

Newsletter

APRIL 1958



"To improve the golden moment of opportunity and catch the good that is within our reach, is the great art of life." — Johnson.

Opportunity. That was the word that came to mind as the writer sat in at our April 7th meeting at the Waltham Field Station. It was a crystalized thought resulting from a look through a 1500 mile long range pair of glasses for the past three meetings.

A golden opportunity comes to every member when he takes office in our association. It is an opportunity to help your association, your fellow members, and especially yourself. When you accept any office, or serve on any committee with enthusiasm, dignity, and honor, giving your best at all times, doing what is right for the association you are doing a service to your fellow members. By being aggressive and not bold, honest and not unfair, diligent and not lazy, modest and not boastful you set an example for others to follow and establish a personal satisfaction that makes a bigger person of yourself.

It is unfortunate that so few have to carry the burden of running the association, but that's the way it is in most organizations. However, it is a challenge to give one's best because so many are depending on so few for the success of the association. For those sitting in the background it is well to remember, "it is easier to exercise the mouth than the rest of the body when it comes to helping the other fellow." In other words, "if you can't boost don't knock." Be ready to help and serve when your opportunity comes. Offer suggestions for the good of the association when you have them.

In this regard, the writer has heard several suggestions under the same general subject, namely, more educational speakers during the winter months. Perhaps this is a worthy subject for the directors to grapple with immediately. How to finance a stepped up educational program for 1959.

While on the subject of "good of the order" it

methylene urea compounds or otherwise known as urea-formaldehyde material or simply urea form containing 38% nitrogen. In a nutshell this fertilizer slowly releases its nitrogen over the entire season. An early application is good for the whole season. It is odorless, has excellent mechanical properties, does not leach from the soil, has a high degree of safety, may be applied wet or dry, and is generally compatible with other fertilizers and even with most insecticides and fungicides. Two years of experimentation indicate best results may be obtained as follows: For greens, per season, 8 lbs. of urea-form nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft and for fairways 6 lbs. of urea-form nitrogen per 1,000 sq. ft. This looks like what the Golf Course Superintendent has been waiting for and seems to be well worth trials on every golf course.

Following this interesting talk each of the ten commercial men present were invited to speak. A brief consensus of opinion from these gentlemen indicates that fertilizers for 1958 will remain about the same in price, there will be few changes in new models of equipment in 1958 but prices for the most part will be up some 5 to 10%. Grass seed at the present moment is of good quality and reasonable in price, but next fall's crop may be affected by the weather which could change the quality and quantity.

At the business meeting April 7 the following Turf Research Committee was announced by President Francis, Phil Cassidy, Sim Braio, Dick Silva, and Mike O'Grady. An application for an associate membership was received from Donald Daigle, Mt. Pleasant C.C., Boylston, Mass. Chairman Milt Brown of the Tournament Committee announced the locations of the first three outdoor meetings to be as follows:

May 5 — New Bedford C.C.

June 2 — Wannamoissett C.C., Rumford, R. I.,
Chairmen's Meeting.

July 7 — New Hampshire.

The lucky door prize winners were: Dick Silva, Jud Edwards, Mike O'Grady, Joe Dinardi and Bob Grant.

might not be amiss to mention that the By-Law Committee is working on a complete renovation of our By-Laws in order to bring them up-to-date and make them more applicable to present conditions. Perhaps it would be good business to issue a preliminary resume of the important changes under consideration in anticipation of objections or suggestions. Just one thought for immediate consideration is the change in the date of our annual meeting. The proposal is to end our fiscal year in November and hold the annual meeting the first week in December. What's the reaction?

The educational speaker for the April 7th meeting was the ever-popular and congenial Dr. Jesse DeFrance — his subject, "New Developments for Turf Grass Fertilization." The same subject as the one presented at the Washington, D.C. National Turf Conference. The new developments refer to the fertilizers containing

DEAR LADIES of the KNIGHTS of the GREEN-SWARD with the AMOUR, did you read the postcard announcement of our May meeting? The day is being arranged especially for you. Don't fail us. You are to be guests of the Golf Course Superintendents Association for a barbecue and social at the New Bedford Country Club. Please read the card again for all details, make your plans to be present and then be sure the return card is mailed before May 1. This is most important. To our members please note that your golf must be started before noon in order not to conflict with league play at 3:30. The barbecue will be served from five to six-thirty. The price to you for the barbecue will be approximately \$4.50. Your ladies ticket will be paid for by the Association. WE LOOK FOR A BIG TURN OUT. WILL YOU BE THERE?

H. Darling, *Editor*

