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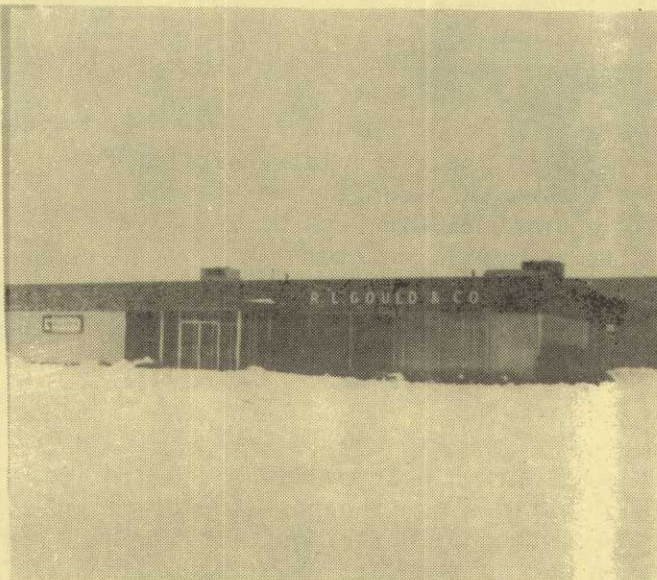
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GOULD'S PROVE EXCELLENT HOSTS

Spring was in the air as the Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents met for their monthly meeting on the afternoon of March 8. What better way to pacify the thoughts of spring that keep wandering into our minds than to have a first hand look at the latest in machinery and equipment which will be used to help make the turf the greenest ever in 1976. The R. L. Gould Co. and host, Gordy Miller, took several interested groups of superintendents on a personalized tour of the computer room, parts department, showroom and warehouse facilities. After their occupational needs had been satisfied, the group was directed to a poolside hospitality room where possibly a few different types of needs were taken care of also. This portion of the day's activities, held at McGuire's Inn, was again hosted by Gordy Miller with cards, relaxation and general socializing taking place throughout the room and the adjoining poolside patio. We all extend a giant thanks to Gordy Miller for his exceptional job of hosting the afternoon's activities.

President Dean Sime called the business meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. Several important matters were widely discussed, including the possible site and location of the 1976 Annual Turf Conference and Business Meeting. The possibility of having an outstate host, such as Duluth or Rochester, has been introduced. After much deep discussion, the final decision was left with the committee in charge of organizing the Annual Conference. Carl Anderson, a life member of M.G.C.S.A., was nominated by the Executive Committee and approved by the general membership as a recommendation by M.G.C.S.A. for the "Outstanding Service Award", a new award established by G.C.S.A.A. in connection with its Golden Anniversary. This award is to honor "Those Individuals Who Have Distinguished Themselves on Behalf of the Profession". A new member was welcomed and officially accepted into M.G.C.S.A. at the business meeting. Dale Hendrickson, superintendent and owner of the Grandview Golf and Ski Club, Duluth, has been affiliated with the golf course for many years and was granted Class A membership.

The totally delightful day was topped off by a delicious dinner featuring stuffed pork chops with all the trimmings. Everyone leaving the day's meeting was once again prepared to return to his course and fight the battle against time, which occurs every year when spring starts showing itself from behind every corner.



SITE OF MARCH MEETING. Could the white stuff on the lawn be a part of the current snow mold research program?



TOUR CONDUCTOR. Gould's Gordy Miller, right, explains how to pile sacks to, left to right, Dennis Hendrickson, Larry Mueller and George "straight stack" Jennrich.



SIME CHAIRS MEETING. President Sime, back to camera, conducts business meeting prior to dinner.



ACTION IN HOSPITALITY SUITE. Gordy Miller demonstrates use of new weed killer to unidentified volunteers.



THE OLD CARD SHARK. Carl Anderson, right, gives a little poker lesson to, left to right, Jim Lindblad, Carl Johnston and Ted Ament. Curley wishes to remain anonymous.



GORDY'S BABY. Gould's computer fascinates Charles Tillman, Dennis Hendrickson and Dick Ulrick. Or is it the girl operator?

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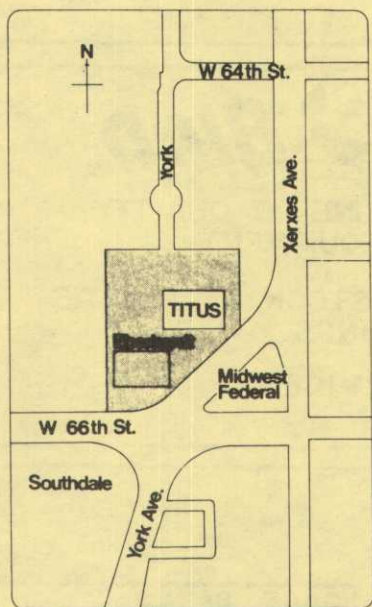
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St. Cloud C.C. Opening

The St. Cloud Country Club is accepting applications for the position of greens superintendent. The position is now open due to the retirement of Cliff Vohs. Please send your application, a resume and your salary history requirements to Ray Galarneault, Greens Chairman, Box 412, St. Cloud, Minn. 56301.

M.G.C.S.A. OFFICES IN NEW LOCATION



Effective immediately the offices of the M.G.C.S.A. will be in the Titus Building. Official address is 6550 York Avenue South, Suite 301, Edina, Minn. 55435. The phone number has not changed. It is 612/927-4643. Stop in and visit when you are in the area.



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MANKATO C.C. TO HOST APRIL 12 MEETING

Mankato Country Club will be the site of the monthly meeting of the M.G.C.S.A. on April 12. Host superintendent, Irv Fuller, Jr., has planned a complete list of activities for the day including an afternoon of golf, weather permitting. This would be an excellent place to start off the golfing season so let's hope that everyone who possibly can will be in attendance at the meeting.

The business meeting is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and a New York strip steak dinner to follow. The cost of this fine meal will be \$8.00.

Here are the directions to the club from the Twin Cities area: Take Highway 169 south to St. Peter. Just past St. Peter go left on Highway 22 for about twelve miles. The Mankato Country Club sign will be on the left. Turn left up the hill to the club.

SWING WITH US IN '76

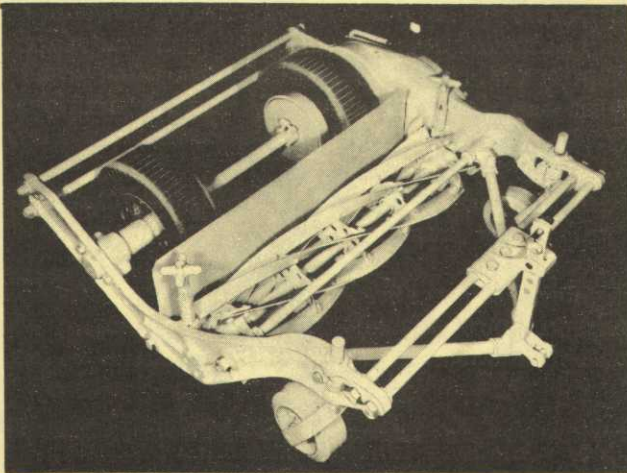
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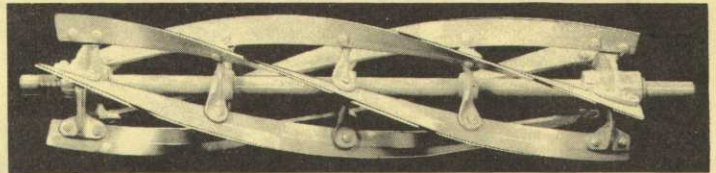
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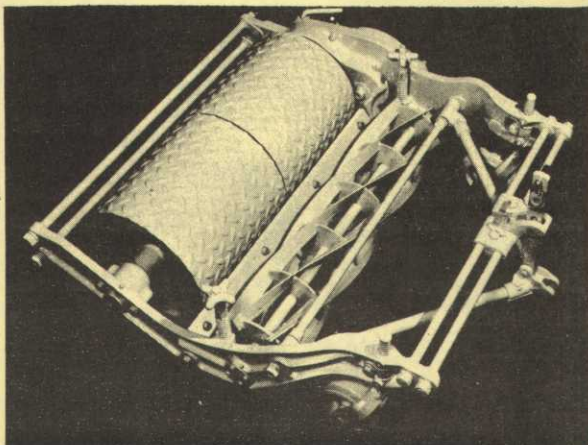
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What's A Superintendent To Do?

When Rising Expectations Confront Declining Resources

You can almost always have a sure bet if you say that whenever two or more golf course superintendents get together they will eventually discuss the requests of their course's golfers and how this conflicts with the budget they have to do the job.

A similar wager about those inside the clubhouse would probably be just as safe, with the twist being that the clubhouse dwellers would be concerned with how the superintendent fritters away their funds while the man down the road is doing such a superior job.

This is the confrontation of rising expectations and declining resources. The golfers desire more and more, or at least make unrealistic comparisons to other courses, while the superintendent is granted lower budgets and faced by higher costs for all goods and services.

"What's a superintendent to do?" asks the headline. Certainly a question easier to pose than answer, but nevertheless, a question that deserves exploration and attempted answers.

This problem of rising expectations and declining resources is not new, nor is it isolated strictly upon golf course superintendents. Each and everyone of us face it daily, just as almost everyone else is bound to do sooner or later. Obviously, the solution is not an easy one or the problem would not persist for so long a time, nor with so broad of scope. A complicating factor added to the problem is what works one place has no guarantee of working anywhere else.

In the most basic of terms, a golf course superintendent faced by this problem has few possible alternatives. He can rely upon the reputation he has developed and trust that his recommendations will be accepted. He can arrange "test plots" and "demonstrations". He can do whatever he believes is proper, given a certain budget, even though the golfers may complain. Or, he can follow the dictates of the golfers for as long as the budget holds out and then tell them that that will be all of the maintenance and management they can have until more money is forthcoming.

Certainly, there are other possible solutions, but these basic points probably get the idea across. The solution is not going to be an easy one, and patience and understanding on everyone's part will be required.

Of the above suggestions, probably only the first two have any chance of working for the superintendent and the course. Basically, both of the above suggestions rely upon "education" of the member by the superintendent.

Reliance upon a reputation is undoubtedly the best possible position for anyone. If the superintendent's suggestions have proven acceptable in the past, they will certainly have a better chance in the future. However, superintendents cannot wait until the last minute to try and build a basis for acceptance, it is a continuously on-going proposition of informing the golfers what you are doing, why you are doing it and letting them brag about the splendid results.

"Demonstration plotting" is another usually acceptable approach, providing there is sufficient time and even small amounts of money for the project. More and more superintendents are setting aside relatively small areas of the actual playing surface from time to time and demonstrating the differences a particular operation can make to the course. Following the application, operation or whatever, the golfers are asked to decide which of the two areas they want, providing they are willing to pay for it. Most often, if the superintendent has done his homework and knows the total cost figures, the golfers will opt for the improved conditions because they can actually see the differences.

The only other serious problem a superintendent will have is to educate his golfers on the effect just a few miles distance can make in the maintenance budget of two courses. Natural terrain, soil conditions, the course's maintenance history and even rainfall can vary tremendously in short distances and have significant effects upon what a superintendent can or cannot do given any amount of money. In fact, the whole idea of comparative golfing should be overcome, but because grass has always been greener elsewhere, it is unlikely that such thinking can be easily reversed today.

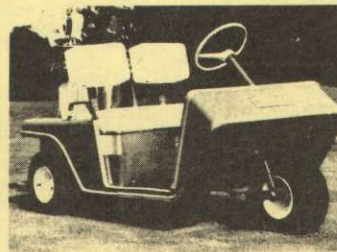
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RESEARCH AN INVESTMENT IN TOMORROW

With the recent ruling handed down by EPA concerning the mercuries I don't have to tell you how important our research program is. Many of you, I am sure, have tried some of the products Dr. Ward Stienstra has recommended since our research program began. We need the financial support from each and every one of our clubs to continue with this program. Please contact your club officials or city managers and let them know how vital this program is and we would appreciate a check in any amount. Make checks payable to MGCSA Research Fund and send them to me, Jim Lindblad, Box 151, Wayzata, Minnesota 55391.

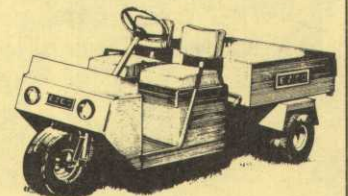
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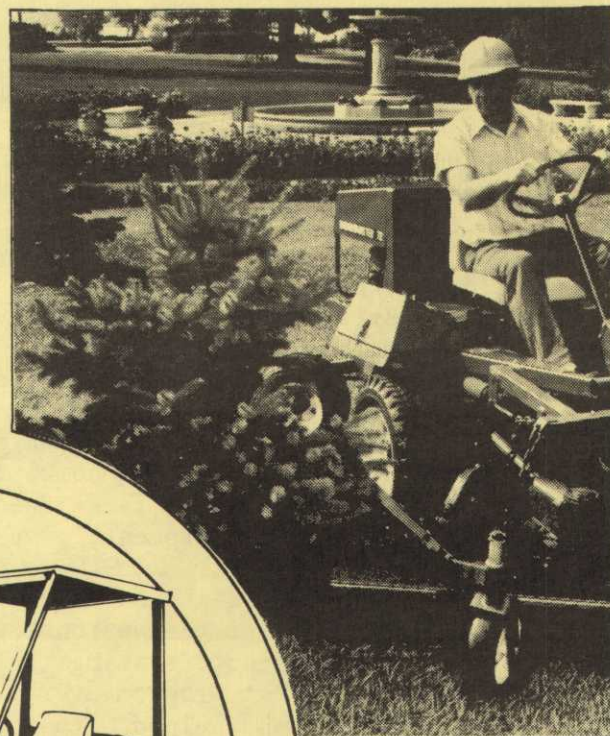
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Green Clippings

CLIP 1: HOLE NOTES has received this letter from Carl Johnston of Forest Hills Golf Club expressing his gratitude to the members of his committee: "I would like to thank the following people for their help in making the National Conference a success. I cannot remember when I've seen so many people work as closely as our chapter did and I feel that it is due to the fact that we believe in each other and are trying to make our chapter one of the best. Again, I say thank you for the help you gave: Dave Dodds, Carlos Stimson, Jack Grengo, John Granholt, Charles Tillman, Steve Young, Ron Steffenhagen, Kevin Benson, Bill Peitz, Tom Frost, Dave Zimmer, Cal Polsean, Jr., Mike Klatter and Dick Grundstrom. Also a special thanks to Dan Stangl and his wife and brother-in-law for their help with the exhibitors registration. They did one hell of a job!!"

CLIP 2: For Sale: Jim Lindblad at Wayzata Country Club did some spring cleaning and found that he has some equipment he would like to sell - Spartan Mower parts, two old John Bean sprayers and some other miscellaneous equipment. If you are interested in the purchase of any of this equipment, give him a call.

CLIP 3: The cards and thank you notes keep coming into our office praising M.G.C.S.A.'s efforts in all aspects of the National Conference. The wife of a superintendent from Ohio wrote a thank you note stating that the ladies' program was "excellent in every way; in fact the best ladies' program ever". We would like to thank all the wives of the M.G.C.S.A.'s members who helped with this program and a special thanks to Chairman George Jennrich and his wife for doing a lion's share of the work.

CLIP 4: The leisure suits worn by our members while working at the National Conference drew many favorable remarks. It made it much easier for those in attendance to know who would be able to answer their every question, besides giving our association a spirit of togetherness. In all probability, these suits would have never been able to be purchased had it not been for the many generous donations by the associate members of M.G.C.S.A. The financial support given throughout the year by these members is deeply appreciated and is one of the reasons our association is becoming a better and stronger organization for all of us. We would like to thank those who contributed to the leisure suits at this time: Cushman Motor, Stegner Golf Car Company, Minnesota Toro, M. T. Wiley, Inc., Long Lake Ford, Todd's Tree Service, Turf Supply Company, Kromer Company, Reed's Sales and Service, R. L. Gould and Company, Minnesota Wanner and Northern Irrigation.

CLIP 5: The February issue of GOLFDOM, the magazine of golf business, picked up and reprinted part of Tom Hopf's article on a OSHA visit first reported in our December issue. Nice to know that our HOLE NOTES gets read on a national level!

CLIP 6: More than 27,000 trees died of Dutch elm disease last year in the Twin Cities metropolitan area - nearly three times the number killed by the same malady in 1974. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture predicts that we could lose half of the 3,900,000 elms in this area in the next five years. Have you a back up tree planting plan in operation or on the planning board? It pays to look ahead!

CLIP 7: From Dr. Fred Grau: "I would like to express my appreciation for your wonderful hospitality while Francis and I were in Minneapolis. Also highest compliments on the delightful 'casual look' your leisure suits presented. You couldn't have chosen better in the matter of costumes. You have set a style and pace that will be hard to top."

THE GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS' ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICA WILL BE 50 YEARS OLD ON SEPTEMBER 13, 1976!