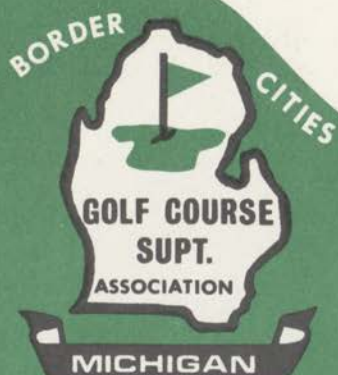


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Circulation 1,250

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George Prieskorn elected President

George Prieskorn, Superintendent of Burroughs Farm Golf Club, Brighton, Michigan, was elected president of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association at the annual meeting held at Maple Lane Golf Club in October. George will take office January 1, 1976.

Elected Vice President for the coming year is Clem Wolfrom, Superintendent of Detroit Golf Club, Detroit, Michigan. The two new directors of the association, elected to three-year terms, are Ward Swanson, Superintendent of Plum Hollow Golf Club, Southfield, and James Timmerman, Superintendent of Orchard Lake Country Club, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Re-elected Secretary-Treasurer is Robert Hope, CGCS, Superintendent of The Lochmoor Club, Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

President Prieskorn appointed Walter Trombley, CGCS, Superintendent of Arrowhead Golf Club, Pontiac, Michigan to fill the vacancy created when Clem Wolfrom became Vice President.

Other Directors serving on the Board are: Don LaFond, Superintendent of Bay Pointe Golf Club, Union Lake, Michigan; Roger Gill, Superintendent of Pine Lake Country Club, Orchard Lake, Michigan; Bruce Wolfrom CGCS, Super-



George Prieskorn, newly elected President of MBCGCSA. George is Superintendent of Burroughs Farm Golf Club, Brighton, Mich.

intendent of Barton Hills Country Club, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Serving as President Emeritus is Gerald Gill, immediate Past President, Superintendent of Tam-O-Shanter Country Club, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

There are few, if any, jobs in which ability alone is sufficient. Needed also are loyalty, sincerity, enthusiasm, and cooperation.

Merry Christmas
from the Editor and Publisher

GRASS CLIPPINGS

by FRANK GREEN



It's the time of the year when the problems of the past summer are just about forgotten. It's a time when you've done all you can do to see that your greens get safely through the winter.

You have applied your snow mold protection, and made sure that they're not too lush, and not too starved. You've also made sure the proper soil moisture is present because you know what a cold, dry winter wind, without a snow cover can do to grass. In short, you can say, "you've got the ball now mother nature, do with it what you will." Next April will tell the story of how well you've prepared your course for the winter.

Of course, during the winter, there are many things to get done. There are the ball washers and benches to paint. There's all the equipment to overhaul, repair, and paint. There are trees to trim and plant. There's snow to plow and parking lots to salt. It's true there are a lot of things to do, but one thing is different between now and when the grass is growing - what is it? It's the pressure.

It's the knowledge that if a mower isn't repaired January 4th, it can wait until January 10th. During July, if you've got to make a decision, whether it is dollar spot or pythium on your greens, you have to do it immediately. It's the knowledge that if you make a wrong decision and some grass dies because of it, you have to tell the membership their course is in

less than playable condition. It's the knowledge that because you're a qualified superintendent, you are expected to maintain your course in a professional manner. If you don't, you get the credit for it, and if you do, you get the credit for it (sometimes).

You hear it often said that a golf course superintendent has "got it made in the winter." Well, it's true there's no grass to mow, disease to treat, or weeds to kill. However, I'll still stack a superintendent's hours up against any other profession on a year round basis. There are an awful lot of twelve and fourteen hour days in the summer and the few four and five hour days that occur in the winter don't come anywhere near offsetting those endless summer days.

Sure, this is a great time of the year. If you had a good "75" season, then savor the satisfaction. If you haven't, then there's a new challenge around the corner. Enjoy the winter while it lasts, and have a happy Christmas and a rewarding New Year.

COMING EVENTS

PESTICIDE SEMINAR, M.S.U.
DECEMBER 16-17, 1975

TURF CONFERENCE, M.S.U.
JANUARY 21-22, 1976

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On September 10, the Northern Michigan Turf Managers Association invited some forty students to their meeting to hear Tom Mascaro speak on "Reducing Costs in Turfgrass Management." His book on Turfgrass Management is being used as one of their text books.

Cont. Page 8

ABOVE: L to R; Ted Woehrle, Director GCSAA; Fred Powell, Supt. Katke G.C.; Dr. William Buckingham, Director of Auxillary Affairs & Services, Ferris State; Norm Bennett, Golf Professional & Mgr. Katke G.C. and President of Western Michigan PGA as well as Coordinator of entire program at Ferris State College; C. E. "Tuck" Tate, President of Northern Michigan Turf Managers; Rock, Director of the School of Marketing; Tom Mascaro, Head of marketing for Safety Lawn; Greg Sedorchuck, local Safety Lawn representative.



Tom Mascaro of Safety Lawn.



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PGA at Ferris Cont.

He pointed out that the pendulum is swinging back from the Pro-Supt-Mgr concept to the Pro Supt concept, especially where money is tight and the operation is small.

Tom stated that in 1933, labor made up 70% of the total maintenance budget and in 1973 it still consisted of 70%. Low wages with no fringe benefits make it difficult to compete in the labor market.

We must PLAN our overall system of operation and determine if we have a *planned* operation or an *inherited* system of operation.

"Parkinson's Law" states that work expands to fill the available time. The way to change this is to change the procedure used to do a job and the time allotted will also change.

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Sometimes we must spend money to save money. A good example would be in reconstruction of old courses which were not designed to accomodate carts. In some cases, a comprehensive study of our sand traps for future changes would be in order. Labor relations are also important or how you handle the job.

PRIDE AND RECOGNITION - Build a good team.

Two golfers were having their play ruined by a pair of women in front of them who were new to the game and were taking forever on each hole. The climax came when the two men arrived at the ninth hole only to find one of the women stretched out on the green taking a sun bath while the other thrashed madly about in some tall weeds nearby.

"Don't you think you might at least help your friend find her ball?" snarled one of the men.

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Chlordane and Heptachlor

from W. E. KNOOP, Director of Education, GCSAA

There has been much information passing around recently regarding chlordane.

Some superintendents we have talked to feel that it is in fact taken off the market. However, this is not the case.

The current discussions center around whether or not chlordane is a cause of cancer. EPA maintains that it has caused cancer in test animals, and because it has it should be eliminated. Velsicol Chemical Corporation is, of course, fighting these decisions. They have recently been joined by USDA which will produce some twenty (20) witnesses who will submit evidence on the safety benefit and need for these pesticides. Therefore, no definite decision has been reached although EPA is very much interested in stopping the production of these materials.

Some turfgrass researchers we have spoken to are indicating that there is a body of evidence being developed which relates to increased thatch problems when chlordane is used because of chlordane's wide spectrum characteristics. For instance, earth-

worms and other organisms that decompose thatch can be very helpful, but often they are eliminated by chlordane when it is used for insect control.

The following is a general list of insecticides that are currently being suggested. These insecticides are more specific than chlordane and, in some quarters are recommended because of their specific uses.

Grub - Diazinon, Dursban, Dylox, Milky Spore

Webworm, Cutworm - Sevin, Diazinon, Dylox, Baygon, Ethion

Chinch Bug - Diazinon, Dursban, Aspon, Ethion, Trithion

Billbug - Diazinon, Dursban

Mole Cricket - Baygon, Dursban, Toxaphene

We are monitoring this issue very closely and will keep you informed as there are new developments. Should you have any information that is relative to the discussions now going on, we would appreciate your writing to Mr. Russell Train, Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C. 20460 with a copy to us.



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Or you may contact the next golf course supplier who calls on you and give him the information needed for application.

We recently received a note from Jim Latham of the Milwaukee Sewerage Commission containing a timely article written in "The National Greenkeeper" issue dated March, 1927. The author was Herb Shave, the first President of the Michigan and Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association. This article is most fitting at this time as our first 50 years draw to a close.

Our thanks to Jim for sharing this article with us.

Give Your Assistant a Chance

by HERBERT E. SHAVE

Greenkeeper, Oakland Hills C.C., Birmingham, Michigan

I came to the Detroit District Oct. 1, 1920. Previous to that date I had spent eight years and seven months at the Glen View Golf Club, Golf, Ill. Since coming to Oakland Hills Country Club, we have had the Western Open in 1922, and the National Open in 1924.

This article I hope may be a help to some of the younger and possibly a few older greenkeepers. It may be used more as a guide for the less experienced greenkeepers. I have followed the same system for the past fifteen years and it has worked out very well.

Working Force

An eighteen hole golf course, which is in fairly good condition, can be kept in first class shape with eleven men. Divide the men as follows: six men for greens and tees; two men

for bunkers, mounds, etc.; one man for cutting rough; one man to act as your assistant. Some greenkeepers think they don't need an assistant but I believe it is a very good thing to have someone who takes an interest in the work and whom you can trust. Get to know your men, then pick out the kind of man who you know will give you a square deal, pay him a little more and train him to your way of doing things; then in case of sickness or a vacation, you need have no worry as to how the work is being carried on; at the same time you are making a greenkeeper for some club. Good greenkeepers are scarce.

General Work

Each man takes care of three greens and the tees in the vicinity of his greens. He cuts, rolls, waters, fertilizes and weeds the greens. The



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first duty in the spring, when you can get on the greens is topdressing with compost. One or two yards per green according to the size, mixed with thirty to fifty pounds of sulphate ammonia. Spread on and rub in with a steel mat and follow with a good rolling. I usually topdress every four or six weeks and use the same amount; but I sometimes vary with a dressing of good sharp sand; especially if the greens are composed of heavy soil. A sanding two or three times during the season will do them a world of good; because it works into the soil making it more porous, giving the grass roots a chance to spread out and go down after moisture and also letting the water penetrate deeper; besides forming a good cushion, trueing up the greens, therefore making good putting. I usually go over them every two weeks with about twenty-five to thirty pounds of sulphate of ammonia. A good way to put it on is to have a water barrel sprinkler, dissolving five pounds in each barrel then going over the greens. If you haven't a water barrel sprinkler, get a Cyclone Grass Seeder and put it on with that, following with a good heavy watering.

Care of Putting Greens

During the growing season we mow every day and roll three times a week. After each man has finished mowing or rolling his greens, he mows his tees, if they need it; using the same type of machine and cutting the tees nearly as closely as the greens. My men are

usually through mowing, watering or rolling about noon; so they have half a day to pull weeds, fill up holes punched in greens by landing balls, or touching up poor spots if there are any.

Morning Watering

Now, we come to a very important thing on a golf course. Plenty of water is very essential. I used to water at night but gave up the idea several years ago, as it is so hard to get a man who will stick to it and still do a good job. It is a very monotonous job, and it is very hard to see much of the green at one time: which resulted in many places on the greens not getting any water. Each man waters each of his greens for about three-quarters of an hour, with a one inch hose and large spray nozzle, with about thirty to fifty pounds of pressure. When he is through with his last green, his first one is dry enough to cut. When watering the greens give them a soaking so that the water will soak down about four or five inches. Do not sprinkle greens lightly in the daytime because when the sun comes out or the wind blows it will just dry up without any benefit to the greens at all. There have been a lot of comments on daytime watering, some say it is harmful; but I think it a good idea if done right. I base my conclusions on the fact that after a rain storm in the daytime, that lasts about a half hour, it works wonders with the course, so

Continued on Page 16

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Give Assistant a Chance Cont.

why shouldn't watering by men in the daytime be of the same value? I have thirty-six holes and all of the greens are watered in this manner. Watering takes place at the beginning of the day's work. Then we use bamboo poles and rub any moisture or dew off before cutting.

Seeding

Seeding should be done in the fall for the best results; say about Septem-

ber first, although lots of clubs are using vegetative creeping bent, especially in their new greens, I have eighteen greens which were planted by the vegetative method. They were planted September 1923 and were ready for play in June 1924, and they were in first class condition. But this type of green I'll leave for someone else to explain.

Keep Your Bunkers Clean

I keep two men busy working on bunkers, keeping them clean and raked, mounds and edges of pits trimmed. I made two drags by taking two pieces of wood 2 inches by 6 inches by 2 feet. These were driven full of spikes and hung together by hinges, and a piece of rope attached to each end. Two men can drag the bottom of a good many pits in a day. They also carry along a rake, to rake the sides of the pits. This is done every day on my course to 103 pits on the south course and 84 pits on the north course.

Spring Fertilizing of Fairways

Fairways are usually cut by tractor power, with five cutting units either pulled or pushed, and you should not let the grass on the fairways get too long. Any thin places on your fairways should be run over with a disc harrow. The disc should be set nearly straight so as not to tear out too much grass; then such places should be seeded and topdressed, chain harrowed and rolled. It is a good idea to go over such places after the season has closed,

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with a good dressing of manure and the following year will see quite a change for the better. It is also a good idea to fertilize in the early spring. I use Activated Sludge, new name, Milorganite, at the rate of seven pounds to the acre. It is the best fertilizer I have found, and it is very cheap, costing \$22.50 a ton f.o.b., Milwaukee. The greenkeepers around the Detroit district who have used it are well pleased with the results it brings about.

Rough Needs More Attention

The rough we cut with a tractor and three cutting units and it is kept down pretty close, so as to speed up the play. When the rough is long, balls get lost easily and lost balls mean slow play, and slow play on a mulchy played course is unsatisfactory, so keep your rough down.

Choose a Good Assistant

The assistant greenkeeper should know enough to go around and change the holes; of course he must be shown how, but after being shown how he should be made to do it, as it gives him practice and at the same time he can see that the men are doing the right thing; also he will be able to see places on the course that need attention. He should be given every kind of work to do and when he becomes adept at his work it will help you and may also be the means of getting himself a place of his own.

No Two Courses Alike

Do not think that all courses are the same; because they are not. There is a difference in courses, even though they may only be a few miles apart. One course may be very sandy, another a little heavier, another might be heavy soil, another clay. Each one needs different treatment and if you don't know how, ask some of your fellow greenkeepers; they will be glad to help you. Remember that we are never so wise that we know it all; that every day there are hints which might be of great help to us,

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so pay attention when you are talking with another greenkeeper and he may

tell you something you never dreamed of before.

1975 at a Glance

Jan. 6 - Bay Pointe Golf Club
April 22 - Essex Golf Club - Gene Bone
May 20 - Davison C. C. - Jim Beard
June 12 - The Detroit Golf Club - Greg Patchan
June 24 - MSU Field Day
July 8 - Edgewood C.C. - Tom Mascaro
Aug. 5 - Bald Mt. Golf Course - Ted Woehrle
Aug. 19 - Burroughs Farm - Annual Picnic
Sept. 6 - Bay Pointe Golf Club - 50th Anniversary
Sept. 19 - Bay Pointe Golf Club - 10th Annual Golf Day
Oct. 14 - Maple Lane Golf Club - Annual meeting
Oct. 23 - Knollwood C.C. - Dr. Joe Vargas

Dec. 5 - Edgewood C.C. - Christmas Party

1975 will go down in history as one of our tougher summers. Everything was going along nicely until mid August when high temperatures and humidity made their appearance and stayed around for four weeks. By the time the weather returned to normal, many of our golf courses were no longer too appealing.

Fortunately, many of the scars healed before winter and the outlook for 1976 looks a little brighter than it did in September.

Once again, the Association had a busy schedule. Our annual Golf Day netted over \$7,000 and the Patch of Green donated \$1,300 to the GCSAA, USGA, and the Noer Foundation. We have once again enjoyed a prosperous year. Let's hope that 1976 is just as rewarding.

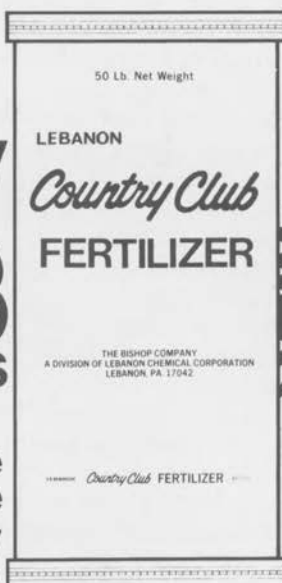


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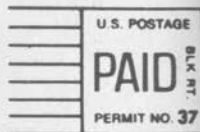


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