

patch. The calo clor was also used in the late fall for snow mold. 24D was used for weeds.

We did topdress greens approximately once per month using a hand pulled topdresser. Two men would pull and one would push. The topdressing materials were mixed off season using a 1-1- 1- mix; one sand, one soil and one peat.

Tees got very little attention outside of occasional fertilizing and watering. However, the last thing we did in the fall before putting the course to bed for the winter was to go to a farm and buy rotted manure. (This is a lot like compost). It was spread on heavy by hand shoveling. The tees would be overseeded prior to spreading on the manure. The tees always seemed to be in good condition the following spring.

Today in 1985 the golf course is groomed to no end. The greens are cut daily at 3/16", 5/32" and some are even cut at 1/8". Tees are cut at our course on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 1/2". This doesn't even seem to be short enough. The fairways are cut every other day and long holes again on Saturday at 1/2". Roughs are cut at 1 1/2" on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Traps are raked with a power rake daily and are edged regularly to keep a sharp edge. During the three months of the warmer season we spray the greens for fungus on a preventative basis every 7 to 10 days. The tees and fairways are also sprayed for fungus. In the '40s we used four pesticides; today we are using dozens of pesticides...maybe far too many at the expense of the creation of many other problems. Our fairways are fertilized with three applications per season with 2 1/2 lbs. of N per 1,000. An application for tees is about 3 lbs. N per 1,000 and greens receive 5 lbs. N per 1,000 with K equal to 3/4 of N. In 1940 about half of this was used on greens and tees. The fairways received very little every other year or so.

Believe it or not, the whole golf course operating budget back then was under \$25,000 and we had quite a good golf course. Today's operating budget is reaching \$13,000 per hole plus additional funds for course improvements. This cost will continue to grow as competition increases.

In looking back, maybe it was easier forty years ago. Costs were relatively low and competition had not begun to escalate the costs of maintaining a top-notch course. The job of a maintenance crew was restricted to mostly physical labor. However, today with computerized irrigation systems, licensing requirements for pesticide control and the latest technology being utilized in equipment makes the career an exciting choice. The role of the golf course superintendent is constantly changing, giving us the opportunity to expand our minds and grow as individuals.

## NEW ERA IN NEW PRAGUE

by W. SCOTT PROSHEK  
BOB ADAMS  
NEW PRAGUE GOLF CLUB

Fast approaching (possibly an earlier opening than usual) is my 5th year as manager and the on again, off again position of assistant superintendent. Each year has offered its own challenges, met with mixed results. Nevertheless, the learning process goes on.

Our past superintendents have been exclusively from the retired farming section. Being originally from New Prague, I've seen the course come a long way over the years. These farmers have done an excellent job providing our players with a course to be proud of. Yet not one of these former superintendents has received any formal turfgrass education nor been a member of the M.G.C.S.A.

New ideas in the turfgrass business are changing so quickly that it's time for us to change also. This past year we hired Bob Adams as superintendent and Bob and I joined the M.G.C.S.A. What we have learned through the association's monthly meetings, Mini-seminars, the recent annual conference or a simple one on one conversation has been enormously beneficial. My only regret is that I should have joined long ago.

Patience seems to be the theme Bob and I are experiencing now. Convincing members of needed changes is maintenance schedules and programs is easier said than

(Continued on page 9)

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT

DOUG MAHAL  
MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

The size of M.G.C.S.A.'s membership has grown very steadily the past several years. I think one can attribute that strong growth to one thing - we're offering a necessary service to our members. And if we can continue to grow in numbers, the quality of those services will only improve. If you know of any potential members, encourage them to give me a call. It will benefit us all.

The following have been approved for membership since our annual meeting:

Greg Spencer, Class A  
Barry Warren, Class A  
Lee Kirchgather, Class A

The following are classification changes as of December 11, 1984:

Steve Sinclair from C to BII  
John Sheedy from BII to B  
Peter Mounts from B to A

Jim Krumwiede from BII to A  
Richard Smith from BII to A  
Larry Bellew from B to A  
Brooks Ellingson from D to BII  
Charles Vedvick from BII to A  
Dean Pelkey from D to BII  
Jeff Elseth from D to E

## RECRUIT A NEW MEMBER!

*If you know someone, a friend, an assistant, a co-worker who is interested in our association . . . be sure to bring them to our next meeting.*

## NEW PRAGUE from page 8

done....especially, if they seemed a bit content in the old way. Obvious advantages to these different procedures are sometimes not provided immediately.

So as we look to the future we aim to utilize more to our advantage the technological advances now available to us. Our first step in the right direction was made this spring when we joined the M.G.C.S.A. Our next is to put into action those ideas, therefore, enabling us to continue to play on a course where all can be proud.

**Keep  
this card  
handy.  
It could  
save you  
time  
and  
money.**

