

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - by Robert E. Livesey, CGCS, Plaza GC, Visalia

Inflation, an increase in the amount of currency in circulation resulting in a relatively sharp and sudden fall in its value and rise in prices--this is the way the dictionary defines it. We look at it and say "we are caught between a rock and a hard place."

As Managers of a maintenance budget, we have to get the most for our dollar. There are no coupons to clip before we go to the store. If we are getting a piece of equipment, is it going to do the job we want? Is the supplier going to be able to give us service? Down time for parts costs you money. Most of us are at a point that we cannot afford a spare mower or whatever. If it is a chemical we are buying, what is the percentage of active ingredient? Can we get a chemical with a higher active content for a little more that will go twice as far?

The drought a few years ago taught us to manage our water. Now, with the cost of electricity, we are going to have to do it again.

Remember, as a Golf Course Superintendent you are a Manager. You manage people, money, time, water, turf and equipment. Put it together and you are maintaining a golf complex worth two to three million dollars.

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Sequoyah Country Club was started in 1918. It is the second oldest course in the East Bay area. In 1937 the Oakland open was won by Ben Hogan, which was his first tournament win in his career.

In 1961 the first fully automatic sprinkler system in the East Bay was installed at Sequoyah and the system is still functioning. It is the hydraulic type. Years of experience have proven the electric system to be more successful.

Former President of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America, Walter Boysen was Golf Course Superintendent from 1933 till 1970. Gurmit Sandhu served from 1970 to 1975. Bob Dauterman is the Superintendent now. He will have been on the job five years August 25th.

Sequoyah is 6074 yards long. It is a fairly short course and interesting to play. Narrow fairways and the greens being unpredictable makes each time on the course a challenge. There are 25,000 trees on 155 acres. The fairways and tees are mowed 3 times a week with the greens being mowed every day. Due to the hills pull type gang mowers are used.

Bob's crew consists of himself and 9 regular men. Dick Lutz is the new Head Professional at Sequoyah. He is a former P.G.A. touring pro, has won 3 major tournaments and in 1970 was "Rookie of the Year."

Bob's career started at Longview CC in the state of Washington in 1960 as a Golf Course Superintendent. He was there for 12 years. Next, he was