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in Central Florida, have made my 1989-90 term a very memorable year.

This past year has perhaps been filled with more reflection than satisfaction, but it has been a positive experience. It has been positive because I have seen and heard the con-

cerns of our members as they seek to become responsible turfgrass managers in the 1990s. It has also been positive because I have seen the high regard which other associations have for the FGCSA. I recall that last August in my presidential acceptance

speech, I noted some of the qualities I admired in my peers. Qualities that made me proud of our industry. It is those qualities that reflect resourcefulness and determination that will help us persevere in the days to come.

I thank you for the opportunity and privilege of serving you this past year.

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NATURAL BALANCE

In the beginning

*There was Earth, beautiful and wild;
And then man came to dwell.*

*At first, he lived like other animals
Feeding himself on creatures and
plants around him.*

*And this was called, "In balance with
Nature."*

Soon man multiplied.

*He grew tired of ceaseless hunting for
food;*

He built homes and villages.

*Wild plants and animals were
domesticated.*

*Some men became Farmers so that
others might become
Industrialists, Artists or Doctors.
And this was called Society.*

Man and Society progressed.

*With his God-given ingenuity, man
learned to feed, clothe, protect,
and transport himself more
efficiently so he might enjoy Life.*

*He built cars, houses on top of each
other and nylon.*

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The Age of Science had arrived...

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And life became more enjoyable.

The men called Farmers became efficient.

A single farmer grew food for 28

Industrialists, Artists and Doctors.

And Writers, Engineers, and Teachers as well.

To protect his crops and animals, the Farmer

produced substances to repel or destroy

Insects, Diseases and Weeds.

These were called Pesticides.

*Similar substances were made by Doctors to
protect humans.*

These were called Medicine.

*The Age of Science had arrived and with it
came better diet and longer, happier lives
for more members of Society.*

Soon it came to pass

That certain well-fed members of Society

Disapproved of the Farmer using Science.

They spoke harshly of his techniques for

feeding, protecting, and preserving plants

and animals.

They deplored his upsetting the Balance of

Nature;

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ternate sources of water.

Every golf course superintendent, golf pro, golf course manager and owner should write his representative in Tallahassee, the water management agency in his area, governing bodies of his city and county and the directors of sewage facilities to tell them of our water needs and our desire for sewage effluent.

If, after reading this, you do not think we

They longed for the Good Old Days.

*And this had emotional appeal to the rest of
Society.*

*By this time Farmers had become so efficient,
Society had given them a new title:*

Unimportant Minority.

*Because Society could not ever imagine a
shortage of food.*

*Laws were passed abolishing Pesticides,
Fertilizers, and Food Preservatives.*

Insects, Diseases, and Weeds flourished.

Crops and animals died.

Food became scarce.

*To survive, Industrialists, Artists and Doctors
were forced to grow their own food.*

They were not very efficient.

*People and governments fought wars to gain
more agricultural land.*

Millions of people were exterminated.

*The remaining few lived like animals,
Feeding themselves on creatures and plants
around them.*

*And this was called, "In Balance with
Nature."*

Dr. John Carew

This poem by Dr. John Carew, the late chairman of the horticulture department at Michigan State University, was first published as a column in *American Vegetable Grower* in 1970. It is reprinted here with blanket permission from the original publisher.

*Our water goal:
the right kind,
the right
amount, the
right place at
the right time.*

*The days of
unlimited water
use are over.*

need to act now, talk to our peers in California. We are only five years behind them and closing the gap fast.

Our water goal: the right kind, the right amount, the right place at the right time. The days of unlimited water use are over. This natural resource is decreasing, and we need a plan to keep Florida green and growing. We must prepare for tomorrow by getting involved today.