves. Could be that this should be brought before the membership to see what the feeling of the majority is about subsidizing our summer golfing events.

If this part of our day cannot be spent for the enjoyment of the game then we are losing sight of the pleasure of golf and putting the emphasis on the monetary end rather than the recreational or good-fellowship benefits.

Let's go back to an afternoon of fun and an evening of education.

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Dr. Mike Britton explains the experimental fungicide plots to a group attending the Illinois Turfgrass Foundation Field Day.

ILLINOIS TURF GRASS FIELD DAY

On September 10 and 13, the Illinois Turfgrass Field Day was held. Following are some of the observations and comments from this event.

Weed Control

Dr. Fred Slife, Associate Head of Agronomy, commented that although chemical weed control has come a long way, there are many unsolved problems left. Selective control of perennial grasses in turf seems to be a relatively impossible problem. At present, there is still no better way than digging or removing with a sod cutter such weeds as bentgrass, nimblewill and tall fescue. While bentgrass often becomes established at the time of initial seeding, nimblewill may spread rapidly from seed in well-established turf. This establishment might result from inhibitor production by the nimblewill plants.

Weed control on the plots showed Tupersan to again be quite satisfactory used at the time of seeding. Five pounds active material per acre on six common varieties of Kentucky bluegrass did not show this material to have any varietal selectivity. The Tupersan not only gave effective control of crabgrass, but also kept out lovegrass and purslane.

Dr. Slife pointed out that certain strains of creeping bentgrass were very sensitive to Tupersan. This strain sensitivity was greater than any he had seen with any other crops or chemicals. Fourteen strains of bentgrass were treated at relatively high rates with Tupersan. Lagreen 445 and C-10 were injured, but the other 12 strains were not effected.

(Continued on next page)

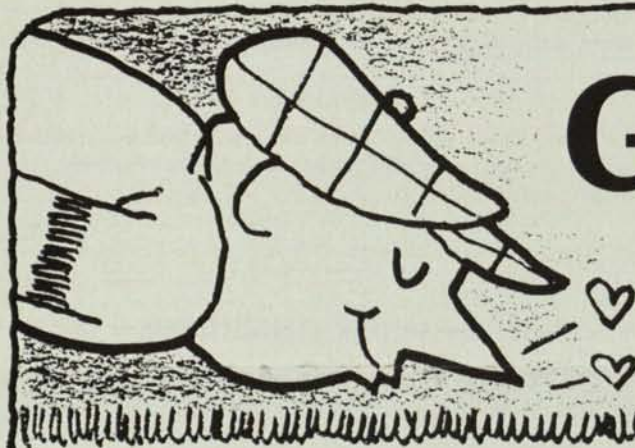
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(Continued from previous page)

Disease and Disease Control

Dr. M. P. Britton led a tour of the fungicide plots. One of the experimental fungicides proved to be phytotoxic at extremely low rates, while two others were ineffective in controlling dollar spot. Dollar spot was the only disease causing trouble on the greens this year. One experimental material, DAC-2787, proved a very effective fungicide for dollar spot control. A four-year study using standard fungicide materials at recommended dates was started this year to determine not only the effectiveness of control, but also the effect of each on the soil microorganisms. The presence of a severe infection of stripe smut on Pennlu creeping bentgrass was noted. The injury from this disease was not nearly as evident at the time of the field day as it was earlier in the season.

Several diseases of bluegrass have been troublesome this year. Fusarium patch was a special problem on bluegrass in mid-season. These circular areas about one foot in diameter were beginning to fill in from the surrounding areas. Dollar spot, leaf spot, stripe smut, and rust were all active and causing damage to the bluegrass.

Selection for disease resistance from 10,000 Merion seedlings has produced some plants with resistance to rust. Other selections have been made for powdery mildew. These selections, especially those of the merion type, offer some promise as future turf-grasses.

Fertility Studies

With one high-level application a year for the last four years, urea-form has produced an excellent turf. Similarly, the use of more rapid release materials at lower rates and more frequent applications has produced fine turf.

Where nitrogen plus phosphorus and/or potassium were applied on these relatively fertile soils to seven different turfgrasses for the last four years, no noticeable response has occurred from the use of P and/or K.

On a fertility study on creeping bent no noticeable differences have been apparent this year between areas where from 7-14 lbs. of nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. have been applied. With the use of the more rapidly available forms of nitrogen there were periods when flush growth occurred, which resulted in the scalping of the turf.

Grass Varieties and Mixtures

Fourteen bentgrass strains have been tested under greens conditions for the last several years. Toronto, Washington, Cohansey, Pennross, and other of the common strains continue to perform well. One new selection, from Bob-O-Link, has performed exceptionally well this year. Cohansey was more heavily infected with dollar spot than the others. With a mixture of C-7 and Pennlu established four years ago, the C-7 has dominated to the extent that Pennlu is hardly evident in the plots.

Kentucky bluegrasses planted either along or as mixtures look very good. Newport has good fall color, possibly due to its resistance to rust. Pennlawn creeping red fescue, and the other red fescue look exceedingly well except under frequent irrigation. With frequent watering melting out had occurred to such an extent that only an occasional plant remained. Merion and Meyer Zoysia maintained at 1/4 inch were producing a dense and attractive turf. The Merion maintained at this low cut was receiving the same maintenance as the bentgrass greens. It will be necessary to maintain the Merion at this height for several years to determine its adaptability to this practice.

A large area has been seeded to *Poa annua* for fungicide and herbicide testing next year. Six weeks after seeding the annual bluegrass seed heads were being formed.

In the seed mixture trials, one of the mixtures containing a large percentage of perennial ryegrass with only a little Kentucky bluegrass seed produced a desirable turf. The ryegrass had disappeared and the Kentucky bluegrass was predominating. The mixtures with tall fescue and bentgrass were quite poor.

Other Plots

Other plots showed the effects of mowing height on bentgrass, variability in bentgrass, frequent fertilizer application, etc.

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