



Golf Course Superintendents Association

OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.

Sponsors and administrators of the Lawrence S. Dickinson Scholarship Fund — Awarded yearly to deserving Turf Management Students.

CONFERENCE NOTES

March 6, 1968
AFTERNOON

Dean Fred P. Jeffrey, of the University of Massachusetts School of Agriculture, gave the University's welcome address to more than 600 interested turf culturists assembled at the White House Inn, Chicopee, Massachusetts for the opening of their 37th Annual Fine Turf Conference.

Dean Jeffrey in his remarks gave us the reason why we were not at the hallowed campus grounds of the University this year, because the grounds are in complete turmoil with heavy construction for the building of an 18-story Library Building, and an addition to the Student Union building. Hopefully, the Conference will be back at the new Student Union building in 1969.

Al Radko, in his usual soft and diplomatic style, but very penetrating opened the Speakers' Program with the "1967 Turf Problems." A film on green construction according to USGA specifications was shown by Al. He indicated that the golf course labor problems would be severe in 1968.

Lee Record, USGA Agronomist, followed his boss with "Remedies for 1967 Turf Problems." Lee presented slides showing a cold wet spring and a summer that produced 14 rainy week-ends out of 20. He stressed proper drainage on all new construction and taking care of the old.

Ralph W. White, Jr. came to us from the Southern Turf Nurseries. His subject was, "Southern Turfgrass Production and Problems." Mr. White was a most engaging speaker. The major problems in the Georgia-Florida area are insects and fungus. Brown Patch being one of the chief offenders. Ralph stirred the audience when he mentioned that 24 lbs. of actual nitrogen per year are required for the maintenance of good golf greens and 18 lbs. of N for good fairway turf. Iron Chlorosis is a very serious problem in Florida.

It is almost impossible to over-water turf grass and he qualified this statement by saying that the best golf courses in Florida have the most efficient automatic irrigation systems.

The last speaker of the afternoon was anchor man David Moote, Superintendent at the Rosedale Golf Club in the Toronto area. Dave discussed, "Canadian Turfgrass Production and Problems." Mr. Moote likes the idea of cutting tees with putting green mowers set at $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch. He suggested mowing greens as tight as possible, and back lapping greensmowers once a week.

Mr. Moote was very emphatic about aerifying greens prior to September 1st, so that the holes may be healed in by September 10th.

EVENING

The surprise of the Conference was, "An Evening With Les Campbell", sponsored by the Tom Irwin Company. Mr. Campbell's slide and tape recording presentation was titled, "Thru The Lens — Nature's Impressions." Les hunts with a camera. His lens caught many birds, insects and nature settings which were truly magnificent.

(Cont'd p. 2)

Lee Record, (l), Agronomist, USGA, Green Section, New Jersey. Al Radko, (r), Eastern Director USGA, Green Section, New Jersey.



Tom Mascaro, (l), West Point Products, Pennsylvania. Dr. Joseph Troll, (r), Chairman of Turf Conference, U. of Mass.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be the last of our regular scheduled indoor meetings at the Holiday Inn, Newton, Mass. (exit 53 from 128). The date is April 1, 1968.

Directors' meeting	10:45 a. m.
Regular meeting	11:15 a. m.
Dinner	12:30 p. m.
Educational meeting	1:15 p. m.

Ted Murphy informs me that he has planned an outstanding educational program this month. He has a representative from the Registry of Motor Vehicles coming.

Golf Course Superintendents Association

Conference Notes (Cont'd)

THURSDAY, MARCH 7 — MORNING

Dr. Richard C. Skogley, Head of the University of Rhode Island Experimental Turf Plots, opened Thursday morning's program with, "Turf Research Abroad." Dick took 1967 for his Sabbatical leave, and used it wisely doing research at the British Sports Institute, inspecting all sports turf areas on golf courses in the British Isles and the Continent. Some of Dr. Skogley's slides of St. Andrews and Gleneagles left a few of the old Scotsmen in the audience dewy-eyed.

Dick reported that seed labeling laws in Britain are non-existent. The use of fertilizer in Europe on golf courses is rather rare.

Dr. Victor B. Younger, Head of the California Turf Research Station, traveled the farthest to appear on our program. He presented, "Turf Research At Home." California has five Temperate Zone grasses. Zone five would be comparable to our Central New England climate, which is conducive for growth of bent grass. The lack of zinc in the California soil is a problem.

Dr. Younger's research with Fyking blue grass produced the best growth at higher temperatures. Strangely enough, this grass is a native of Sweden, a very cool country.

James A. Simmons, a turf grass scientist, representing O. M. Scott, gave an enlightening talk on, "Commercial Turf Research."

AFTERNOON

Tom Mascaro, industrialist from Pennsylvania, discussed, "Reducing Costs in Turfgrass Management." Tom showed slides on the old classic Rube Goldberg equipment built and dreamed up by the old-time greenkeepers. His message was simple and clear. Today, no golf course can afford hand labor and broken, obsolete equipment.

Two-way radios are now being used extensively, and even closed circuit TV cameras are used in such places as pump houses, front entrances, as well as critical areas around the club house.

Sherwood Moore, Superintendent at the Woodway Country Club, handled, "Labor Management — Superintendent's Viewpoint." Sherwood gave us the pros and cons of his experiences with the labor unions during his tenure at Wing Foot.

G. E. Osborn, Representative of the Hercules Company, spoke on a serious problem which affects approximately 6,000,000 American people, "The Problem Drinker — A Management Responsibility." Mr. Osborn will be Director of the Hercules Company Problem Drinker Rehabilitation Program.

THURSDAY EVENING

The highlight of the University of Massachusetts Turf Conference has always been the "Banquet" and the after-dinner

Dave Canavan, (l), More Golf, Inc., Virginia. Paul E. Weiss, (r), Supt. Concord Country Club, Pennsylvania.



Dave Moote, Supt. Rosedale Golf Club, Canada

Dr. Ralph W. White, Jr. Agronomist, Southern Turf Nurseries, Georgia (below)



George E. Osborn, (l), Hercules Company, Delaware. Sherwood Moore, (r), Supt. Woodbury Country Club, Connecticut.

speaker. This year was no exception. Irv. Wermont, from the Boston area, was not only hilarious, but had a memory like an IBM computer. The eye-opener, gave the 250 or so present a chance to challenge his amazing powers of retaining names and facts.

Richard C. Blake, recently re-elected to the Executive Board of Directors of the GCSA of America, awarded scholarship checks to six recipients. All of them are members of the Stockbridge senior class, majoring in Fine Turf Management. They are: Andrew Gregory, Arthur Hall, Roland Hodgkinson, John Mathews, Philip Boyle and David Turner. Two old grads of the first Stockbridge class, Dick Finnerty and Sam Mitchell, were recognized and took bows. Arthur Anderson flashed us his winning smile as the first graduate of the 1927 Winter School.

FRIDAY MORNING

The last session was devoted to Design, Construction and Renovation. Geoffrey Cornish, the old master, spoke on "Contemporary Design Standards." Jeff elaborated on the three aspects that must be considered in golf course design. They are: the golf aspect, aesthetic aspect and the maintenance aspect. In this day of air pollution golf courses and green belt areas are playing a major role in cleansing the air.

Robert Grant, Superintendent at Brae Burn, followed his mentor with, "Construction — Superintendent's Viewpoint." Bob outlined specifications for construction, and he showed slides on snow removal off greens which were not built and drained properly.

David Canavan, of Moore Golf, Inc., presented, "Construction — Contractor's Viewpoint." Mr. Canavan stated that more wasteland such as land zoned as Flood Plain, is now being utilized for golf course development. Also, more public and courses tied in with real estate developments are being constructed than private clubs in the Maryland area.

Paul E. Weiss, Superintendent Concord Country Club, Pennsylvania, spoke on "Greens Renovation." Congenial Paul obviously had magnetic appeal, as he kept the audience up to the final bell. He presented his talk with slides of methods he used in green renovation.

Once again, our heartiest thanks to Dr. Joseph Troll, Head of Fine Turf at the University of Massachusetts, and Charles Mruk, from the Boston Office of the Hercules Company, for assembling a program of HEAVYWEIGHTS!

Anthony C. Caranci, GCSA of New England President, handled the chairmanship in a prompt and professional manner.

Now is the time that we are about to face the hard facts of life, and prepare ourselves for the 1968 golf season.

LEON V. ST. PIERRE

Golf Course Superintendents Association



Back, l-r — Anthony Caranci, Dr. Joseph Troll, Mr. Richard Crosby, Mr. Edward White.
Front l-r — Mr. Richard Blake, Mr. J. Barry Driscoll, Mr. Charles Pyle, Jr., Mr. Ben J. Chlevin.



L-r — J. Barry Driscoll, MGA Greens Section Chairman, Ben J. Chlevin, Executive Director Golf Course Superintendents of America, Charles Pyle, Jr., President, MGA.



L-r — Mr. Richard Crosby, Greens Chairman, Brae Burn Country Club, Mr. Anthony B. Caranci, President GCSA of N. E., Mr. Richard Blake, Superintendent Mt. Pleasant Country Club, Mr. Edward White, Greens Chairman, Woodland Country Club.



L-r — Mr. Richard C. Blake, Supt. Mt. Pleasant CC, Mr. Charles Pyle, Jr., President MGA, Mr. James F. Gaquin, Jr., Executive Director Royal Canadian Golf Association, Mr. Ben J. Chlevin, Executive Director, Golf Course Supts. Association of America.

Massachusetts Golf Association Annual Spring Conference at the Harvard Club of Boston, March 16, 1968

While listening to the lobby conversations I would say that this was the greatest MGA day ever. After hearing the various programs that were presented we had a delicious ham dinner and then heard remarks by the luncheon speaker, Mr. James F. Gaquin, Jr., Executive Director of the Royal Canadian Golf Association and former caddy at the Woodland Country Club. During his talk, he mentioned that the Francis Ouimet Scholarship Fund had the second largest number of students in college on scholarship of any other caddy scholarship fund in the country.

Golf Course Superintendents Association

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Growing turf in the Pacific Northwest province of British Columbia can be as complex as any other area of North America. The rainfall or lack of it at times, is one of the major problems here in Vancouver, B. C. We receive between 50 to 100 inches of rain between September and May, with only a few inches in the summer months. The play is real heavy all year long, as the ground only freezes a few times a year for a couple of days. Very little snow falls along the coast at sea level. The mountains are usually covered with snow all year long. You can see snow every day of the year, that is, of course, when you can see the mountains through the fog and haze.

The wet weather in the winter and very dry summers have a very adverse effect on turf in general. *Poa Annua* seems to thrive out here 365 days of the year, what with the temperature in the summer between 65 to 75 degrees. The bents do real well, with *Poa* a close second and on most old courses *Poa* is the only grass on the golf course.

The application of Fungicides is a must all year long, with Red Thread (*Corticium furiformi*), *Pythium*, *Ophiobolus* patch, and Dollar spot being the most common turf grass diseases, we even had some Brown patch this past summer.

Weeds and insects are about the same problem here as they are back in New England, with one exception being that we have an insect called the Crane Fly (*Tipula paludosa*) which completely destroys all living turf. This insect eats the crown and roots of all turf, but can be controlled by proper spraying in time.

The most common trees are the Fir, Cedar, and Hemlock all of which grow in excess of 150 to 200 feet tall. This is due to the mild climate and over-abundance of rain. There are no Oak or Maple native here as back in New England. It's a beautiful country here in Vancouver, with the Pacific Ocean coming right up to the giant Fir trees, with snow-capped mountains rising up from the ocean.

Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club and the other Golf Clubs in the greater Vancouver area are all unionized with \$2.70 an hour as the present rate, with a \$0.10 to \$0.25 increase each year, plus fringe benefits. I found that this rate gives me a much better caliber employee.

The budgets range from \$60,000 to \$100,000 at the better clubs in Vancouver, because of the high labor and also any equipment bought, comes from the States and has a high duty on it.

As most everyone knows, I am from New England, but really find growing turf in Vancouver a rewarding challenge. I feel that it was a great experience to make such a move and I now have a major tournament under my belt as host of the 1966 Canadian Open. I believe that anyone that really wants to better himself must move twice or more in his career whether it be 10 or 3,000 miles. I think that the proof is in the number of position changes that have taken place in just New England alone, within the past 5 to 7 years.

Dick Mitchell, Supt.
Shaughnessy Golf and Country Club
Vancouver, B. C.

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Sugar Maple Decline

Repeated trials with potted greenhouse sugar maples have shown that the progressive marginal scorch of leaves, defoliation and dieback of sugar maple can be induced at will by prolonged withholding of water. Timely applications of water can uniformly arrest the decline. Extensive field observations in New England indicate that decline is habitually associated with drought years.

Examination of the root systems of declining sugar maples in the field has disclosed extensive injury and degeneration. In pastured swales extensive root damage is done by the feet of cattle sinking into the soft soil in wet periods. Trenching beside roads destroys large segments of the root systems in roadside trees. Few or no roots have been found in the soil beneath the pavement of roadside trees. Degeneration of roots in soils compacted by constant pedestrian or vehicular traffic in towns is also demonstrated. — "The Conservationist"

Wind and Wave

Wind can be a friend or a foe of the boater. Light winds are those from one to seven miles an hour, which cause smoke to drift and weathervanes to swing. A "gentle" wind blows from 8 to 12 m.p.h. and can create breaking waves of two feet or more. Between 13 and 18 m.p.h., winds are "moderate" but they can build waves to a height of five feet. "Fresh" winds are 19 to 24 m.p.h. in velocity and can produce crested waves even on sheltered waters. When winds become "strong" at from 25 to 40 m.p.h., small-craft warnings are hoisted, waves pile up and the knowledgeable boatman is snugly anchored in a sheltered cove or tied up at his home dock.

— "The Conservationist"

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Advanced thinking management recognizes that with so many companies and organizations competing for media space (and time), good public relations requires the services of experts and costs money.

The members of the G.C.S.A. of New England have recognized this problem as a fact of life. Engaging a public relations counselor was a move that has been well received.

Leon V. St.Pierre

Editors' Luncheon

At the recent GCSAA Conference in San Francisco the chapter newsletter editors were given a luncheon and a chance to butt heads. Headquarters hoped for better communication with chapters and requested their newsletters for use in the "Superintendent." Those editors attending exchanged copies of newsletters and discussed their own problems. Other editors were very favorably impressed with the recent expansion of this Newsletter and that a public relations director has been hired by the Association. At least this is one instance where New Englanders are ahead of others rather than behind them.



Golf Course Superintendents of New Hampshire

Editor — John Brown, Supt. Fort Devens Golf Course

THE PAMPHLET DILEMMA

With the many innovations in air cooled engines and the increased specialization of turf tools, the golf course superintendent and mechanic have found it necessary to become more service manual conscious than in the past.

A frequent lament heard among superintendents is, "When I purchase a thousand dollar machine, why doesn't the dealer supply me with all the necessary manuals?" Certainly this is a justifiable complaint, at least at first glance. If the dealer, who really has little control over the matter I suppose, were to issue all the necessary manuals, (consisting of an owner manual, operating manual, repair instruction manual, and sometimes a great many supplements noting changes that supercede these other manuals), then he would have to hire a full time clerical staff. Then if each customer were to receive all the manuals pertaining to his specific purchase, a great many would be sent to the homeowner, who in turn would just simply throw them away. Other customers would lose them from inadequate filing systems. Then does this take the dealer off the hook?

Now what about the distributor? He sells machinery; and for a small price he will supply a certain number of manuals. But remember, he is not in the library business and chances are he will tell you so.

Then there is the manufacturer. If he accompanies each machine with all the necessary manuals and supplements, the cost might be included in the purchase price. This would seem the ideal answer. However, the majority of the customers do not feel a need for this detailed information; and it would seem the manufacturer cannot justify spending the time, trouble, and expense just to satisfy the needs of the minority.

I am still looking at my shiny thousand dollar machine which came with a warranty. I wonder if I should take the time to fill it out because many of them say: "The warranty will not be covered if there has been any evidence of misuse or negligence." But without the proper manuals and supplements to guide me on maintenance and repair, I may not be taking care of the machine correctly which will be no fault of the dealer or manufacturer.

What's worse, I want to use the machine but hesitate because if the need arises to make repairs concerning torque pressures, valve clearance, or crankshaft end play, I do not have the necessary information.

It is unfortunate that each individual has to request in writing the basic engine model manuals. Granted, some models are not very widely distributed. However, a little guidance from the salesman at the time of purchase would be greatly appreciated. It is rather difficult to send for manuals and supplements unless you know where to write, what information is available, or how much it costs. A great many people think the only manual that explains the operation and repair of the machine is the brief one that comes with it and this has not been adequate.

Well, I have received my manual with its supplement and now my thousand dollar machine is running according to the specifications of the company. I sent in my warranty, the club has received the bill for the manuals, and my crew and I have been pleased with its performance.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is interesting to note that most companies provide expense accounts for the executives in their business to cover such expenditures as conferences, business meetings both at home and abroad, and educational pursuits. If an employee of a company wishes to go or is sent for additional training, they will usually pay his expenses with certain stipulations to achievement. This is sound business management: the better informed and educated the executive, the more proficient the company.

The golf course superintendent is certainly an executive in many ways. As the one man most directly responsible for the condition and operation of an entire golf course, he must be a "jack of all trades." A few of the executive duties he must perform include supervision, labor management, public relations, efficiency, budget operations, and keeping up with the latest techniques.

In order to be proficient and keep up with the latest information, today's superintendent must attend meetings, conferences, and in some cases further schooling. Where is he to get the money for these additional expenses? As an executive-thinking and acting employee of a country club, it would follow that the club would provide the expense account in order to keep their employee abreast of the times. Again this is good business management. For are not the condition and operation of a club but reflections of the knowledge of its superintendent?

In the past few years expense accounts have become substantially better, but there are still a number of clubs who are neglecting to reimburse their superintendent for his educational efforts.

Robert P. Flanagan
President

NEXT MEETING

The next and last indoor meeting will be held April 9, 1968 at the Highway Hotel, Concord.

Directors' meeting	10:00
Regular meeting	11:00
Dinner	12:15
Educational Program	1:15

Mr. Charles Pickering from the Atlas Chemical Company will deliver the educational portion of the program, speaking on fairway ledge removal, and re-opening drainage ditches by the use of explosives.

In conclusion it appears that the manufacturer, distributor, and dealer are not very concerned with supplying all the necessary manuals to the professional men in the field. Their prime objectives are to sell the machine and deliver it. Would it not be advantageous to the companies to supply these manuals or at least make known their availability? Then there would be fewer complaints, happier customers, and greater satisfaction with a more efficient product.

Robert P. Flanagan
Cochecho Country Club



Golf Course Superintendents of Maine

Editor — Dr. Burton R. Anderson, Route 5, Augusta, Maine

WINTERKILL

It is ironically amusing to Maine superintendents that winterkill was "discovered" about ten years ago in the Chicago area after a couple of bad winters. Turf management news media were full of discussion about winterkill of turf, and research on the problem was begun at a University in the midwest. Winterkill of turf is "old hat" here, and were we within the centrum of golf and turf management, publicity on the subject would have occurred long ago. It is possible, therefore, that this summary of the winterkill problem might be informative and of interest to "foreigners."

One preliminary consideration is that winter here is defined as the period between December 1 and April 15, less on the coast and a lot more up country. Furthermore, the problem is accentuated by the widespread prevalence of very heavy soils in putting greens and concave contours thereon, creating conditions unsuitable for persistence of bentgrass, leaving, of course, annual bluegrass, which is rather susceptible to winterkill. A third consideration is that the work year on a golf course is usually April 15 to November 1, when everyone stops work to go deer hunting. This is relevant to management procedures that could be used to combat the problem.

Kill through snowmold is definitely one form of trouble, for during some years a spectacular incidence of both pink and gray snowmold can cause permanent kill of greens' turf. In this area when snow covers the ground for months, it is very possible, and in fact, the rule for frost to leave the ground before snow does. When this occurs an air pocket is formed between turf and ice, making a perfect "greenhouse" for snowmold. This winter saw a very late snow cover which was interrupted a month ago; there is a lot of frost in the ground, and it may be predicted that snowmold will not be severe this spring, in contrast with last year with little frost but abundant snowfall and a lot of snowmold. Use of fungicides is very helpful and should be applied as late as possible, just before the first "permanent" snow storm to prevent wash-out from subsequent rains. This first permanent snowfall comes statistically during the first half of December, and the superintendent must have a good weather eye, because if he misses he does not get another chance. Also since everyone has gone home for the winter, he is elected to do the job usually and must apply materials in a dry form.

Kill through drying out may occur, but not usually because of the long duration of snow cover. Some sharp cold spells in early December or March, when winds sweep over uncovered turf can cause damage. 1965 was a year of severe loss through drying out since snow cleared by March 10 and cold windy weather followed for the rest of the month. A rather complete kill of annual bluegrass on greens, tees and fairways occurred plus some bentgrass on greens. Dryness kill can be identified by noting a light tan color on dead areas. It is easy to prescribe late fall topdressing or artificial cover for greens, but it is not realistic since there are no personnel handy to do the job at the time these preventive measures should be done. The writer has not observed use of fir or birch boughs to cover greens in Maine.

The usual form of winterkill is caused by a covering of ice over hollows and other poorly drained areas that normally are covered with annual bluegrass. Dead grass turns a lugubrious gray color soon after snow goes or is removed. Apparently ice forms a close bond with the soil surface on greens' turf and

Supers On The Move

Norm Pease is the new superintendent at Purpoodock Country Club after former service at Concord, New Hampshire, Country Club and Augusta Country Club.

Jim Dorio comes to Augusta Country Club from Longmeadow Country Club in Lowell, Mass.

Harvey Lamontagne has shifted employment from Biddeford-Saco Country Club to Rockland Country Club in Rockland, Maine, where he will serve as pro-superintendent.

Big Harv is one of the real characters of the Maine pro circuit and was the first to bring a woman amateur to a pro-am tournament, thus causing a clarification of the rules concerning contestants. And last summer his beard took first prize in the Biddeford-Saco Centennial. Most of us thought that Al Hirt, the trumpeter, was playing the Maine circuit during this time. We wish Harv well in his new venture and sincerely hope that his penchant for good hospitality to the Association will not be diminished in the future.

somehow causes conditions that kill turf, for it is commonly observed that turf on immediately adjacent apron areas lives, the only difference being height of cut. The writer disdains further discussion about the mechanism of killing, however, leaving the matter to turf researchers and other metaphysicians, who are finding the matter a tough nut to crack.

Maine superintendents instead concentrate on some management practices that most agree help reduce kill from ice cover, granting in the first place that they "inherit" improperly constructed greens that drain badly.

1. Raise the height of cut on greens in October and make the last mowing as early as complaining golfers will permit (There are not many of these after October 15). A "hairy" green will keep the ice layer a bit more off the surface.

2. Avoid lush fall growth by making the last application of nitrogen fertilizer about Labor Day, for growth normally stops here on October 15. A warm fall may defeat one's intentions to avoid lush turf.

3. Application of $\frac{1}{2}$ — 1 lb. of K_2O /thousand square feet at the end of September helps a great deal to harden off greens' turf.

4. Fall topdressing is very helpful, but unless an intensive management program already exists and modern equipment is available, a superintendent is not able to do this job in October.

5. Keeping snow depth down during winter through removal of snow keeps the ice layer thin and sets up early removal in spring. Again personnel practices must be well developed, for the superintendent cannot do this by himself. And in spring it has been found that ice melts faster than it can be removed.

6. During spring superintendents give the highest priority to cutting redtop or bentgrass seed into dead areas as early as possible. Weather may prevent the most timely overseeding, but if done early enough, the seeded grass will come up with resident annual bluegrass and cover over the surface before warm weather comes. If the surface is not covered or if the superintendent lets "nature take care of it" the resulting annual bluegrass turf will be unsatisfactorily thin and skimpy until late fall, the end of the golfing season.

— Dr. Burton R. Anderson

PUBLIC ENEMY NO. 1

This is the time of year when an old fungus friend comes to call. It is that unwanted pest, snow mold, and from all early indications the pesky serpent of the soil will appear with as much vigor as the past.

There is a scattered misconception that snow mold comes in only one popular flavor — mocha. "This is untrue", says Al Radko of the USGA Green Section. "Snow mold comes in an assortment of colors. Sometimes it is orange. Then, there is sickening pink. It even has been known to show its ugly self in tinges of gray. No matter the color, though, it is distasteful."

Snow mold is an inhabitant of the North. But, contrary to most belief, it is not confined to heavy precipitation areas. In parts of England, where it never snows, there have been instances of snow mold. Temperatures in the 28-42 zone activate the culprit.

Fairways usually aren't affected too much by the presence of the disease-producing fungi. However, in recent years as irrigation systems have crept within an integral status as part of the golf course makeup snow mold now threatens an entire layout.

"Tees and greens used to be those areas hardest hit," Radko declares. "Since they received more water, it came about they were easy prey for the snow mold calling card. Now, with more courses going to complete irrigation, snow mold could become the most important problem in the system of course maintenance.

Both Radko and Al Anderson, snow mold emeritus from Brae Burn, engaged in serious discussion of the malignant malady during the recent Turf Conference in Chicopee, Mass. They agreed that the preventative measures definitely tax the budget.

"The only effective arresting agent we've discovered is a mercurial turf fungicide", Anderson discloses. "However, we all know the cost of mercury. It is staggering. In many cases the course superintendent can afford to treat only his greens. If someone could invent another more feasible-priced product to do the same job, it would be a godsend."

Radko, who has had 20 years of experience in the immensely important role of eastern director for the USGA Green Section, agrees with Anderson. "The late fall days of September and October are the breeding months for snow mold", he reveals. "This is the time when the patient must be treated. True, the remedy is very expensive. I have known clubs to include their tees with the greens in clothing them with the mercurial fungicide. If it comes to the point of including fairways, the cost will be staggering."

Unfortunately, there is no guarantee for the control of snow mold. "I have heard of disheartening cases", Radko states. "On occasion a following heavy rain could wash away the mercurial medicine and the treatment would have to be repeated. It just may be that many superintendents have abandoned the mercurial treatment without sensible reason, because they weren't aware of the disastrous effects of a washout."

With a noticeable increase in areas on the golf course now serviced by irrigation, it appears that snow mold cannot be written off as an isolated or simply an immediate problem. For this reason it is slowly shouldering its way past other undesirable residents of the soil, working toward status as public enemy No. 1 in the crime files of the harassed golf course superintendent. It certainly has a price on its head.

— Gerry Finn

HANDLE WITH CARE

When the USGA calls, the golf course superintendent must answer.

The case . . . the USGA National Open. Who's on the spot? "No one . . . not really", says the USGA. "We don't expect miracles in the way of course condition for our championship events. That is why we choose them on the basis of regular merit, rather than on an assumption the superintendent sparkles only when there is added incentive to excel in his profession."

This year's man with the greenhouse exposure will have to put a spit and shine on the extraordinary layout of Oak Hill in Rochester, N. Y. It is the site of the National Open, selected two years in advance to allow for any major changes and maybe an extra effort to assure a workable budget for the course.

The USGA would like to make one point clear. It does not take control of the National Open course. "We make only suggestions, not demands", the USGA claims. "We have faith in the people whose job it is to deliver Oak Hill to the players in top condition. This is one of the reasons why we're playing there."

Of course, the superintendent of an Open layout can't rest on his laurels. His biggest task appears to conform to the outline of the fairways and the cut of the rough and collars around the greens. These functions are the only added differences in his daily duties, except in extreme cases where the tournament sponsors might want to beef up the length of certain holes.

Actually, there is and always has been good cooperation between the USGA and the superintendent of the moment. The governing body of amateur golf places its confidence in the reputation of the course general.

If there is incentive, it would have to be the enormous amount of public exposure the particular course receives by way of the competitors, the spectators on the scene and the millions of others who take in the National Open on television. In this manner, then, the superintendent invites himself and his profession to much-needed recognition.

With the fact that the USGA places so much emphasis on selection of a course and its impending super condition, it is becoming increasingly evident that the superintendent is held in an accompanying light of distinction, very much like that of the competitors.

Preparing the course for a USGA certainly comprises a challenge but a worthwhile one. The superintendent must handle everything with care. But the rewards warrant such an approach.

— Gerry Finn

The association is saddened by the recent death of Ted Swanson, retired superintendent of the Bear Hill Golf Club in Stoneham.

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Philp C. Beal Associates, Inc.
Consulting Engineers
Irrigation and Recreational Facilities
P. O. Box 102
Hanover, Mass.

Gene Fitzpatrick
Certified Laboratories
12 Paradise Road
Ipswich, Mass.

The Charles C. Hart Seed Co.
Wethersfield, Connecticut

The Clapper Co.
1121 Washington Street
West Newton, Massachusetts

Geoffrey S. Cornish
Golf Course Architect
Fiddler's Green
Amherst, Massachusetts

Fuel Activator Chemical Corp.
C. F. Barbour — Regional Director
43000 Prudential Tower
Boston, Massachusetts

George E. Cull
Terra-Green Soil Conditioner
Oil-Dri Corp. of America
112 Green Street
Abington, Mass.

C. S. Curran
T. R. C. Products, Oils and Greases
Finest Lubricants for Golf Course
Equipment
7 Linden Street
Framingham, Mass.

Gaffny Enterprises, Inc.
Irrigation Specialists
North Main Street
Middleton, Massachusetts

Grounds Equipment Co., Inc.
383 Boylston Street
Newton Centre, Massachusetts

Tom Irwin Co.
Bennett Hill Road
Rowley, Massachusetts

Johns-Manville Sales Corp.
150 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Karandrew Turf Farms, Inc.
Sam Mitchell, Sales Representative
18 Old Randolph Street
Canton, Massachusetts

The Kenneth Barrie Company
375 Centre Street
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

Kerr McGee Chemical Corporation
P. O. Box 790
Waterbury, Connecticut

Larchmont Irrigation Co.
Larchmont Lane
Lexington, Massachusetts

J. F. Aveni
LuSoil Soil Conditioner
Engelhard Minerals & Chemicals Corp.
25 Concord Avenue
Belmont, Massachusetts

Magovern Company, Inc.
Lawn Acre Road
Windsor Lock, Connecticut

D. L. Maher Co.
Water Supply Contractors
Testwells — Gravel packed wells
Byron Jackson Pumps
P. O. Box 274
Woburn, Massachusetts

Melanson of Georgetown
Modern Steam and Pressure Cleaners
Modern Industrial Cleaning Chemicals
Georgetown, Massachusetts

Ken Minasian
Scotts
6 Amelia Court
N. Providence, R. I.

Richey & Clapper, Inc.
28 Rutledge Road
Natick, Massachusetts

Sawtelle Brothers
Jct. Routes 128 and 62
Danvers, Massachusetts

Shepard Sod Company
Merion Blue Grass and Pencross Bent
200 Sullivan Avenue
South Windsor, Conn.

John P. Simon, Asst. Mgr.
Corenco Corporation
Springfield Rendering Company
P. O. Box 379
Springfield, Massachusetts 01101

Philip A. Wogan
Golf Course Architect
21 Budleigh Avenue
Beverly, Massachusetts

Wyandotte Chemical Co.
709 Salada Building
Boston, Massachusetts

Yerxa's, Inc.
Golf Course Equipment
740 Broadway
South Portland, Maine

NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents Association
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