

POINT OF VIEW

A lawyer over in Mississippi named Donald Sweat, otherwise known as "Soggy", was running for office in that last citadel of prohibition. He was put on the spot by the local newspaper as to his position on the whiskey question and the following was his reply.

"Dear Editor, I had not intended to discuss this controversial subject at this particular time. However, I want you to know that I do not shun controversy. On the contrary, I'll take a stand on any issue at any time, regardless of how fraught with controversy it may be. You have asked me how I felt about whiskey; well, brother, here's how I stand on this question. If when you say whiskey, you mean the devil's brew, the poison scrouge, the bloody monster which defiles innocence, dethrones reason, creates misery and poverty, yea literally takes the bread out of the mouths of babes; if you mean the evil drink that topples the Christian man and woman from pinnacles of righteous, gracious living into the bottomless pit of despair and degradation, shame and helplessness and hopelessness, then certainly I am against it with all my power.

"But, if when you say whiskey, you mean the oil of conversation, the philosophic wine and ale that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and laughter on their lips and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean that stimulating drink that puts the spring in an old man's step on a frosty morning; if you mean the drink that enables a man to magnify his joy and happiness and to forget, if only for a moment, life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrows; if you mean that drink the sales of which pour into our treasury untold millions of dollars, which are used to provide tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf and our pitifully aged and infirm, and to build highways, hospitals, and schools, then brother I am for it."

And then he added, "This is my stand, Mr. Editor. I will not retreat from it. I will not compromise. This is my stand."

Anonymous

Reprinted from the "Georgia Turfgrass News" July, August, 1973.

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Bob Shields, Woodmont Country Club, has been recognized by the University of Maryland as an outstanding agricultural leader in the State of Maryland and has been presented with an honorary Certificate of Merit at the Maryland Agricultural Forum on November 1, 1973.

The Certificate of Merit in Agriculture is presented annually by the University of Maryland to outstanding leaders who have made a significant contribution to Maryland agriculture and family life. The recipients of these awards are recommended by the faculty of the College of Agriculture and approved by the University Administration and the Board of Regents.

For fifty years prior to 1966, the presentations were made during the Commencement program. With the larger number of graduates in recent years, it was deemed desirable to present the Certificates on another occasion when the recipients could be recognized at an agricultural function.

The Maryland Agricultural Forum features timely topics of vital importance to the future of the agricultural community. The Certificate of Merit Awards in Agriculture are presented at the Forum luncheon.

Bob was recognized as an outstanding leader in turfgrass and golf course management. His interest and leadership in numerous organizations has been recognized widely by national, regional and local organizations which he has served as a director, officer and president. These include the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America and the Mid-Atlantic Golf Course Superintendents Association.

Among his contributions to the advancement of the turfgrass industry and the profession of golf course management are service as a speaker at training meetings, as a teacher in training programs and in the preparation of articles for professional magazines that encourage the improvement of management of turfgrass. His recognition of the importance of education in the turfgrass field led to his support of the establishment of three scholarships that are awarded annually to students in the College of Agriculture.

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