# **July 1980** BORDER **GOLF COURS** SUPT. ASSOCIATION Property of MICHIGAN IAMES B. BEARD Soil, Crop Sciences Dept. Texas A&M Univ. A PATCH -

Official Publication of the Michigan & Border Cities Golf Course Superintendents Association



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A Greenskeeper's History

### "HOLE NOTES" - May, 1980 - Minnesota GCSA

The following is an article written by Charles Erickson in February 1932 as part of a short course Turf Conference at the University of Minnesota.

I listened with pleasure to Emil Picha's talk on the care and upkeep of greens and golf courses during this present day.

Nearly all of us know, especially we older men, that there is always something new to learn, something which we are not familiar with.

To bring out this point I am going to give you an idea of how we boys did things in olden days, that is thirty years ago or better, when I was first greenkeeper. There wasn't very much at that time.

We never tried to remodel our greens as there was nothing to laying out a golf course or do much changing except in cases where there was a lot of timber. On the prairies it came in very handy and that is what we started out with at our good old Minikahda Club. After the greens and the course were made we just cut out the greens with a common lawn mower and then rolled them. We didn't even know emough to top dress them. If they were a little low in places we raised the sod and filled in that way.

If there was grass that wasn't quite so good we went out on the course, took a hand sod cutter and

picked up the best we could see and replaced it on our greens. Then we had to roll them. That is the lesson I heard every day, "Charlie, have you rolled the greens?" I made a roller out of cement, it weighed 900 pounds. but the committee told me it wasn't heavy enough. We finally got a heavy fairway roller, which I still use, and that weighs 2800 pounds. I had four men and we had to pull that on the greens. Not so easy, believe me. We had to push and pull. There were a couple of greens that were very sloping so I took a team of horses and a long rope and they gave us a lift, pulling it on the sloping greens and we pulled it back by hand power.

We never thought of top dressing or fertilizing. When the grass was worn out, due to so much rolling, we had to replace it again. This lasted for a little while, but I found out that something else had to be done. I went out in the woods and got some wonderful dirt and started to top dress, which helped me considerably.

Our water pressure was very low because the piping was in when I came out there and it was only 3/4" piping for 400 yards, so you can readily see what I was up against. We couldn't even get the sprinkler to turn around. We had to water mostly by hand which Continued on Page 17



# **All About Sprayers**

cals is one of the most essential machine would have a multiple piston machines for golf course maintenance. Many courses have two or three sprayers, using one exclusively for herbi- hi-pressure machinery cleaning, tall cides and another for fungicides. This tree spraying or fire fighting and is means, each sprayer is supplied with the proper nozzles and calibrated to apply the correct amounts of spray mixtures. If it is not economically over 100 p.s.i. calibration for acfeasible to own two or three machines, then one good commercial type spraver should be obtained and be adaptable for both hi and low pressures.

Chemical weed control requires exact amounts of chemical, uniformly applied. At first, it may seem complicated to apply a specific amount of chemical per 1000 sq. ft. However, it is quite simple if taken a step at a pressure can be obtained and be sensitime. The components of a sprayer and their functions should be thoroughly understood, as well as the variables. which must be controlled to give an accurate spray application.

First, the sprayer. should be corrosion resistant, have a is shut off, the hi-pressure system large filler opening for cleaning and with its regulator and gauge can be have jet or mechanical agitator. The used for hand spray gun work. With a pump can be low pressure - roller, gear, dual system, the hi-pressure regulator rubber impeller, centrifugal or turbine - should be made so it can be triggered with a capacity in gallons per minute to at least 50 percent greater than the pressure work. nozzle and jet agitator requirement (if a jet agitator is used). This allows

A sprayer for application of chemi- for pump and nozzle wear. The ideal pump with a mechanical agitator. A piston pump machine can be used for easily repaired when worn. A sprayer should have an accurate gauge, preferably brass, glycerin filled with not curacy around 30 to 60 lbs. - the low pressure spraving range. If the machine is also a hi-pressure unit, the low pressure gauge can be replaced with a hi-pressure gauge or a valve installed below the gauge to shut it off for hi-pressure spraying.

> The pressure regulator should have sufficient capacity so that low tive so it controls the pressure accurately. A dual low and hi-pressure system can be installed on a hipressure sprayer, allowing the low pressure regulator and gauge to be The tanks used for boom spraying. When the boom relieve the hi-pressure for low

> > Nozzles must be chosen for size, Continued on Page 16





### SCHEDULING FOR SUCCESS

Most of us accomplish more and work more efficiently when we are under some kind of pressure. We need to be pushed to produce our best work. As a supervisor, one of your major jobs is to keep every one of your employees busy and productive. You have to offset the natural tendency of people to slack off when they are not faced with the pressure of a deadline.

This is a situation where Parkinson's Law, which states that "Work expands to fill the time available," comes into play. If you tell one of your employees that a piece of equipment needs to be fixed or a specific maintenance task should be done, he will plan his time so that the task gets done when it fits into his schedule, which is not the same as your schedule or that of your club.

However, if you tell him that the task must be completed by tomorrow morning and the two of you agree that it can be finished by then, he will probably break his neck to get it done on time.

Effective scheduling of employee tasks can make the difference between a department that runs like clockwork and one that always seems to be in a crisis. Schedules and deadlines give urgency to activities that, without pressure, might pile up until a time when everything must be done at once. If you are after consistently good results from your employees, you have to be willing to devote the necessary amount of time to setting priorities and planning schedules. The more important it is that you take the time to plan your employees' work effectively.

First of all, you must set your priorities. You are the manager. You know what tasks must be accomplished and how important each one is. You know the reasons for each task and the reasons for each task and the way they all fit together. This is your responsibility, and the people over you care more about the completion of the tasks than the way in which you accomplish them.

To ensure that the work gets done on time, set a deadline. It is often helpful to work out a mutually acceptable deadline with the employee who will be doing the work, but you must make sure that there is a deadline and that those responsible know what it is. Put it in writing, if necessary, and enforce it.

Many supervisors and managers find it helpful to draw up a time-table. It doesn't have to be fancy, but it should include all the important tasks which must be completed within a given time period, the deadline for their completion and the name of the *Continued on Page 16* 

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### AQUATIC WEED CONTROL

### by Dr. Robert Wingard

The goal of aquatic weed control is to balance the number and types of plants with the uses of a particular body of water. There are two major types of aquatic plants; algae, which includes plankton, filamentous types, and stonewort, which occurs mainly in limestone springs; and flowering plants, which are either submergent, emergent, or floaters.

Aquatic weed control can be divided into 3 types of control; cultural, mechanical, and chemical. Cultural methods of control include building ponds and lakes with steeply sloping sides to eliminate rooting sites, fluctuation of water levels, and reduction of fertilization of the water. Also, the use of some species fish and snails have aided weed control. Note, however, that the White Amur, which has been successful in some areas of the country, is illegal in most states.

Mechanical control of aquatic weeds can be of help in some instances. Mowing pond and lake edges, and raking of filamentous algae are operations that can help your control program. Also, as a desperation move, you can pull weeds from the shallow areas.

Chemical controls must be applied with precision. In addition to your applicator's license, you will need a special permit to apply most aquatic herbicides. Several precautions should be taken when applying these materials. By eliminating the plant population, an oxygen deficiency can

occur, harming the fish population. Copper is toxic to trout. Treat from shallow to deep water, so fish can escape material. Water temperature must be 60 degrees plus for effective treatment. When the entire surface of a body of water must be treated, treat 1/3 weekly instead of entire pond at once. If area is a source of irrigation will have to be delayed for a time depending on the material. Finally, as with any pesticide, be sure to READ THE LABEL!

### First GCSAA/LPGA Citation of Performance Goes to Dick Craig of Jack Nicklaus Sports Center

Dick Craig, Golf Course Superintendent of the Jack Nicklaus Sports Center, King's Island, Ohio, from 1971 until being named General Manager of the facility earlier this year, is the first recipient of the combined Golf Course Superintendents Association of America/Ladies Professional Golf Association Citation of Perfromance. Announcement of the award was made by GCSAA President, Mel Lucas, Jr., and LPGA Commissioner, Ray Volpe. The award will be formally presented to Craig at the ceremony at the conclusion of the LPGA Championship. The Jack Nicklaus Sports Center has been the site of the LPGA Championship since 1978.

Craig was chosen for his expertise and performance in his profession, his cooperation with the LPGA and for the preparation of the golf course for LPGA Championship competition.



Dedoes Industries has obtained the manufacturing rights for a new product which has met with great acclaim wherever it has been demonstrated. It is the "TRAP SPRAY" used to kill any growth that normally accumulates in the sand around the edge of the traps.

Roy Briggs, Golf Course Superintendent at Kingsway Country Club, Port Charlotte, Florida, first conceived this idea and presented it to Dedoes Industries for its development. Briggs has always felt that well groomed traps and bunkers tell the story whether a golf course is in first class condition. He also realized the tremendous cost and work involved in removing growth that collects in a trap periodically. It is this unit that offered a solution to these problems. He has worked very closely with an expert in this endeavor.

The patent pending axle shaft is designed to dispense the solution through the end of the axle so that additional and various sized tips used are standard equipment. This gives the operator perfect control of the spraying unit.

The trap spray also has a patent pending cam guard shield to prevent the spray from coming in contact with any part of the grass that should be protected.

To avoid corrosion all parts of the unit which come in contact with the solutions used in the sprayer are made of brass or stainless steel.

Many uses other than just as a trap growth retardant have developed since it was first conceived. They are:

- 1. To mark border lines of hazards
- 2. To kill growth that spreads into cart paths, walks, etc.
- Around trees, making a very definite circle, to kill the grass without harming the tree itself
- It can be used with paint as a parking lot line maker without straddling the line after it has been painted.

Other golf course products now being manufactured by Dedoes Industries are:

Trap rakes for both Toro and Easy Rider, and Aerators for tees and greens and fairways.

Literature is available on all Dedoes golf course products by writing to:

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### "IT'S MINE . . . NO IT'S MINE"

"Pat Crosby and Doug McAbee have one for *Ripley's Believe It Or Not*. Crosby and McAbee, playing in a twosome recently at Peach Valley Country Club, North Carolina, approached the 11th tee, 165-yard par three hole with a blind shot to the green. Crosby stroked a nine iron to the downhill green, hidden by a crest in the fairway and McAbee used a wedge to the green.

When the two golfers reached the green, one ball was a foot from the hole, and the other - that's right - was nestled in the cup. Two very nice shots. But wait a moment.

Both Crosby and McAbee were using the same brand of ball with the same number. They had failed to mark either for identification. So, who scored the ace?

Actually, in accordance with the Rules of Golf, each player would be accorded a two stroke penalty if a wrong ball was played which would give one player a three and the other a four.

But in this case, neither knew whose ball was whose. And they're still wondering who had the ace."

Carolina Golfer, 1974

### TURF COLLECTION NEEDS NEWSLETTERS

The Michigan State University Science Library in East Lansing houses the O.J. Noer Turf Grass Collection, including newsletters and other turf publications. Unfortunately, librarian Carol D. Jones says that keeping track of the addresses of chapter newsletter editors and obtaining copies of their newsletters has become "a sticky problem."

To reserve your place in turf grass history, be sure to include the O.J. Noer Collection in your mailing list. The address is:

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### TURF MANAGER'S HANDBOOK

Turf Managers' Handbook is now available from the Business Publications Division of Harvest Publishing Company, Cleveland Ohio. Written for superintendents, contractors and lawn care managers, The Turf Managers' Handbook is intended as an on-the-job reference. It was designed and written by two leasing turf specialists from Purdue University, Dr. William Daniel and Dr. Ray Freeborg.

The 424-page book is available in hardback or softback and contains 150 illustrations and 96 color photographs. Data included 240 tables and forms. Useful information on specifications for rootzones, employment, chemical application, and business and technical aspects is also included in this handbook.

Copies are available from the Books Department, Business Publications Division, Harvest Publishing Company, 9800 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44102. Cost is \$18.95 for the hardback edition or \$14.95 for the softback edition. A shipping charge of \$1.25 per book must be added.

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### ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS

One night I had a dream, I dreamed that I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the sky flashed scenes from my life. In each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints on the sand; one belonged to me - the other to the Lord. When the last scene of my life flashed before us, I looked back at the footprints on the sand. It was then I noticed that many times along the path of life, there was only one set of footprints. I also noticed that this happened at the very lowest and saddest times of my life. I was most distressed and bewildered. I questioned the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way; but I noticed that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why in times when I needed you most, you would leave me." The Lord replied, "My precious, precious child, I do love you and would never never leave you during your times of trials and suffering. When you see only one set of footprints, it was then that I carried you."

> Thanks Paul V, Author Unknown

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### All About Sprayers, cont.

from the nozzle chart, to give the gallonage rate desired at the recommended pressure and travel speed. Most nozzles are rated at 30 p.s.i. and 4 m.p.h. and 20" spacing, A 20" nozzle spacing is preferred over 10" spacing because it has a larger orifice, therefore, it is more difficult to clog. Also it is more accurate and produced larger droplets for herbicide work-larger droplets give better weed kill and are less affected by wind. The matching screen can have coarser mesh screen and nozzle. The deflector or flooding type nozzle, as it is called (a misnomer), is preferred because it has a cylindrical orifice, which retains its accuracy at least ten times the life of the original fan type nozzle. In addition to this, it continues to spray a broad fan throughout its useful life, where with the conventional fan nozzle, the spray pattern gets narrower and narrower as the discharge orifice wears, finally shooting a solid stream of much greater volume.

The deflector type has the added advantage of producing larger droplets, which produce better weed kill (by University test) and are less affected by wind.

The boom we prefer is a smooth, stainless tube of sufficient size -3/4" I.D. or larger - so the end nozzles receive the same pressure as the one near the feed hose. It is also preferable if the nozzles come out of the side of the boom instead of the bottom, as this allows dirt particles and precipitated chemical, by passed by the main screen, to settle to the bottom of the boom rather than going right into the nozzle screen.

### Success, cont.

person responsible for each task. If this timetable is distributed to the appropriate people or posted in a prominent place, then each of your employees can schedule his own time in order to work at peak efficiency.

GCSAA Fore Front

Greenskeepers History, cont. took a long time and we had to haul water for two greens where we had no pipes.

The greens were as hard as a country road but one thing I must say is that I was never troubled with worm cast at that time, due to the fact that they were so hard.

I used common lawn mixture for grass seed in those days, that is blue grass and redtop, and then we had a mixture of crabgrass and dandelions besides that.

When I wanted the grass to thicken I always used a little clover because it was quick to germinate and filled in rapidly on the poor places. I certainly have to give the good old U.S.G.A. a lot of credit for the wonderful work they have done for us greenkeepers. They are really the ones who put light on the golf courses today and we have to admit it.

I also want to say something about our fairway. I had four men and four mowers, one man and a horse to each mower. Probably some of you older men will remember that. It took me a whole week to go over and cut my course. It was a slow, tiresome job. The men had to walk behind the mowers and when the greenkeeper wasn't around, they took their time. That is the way things were done years ago. We never saw a clean golf course. The old clippings were laying all over the course from the mowers. Lots of times we had to take the whole crew and clean up.

We had the same trouble in our long grass. Of course we cut this with a hay mower, then we had to go through same performance, raking and the piling it up. The next day you could see the hay all over the country. The members got their golf balls in the hay and you could hear all kinds of language, and we couldn't blame them.

I want to give many thanks to the manufacturing companies who have helped us in so many ways with mowers, tractors and all equipment to serve every item that is needed for our golf courses. We can now satisfy our good club and it is a pleasure to have a well kept course. You enjoy it and Continued on Next Page





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### Greenskeepers's History, cont.

they are proud of you by so doing.

I have a word - it is very small but it is big to me and that is "Love." If you love your club and your chairman I will guarantee you are going to save your good club quite a sum through the season.

I heard one of our good greenkeepers say in New York, "Be on the job". That's worth bearing in mind. It means a lot to you and to your club. Don't put the entire burden on your chairman - take a little responsibility on your own shoulders - satisfy your club and you will be satisfying yourself.

We greenkeepers have to study our problems all the time. We have to know a little of everything. We have to be blacksmiths, tinners, carpenters, bricklayers, stone masons, etc. We have to be able to take care of all these little details that come our way.

We also have to keep on the look out for brown patch, scold worms, ants, in fact all disease of the grasses, In other words, we are doctors of the green.

But all in all, it's fun being a greenkeeper. I have been at it thirty years - but then I have heard people say the first hundred are the hardest, so I still have a long row to hoe.

### NECROLOGY

Frank E. Kenney Jr., vice president and counsel of the Golf Association of Michigan and trustee of the Evans Scholars Foundation, died in a suburban Detroit hospital after a short illness. Kenney, 52, followed his late father, Frank E. Kenney, in service to the GAM. The senior Kenney was president of the Detroit District Golf Association, predecessor of the GAM. While Kenney was a strong board member of the GAM, his first love was the driving force behind the Michigan program which has chapters at the University of Michigan, Kenney's alma mater, and Michigan State University. He is survived by his wife, Beverly, and sons Frank E. III and Frederic. The family asked donations be made to the Evans Scholars program.

Jack Berry



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