

W G C S A

Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Assn.



GOLF

Vol. 1, No. 7

October, 1966



Next Meeting-Symposium

"Winter Injury"

December 14-15

Milwaukee

NO NOVEMBER MEETING

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. Bill Nelson, Class D, 814 Berlin, Waupaca, Wis., Nelson Products Co.

Ray Knapp, Class B, RR , Box 272, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Supt. Stevens Point C.C.

Super Talk

The last meeting of the year for the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association was a success. We had a very pleasant time at the 19th Hole and enjoyed a very good golf course, the Janesville Municipal. Wisconsin Turf should be thanked for hosting the meeting. Thank you, Ray and Ralph.

The meeting was also very well represented; 41 for golf and 80 for dinner. Ted Payne took the low gross honors in the annual golf tournament. Ted is from the Odana Municipal Course in Madison. Three members were honored for twenty-five years of membership in the WGCSA. They are John Crewe, Racine Country Club, Bill Kazda, Plum Lake Golf Club, Sayner, Wis. and Fritz Reinhart, Beloit Country Club. Congratulations, gentlemen. I sometimes wonder how a person can stay in this business for twenty-five years.

As you probably know, the last meeting of the year is also the annual meeting and the election of officers for the coming year. Art Post, Rivermoor Country Club was reelected president. Bill Sell, Port Country Club was elected Vice-president and Don Hornibrook, Ridgeway Country Club was nominated Secretary-treasurer. The two members elected to the Board of Directors were Bob Musbach, North Shore Golf Club, Neenah and Harvey Krahn, Ledges Country Club, Rockton, Ill.

In other actions Roger Larson was
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WHAT ABOUT WINTER INJURY?

Golf course turf has always been plagued by extremes of temperature, moisture, traffic and all manner of problems that are to a great degree controllable.

Programs have been developed to react to most of these extremes "after the fact." Nature prevents or encourages many of these reactions during the winter and early spring.

We must, then, understand the forces that promote injury during cold weather and develop programs that will strengthen turf growth and act to prevent damage.

This symposium on Dec. 14-15 is designed to look at all phases of turf damage — theory, research, and practices that provide golfers with the most play-

able turf for the longest period of time.

Featured speakers will explain how plants are affected by cold weather and how they can be protected.

Milwaukee area superintendents will relate the various ways they contrive to put a course to bed in the fall and reawaken it in the spring.

Early spring play is of interest to everyone involved in golf. This will be investigated by a panel of speakers ranging from golfer to park administrator to owner to golf course superintendent.

Although the entire program is aimed specifically toward golf turf, other turf managers will find all the topics interesting.

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WGCSA Bulletin

Published nine times annually by the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Pres.—Arthur Post,
Rivermoor Country Club
Vice Pres.—Bill Sell
Port Country Club

Sec.-Treas.—Don Hornibrook
Ridgeway Country Club

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What About . . .

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Tentative Program

WINTER INJURY CONFERENCE

December 14 & 15, 1966

December 14—Morning Session

Peter Miller, Chairman

8:00—Registration and Coffee

(Registration Fee \$15.00, includes Lunch and Dinner)

Welcome—Art Post, Pres. Wisconsin Golf Course Supts. Assoc.

Observations of Winter Injury Patterns, Charles Wilson

Research Report on Winter Injury, Jim Beard

Questions Related to Research Finds, Charles Wilson, Marvin Ferguson, Bill Daniel, Jim Love

Noon - Lunch

Afternoon Session

Joe Deschler, Chairman

1:00—Soil Warming and Antitranspirants, Bill Daniel

Panel: When do we Open or Close the Golf Course, John Voight: Permanent - Temporary Greens; Frank Ranney: From an Owner's Viewpoint; Bob Hornung: The Club Officials Dilemma; Bill Sell: Problems in Early Spring Play

Break

Soil Conditions and Nutrition Related to Winter Hardiness, Jim Love

Diseases and Drainage Related to Winter Injury, Jim Holmes

6:00—Cocktails - Dutch Treat

7:30—Dinner

December 15—Morning Session, Allan Kress, Chairman

9:00—Protection and Moisture Control in Reducing Winter Injury, Marvin Ferguson

Panel: Practical Methods of Preventing Winter Damage, John Stampfl, Lester Verhaalen, Charles Shiley, Frank Musback. Questions — Jim Holmes, Jim Latham

Break

Design and Construction for the Future, Pete Dye

Movie

Summation—Jim Latham

12:00—Conference Ends

Speakers

Dr. James B. Beard, Department of Agronomy, Michigan State University.

Dr. William H. Daniel, Department of Agronomy, Purdue University.

Mr. Peter Dye, Golf Course Architect, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dr. Marvin H. Ferguson, Mid Continent Director and National Research Coordinator, United States Golf Association Green Section.

Mr. James L. Holmes, Mid West
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Mr. Bob Hornung, Green Committee Chairman, South Hills Country Club, Fond du Lac, Wis.

Dr. James R. Love, Department of Soils, University of Wisconsin

Mr. James M. Latham, Agronomist, Milorganite Turf Service.

Mr. Frank Mushbach, Superintendent Bluemound Country Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. Frank Ranney, Owner, Maple Grove Golf Club, West Salem, Wisconsin.

Mr. Bill Sell, Superintendent, Port Country Club, Port Washington, Wisconsin.

Mr. Charles Shiley, Superintendent, North Hills Country Club, Menominee Falls, Wisconsin.

Mr. John Stampel, Superintendent, Milwaukee Country Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. Lester Verhaalen, Superintendent, Brynwood Country Club, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. John Voight, Director, Whitnall Park, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Mr. Charles G. Wilson, Agronomist and Sales Manager, Milorganite Turf Service.

Super Talk

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dropped for the Honorary membership list and Dr. E. C. Roberts was added to the list. The yearly dues were increased from \$5 per year to \$10 per year.

The WGCSA is sponsoring, along with the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission, a symposium on Winter Injury. This will take place in Milwaukee on the 14th and 15th of December. In the publication we hope to just whet your appetite as you will be receiving 3 mailings in the near future. This should be a great symposium, excellent speakers and a good time of the year. Take your wife shopping. There are all sorts of excuses you can use to get to Milwaukee, the most important of which is that you should be there.

Also do not forget the WGCSA during the winter. How about sitting down and writing something for the bulletin. We need articles and many of you people are much more capable of writing one than I am. If we are ever to become a first rate publication, we need some new material. Write your gripes, your ideas. Roger Thomas has written an article for this issue. Take note, we need the superintendent as well!

Order Lead Times Growing

By Roger J. Thomas

Jacobsen Manufacturing Company

Suppliers of equipment for use on the golf courses are finding it more difficult to purchase component parts that make up their product. Forecast requirements are much greater today than they were just one year ago and raw materials, such as iron and copper, are in big demand at this time. Components made up from these raw materials are causing manufacturers to forecast their needs anywhere from six to nine months in advance of delivery.

In our own situation, within the next thirty days some items must be ordered for next August delivery; we have the problem of not knowing how much to order. We do not want to carry excessive inventories, nor do we want to run out of products when the customers require them. Computers forecast product requirements based on past experience. There is such a variety of products along with new items that have not had a previous performance record, that shortages could appear this coming season.

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Notes

Every once in a while I get something on my mind that bothers me a bit and I can not get it out of my mind. This something is equipment — specifically, age of equipment.

Why do golf courses insist on maintaining old machinery? I mean tractors 10 to 12 years old, trucks in the same classification and, for that matter, small equipment as well. Take a look around you at the clubs in your area, I will bet that you will find machinery far past the point of being worth the care they require to keep running. Sure they run, maybe even look good, but what happens when they break down. Can you get parts? Can it be fixed and if it can how long will it take?

Golf courses insist on pouring money into these old machines until they have spent far more than they are worth. This makes no sense. You would not do this to an old car, not unless it was an antique. The old equipment will not do the job of the new. It is not dependable; you spend more time repairing it than using it.

Ask anyone if they would operate their

business this way and I am sure they would say no. Why then do golf courses operate this way? Because the machinery still runs. If it breaks down usually beyond repair you might get a new machine, but the chances are you will get a used one and then you are just inheriting some one else's troubles. Why can't golf courses set up a depreciating fund, and then when these machines have been written off, new ones can replace them? Maybe a set amount each year could be set aside for the purchase of new equipment. It does not follow that because this amount is set aside that it has to be used. But say \$3,000 were set aside each year, this could take care of a great deal of the equipment purchases after a few years.

Definitely something should be done to convince the people on our board of directors the fallacy of maintaining this old equipment. This has got to be the way to attack the problem—education. The more we can inform our board of directors of our thinking, ideas, and problems, the easier it should be to make these people understand our plight.

Order Lead . . .

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There is a partial solution to this problem in that Golf Course Superintendents are the major buyers of turf equipment. As the various distributor's men call on the golf courses this fall, it would be most helpful if the Superintendent could give them some idea of his product requirements for spring or summer delivery. These do not have to be firm orders, but of course, this would help. By collecting this information, the distributor can get a better idea of what his total requirements will be and thereby help the manufacturer to plan his schedules.

Planning along these lines by the superintendents can help stem off some of the rising costs and may actually result in an over all savings to them. I am sure all manufacturers are trying to prepare themselves for shortages and will try to have adequate quantities of products *when* the Superintendents need them, but I know our company needs evidence that our forecasts are somewhere on a level with the needs of the Superintendents.

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