

NUDGING THE SUPERINTENDENT

Whether we think so or not, each one of us on occasion can use a little refresher course or prodding to stimulate the adrenalin toward the betterment of our golf courses. And what better way can we accomplish these objectives than by attending the GCSAA's 51st International Turfgrass Conference and Show.

First of all, let's have a goodly representation in St. Louis. Attend the meetings that you feel might be most closely associated with your problems. Perhaps it could be communications. Whether it be factory representatives claiming a superior or improved product and being a bit over zealous about the whole thing or whether it be some gold bricking machine operator you find basking in the sun, there is a reason for it all, and the ability to converse with these people without its creating high blood pressure is indeed a virtue worthwhile.

Perhaps equipment "down time" is your pet gripe. Would it be advisable to purchase new equipment or repair the old machine? Perhaps you or your mechanic do not have the particular "know how" for a good repair or the machine is so obsolete that to have it repaired would not be feasible. The time wasted, the cost and the course appearance due to the breakage are all items to be considered.

GCSAA's Conference theme, "Conservation, Our Key to the Future", has many sessions which relate to this.

Conservation of Personal Resources, a series about family finances, insurance, dealing with stress and alcoholism; Conservation in Key Areas, conserving water, power, fuel and fertilizer; Using Some Keys, fighting diseases; Unlocking Potential, golf course design, construction and course marking; Conservation of Resources, installing and designing irrigation systems; Important Keys to Business Management, for golf course owners dealing with tax assessment, food service, buy or lease equipment; Thinking Superintendents, improving course maintenance, course accessories, transplanting trees, fertigation and using effluent water and drip irrigation.

The Turfgrass Show which opens on Tuesday morning and runs until Thursday afternoon has 225 companies participating. They include manufacturers to maintenance equipment to chemical companies.

Anyone not understanding products, equipment, bring your list and find the factory rep and he will be glad to help. One could go on and on with positive reasons for attending the GCSAA Conference and Show and know that it would be extremely beneficial. I am also sure that we would be able to impart many suggestions to superintendents who do not have to cope with our extreme climatic conditions. The benefits that we receive and the knowledge and ideas which might be incorporated in our operations have no ending.

ATTEND THE CONFERENCE AND SHOW, FEBRUARY 17-22 IN ST. LOUIS. SEE YOU IN ST. LOUIS!

The Golf Course Superintendents Association of America's
**51st International Turfgrass
CONFERENCE AND SHOW**
Conservation ... Our Key to the Future