



A PLEDGE

By Roger Bell



President's messages should be like commencement addresses—eloquent, inspirational and, above all, brief. I can assure the readership of this column at least one of the three—brevity.

I chose to become a golf course superintendent over thirteen years ago and there is nothing else that I would rather be. I am proud of my chosen profession. It is a special honor, then, for me to be chosen by you—my peers—to represent you as President of the W.G.C.S.A.

I have a very hard act to follow. Each of my predecessors has overseen sig-

nificant advances in our organization. Jim Belfield implemented the office services which now serve to maintain communications with our membership. Monroe Miller brought us awards with his updated and expanded *Grass Roots*. Bill Roberts has extended our field of vision by involving W.G.C.S.A. in many national committees and regional organizations. We need to maintain these advances while exploring new possibilities for our organization (and our profession) to grow. (We're currently looking into the implementation of a public relations campaign to

promote the job that we do to the people of Wisconsin. More about that at a later date.)

Any organization is only as strong as its members and that means we need your input. Please contact the Directors or Officers to volunteer your services for their committees or projects. There is room in the W.G.C.S.A. for EVERYONE to make a contribution.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your President. I pledge to do my best to be worthy.

Editorial



UNITE!

By Monroe S. Miller

Three-quarters of a century ago, William James made the classic observation that the main task of mankind "is to find some moral equivalent for war." Nations unite in wars and his point, I think, was that man needs to find some positive, creative goal that will motivate our loyalty, generosity and affection in the same way conflict does. In our little world of turfgrass management, I believe we've found a small example of what Mr. James wished for mankind - the project to build the O.J. NOER CENTER for TURFGRASS RESEARCH.

It is a well known and fairly common human emotion to unite **against** something. Disasters come to mind immediately. A town unites against a disastrous flood. A state unites against a wicked snowstorm. A plane crash

unites victims' families against that tragedy. There is deep satisfaction in these kinds of unifications. There is a common foe to fight. Generosity and self-sacrifice spring forth; people display their better selves.

It seems really difficult for people to work **for** something in the same way and with the same intensity they will work against something. But I'm of the opinion that the NOER CENTER is needed so badly by our industry that we will come together to get that job done. To counteract this natural human emotion, couldn't we quite easily declare "ignorance" our enemy and unite to fight this dastardly foe? The best weapon in a battle for more research in the turfgrass sciences will be the NOER CENTER.

Let us all get together on this project.

The goal is noble; the need is great. There are significant rewards to be had by everyone who gives in whatever way he can. The opportunity is golden, but it won't be there forever. Please, act today and dream of the high levels of harmony and unity in our working world the NOER CENTER will bring.

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