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THE CONN. CLIPPINGS

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JUN 13 1978

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Volume 11, No. 3

Baskin Inducted Into Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame

Charlie Baskin, superintendent at the Country Club of Waterbury, became the first golf course superintendent to enter the Connecticut Golf Hall of Fame being voted in by the members of the Connecticut Sports Writers Alliance. He thus joins an illustrious group of twenty-three other Connecticut residents "who have made an outstanding contribution to the game of golf in the State of Connecticut."

Charlie is obviously well deserving of this honor. During his sixteen years as superintendent at Waterbury he has been

active in the promotion of golf and the golf course superintendent. He has brought recognition to himself and to the superintendent through his travels both locally and nationally, always stressing the degree of sophistication and professionalism needed by today's turf manager. Each member of CAGCS is indebted to him for these efforts and congratulates him on this most recent honor.

Some past recipients of this honor include: W.H. Neale, Julius Boros, Marcia Dolan, Charles Petrino, Bobby Grant, and Gene Sarazen.

President's Message

"1. General talk not based on definite knowledge. 2. An unconfirmed report, story, etc. in general circulation."

The above is a definition taken from Webster's New World Dictionary for the word "rumor". To me it is one of the ugliest words in our language. Rumors are everywhere. At home, socially, at work and in every profession. The Golf Course Superintendent's profession being no exception. We are always hearing about this guy who is having trouble with his greens, or that guy with his help or Joe Blow is leaving his job or John Doe got fired. Stories such as these can be extremely harmful to all parties concerned especially if they can not be substantiated.

Recently in Connecticut, we have been hearing more and more from the Department of Environmental Protection (D.E.P.) concerning their rules and regulations on Pesticides.

Unfortunately, an associate member of our association was brought to task for violating the rules and regulations as set forth by the D.E.P. This member tried to find out how his name was reported to the

D.E.P. After talking with second and third parties within the D.E.P., while no names were mentioned, he was led to believe that another associate member of our association turned his name in for these violations.

This is how rumors and innuendoes start. "General talk not based on definite knowledge." Both parties have been hurt by these allegations and hasty early conclusions.

After much discussion with all parties concerned, I am happy to report that these rumors and allegations that were made, were completely unfounded. They were false rumors that were never substantiated. The member who was brought to task for violating the D.E.P.'s regulations has been verbally reprimanded by the D.E.P. and the case put to rest.

Both of the companies that these gentlemen represent, have been members of our association for many years, and I would hate to see these rumors and innuendoes persist, as it does have an overall effect on both companies as well as our association.

I would ask each member, regardless of classification, that when there appears to be a problem such as ethics, allegations, etc.,

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Winter Damage Severe Throughout New England

USGA Green Section notes widespread injury!

Although it is of little comfort, it is interesting to learn that the severe winter injury to turf, especially greens, is not confined to Connecticut. Bill Brewer, Green Section agronomist, notes that severe damage has been observed from central New Jersey northward through Massachusetts. Such severe injury is atypical for areas such as Westchester County, N.Y. and southern and central Connecticut. Most often the species most severely affected has been poa annua. In many cases poorly drained areas, low pockets, and compacted traffic areas where poa predominates were totally destroyed.

Obviously, by this time corrective measures have been taken by most superintendents. Proper procedures include aerating or spiking, overseeding, and topdressing. Interestingly enough, Bill points out that those supers who addressed the problem quite early have seen promising results. This is surprising in that soil temperatures have been slow to rise. It seems that even though top growth had remained slow, seed germination was progressing.

Bill suggests several possibilities for long range solutions. Greens that are continuously problem areas should be rebuilt when possible. Less dramatic solutions include recontouring of green surfaces for improved surface drainage, sub-surface drainage, aeration, and topdressing. Undoubtedly, topdressing can be one of the most beneficial programs to follow. Frequent light applications throughout the growing season will help greatly in improving the growing medium resulting in a more healthy plant, one which may better survive these difficult New England Winters.

— Steve Cadenelli

Connecticut Association Of Golf Course Superintendents

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The object of this association is to encourage increased knowledge of golf course management and greater professionalism through education, research, exchange of practical experience and the well being of each individual member.

The CONN. CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents, Inc.

*Stephen G. Cadenelli, Editor
127 Country Club Road
New Canaan, CT 06840*

THE FOLLOWING HAVE BEEN VOTED IN AS NEW MEMBERS OF OUR ASSOCIATION. CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME!

Raymond Beaudry -
Ass't. Superintendent
The Patterson Club
Fairfield, Ct.

Mark Fuller -
Superintendent
Longshore Golf Club
Westport, Ct.

Peter Peirson -
Superintendent
Edgewood Golf Club
Cromwell, Ct.

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Superintendent
Silver Springs Country Club
Ridgefield, Ct.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Help Wanted: Golf Course Mechanic
Also Wanted: 7 pairs of 14" steel wheels for
for Toro units
Contact: Fred Bachand at
Wethersfield C.C.

Editorial

Over the past several months there has been a great deal of commentary regarding an article written by Mr. Alexander Radko and published in the recent issue of GOLF JOURNAL entitled "Green Is Not Great." In his article Mr. Radko extolled the virtues of prudent turf management practices, that is, the judicious use of pesticides, fertilizers, and most importantly water. Golf should be played on turf that is strong, healthy, and capable of supporting the golf ball through its inherent strength. He warned of the problems that arise from overstimulation of turf and forced growth from excess use of fertilizers and overwatering. All of this in the name of "color." As Mr. Radko states, "golf is not played on color."

It seems that those who have responded negatively to this article have missed Mr. Radko's entire message. The game of golf has been Americanized to the point that anything less than total green on the golf course is unacceptable. This is nonsense! Given the variety of weather and soil conditions on each course it becomes foolish to attempt to grow uniformly "lush green" turf throughout the season. Yes, assist nature when assistance is needed; however, accept imperfections when nature so dictates.

Conifer Bark Beetle

Editor's note: Ed Consolati, superintendent at the Birchwood Country Club in Westport recently noticed a decline in many of the evergreens on the course. The following is information that Ed researched in an attempt to identify and solve the problem.

Trees in a weakened condition are subject to infestation by bark beetle larvae — small worms that mine the bark and the sapwood. Tiny holes are present in the bark where the beetles vary from 1/20" to 1/8" in size emerge.

Symptoms:

Needles at the top third of the tree appear first in a wilted condition. This is approximately the second week of infestation. During the third and fourth week of infestation the top third needles turn completely brown. The fifth week is time to sharpen your chain saw.

Control:

No effective control measure is known. Trees should be kept in vigorous growing condition by feeding and watering. Severely infested trees should be cut down and burned.

Note: Trees that were most severely damaged were those located in poorly drained areas.

Use of the Conn. Agricultural Station

Recently a meeting was held at the Experiment station with representatives of the station and CAGCS in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to re-establish line of communication with the station personnel. The meeting was extremely beneficial to all concerned. Most importantly however, was the desire on the part of the station personnel to help the golf course superintendent in any way possible. These people are interested in our turf problems and are willing to assist our profession. Don't hesitate to contact the following people if the need arises.

Disease

Gerald Walton, New Haven	789-7256
John McIntyre	789-7257
Gordon Taylor, Windsor	688-3647

Insects

Ken Welch, New Haven	789-7239
Bob Moore, Windsor	688-3647

Soils

Brij Sawhney, New Haven	789-7210
Henry DeRoo, Windsor	688-3647

Weeds

John Ahrens, Windsor	688-3647
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Publications

Paul Gough, New Haven	789-7223
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A Shortway To Estimate Your Sand Traps Needs

- Sand eight 96 lbs per cubic foot
- One ton of sand 22 cubic feet
- One ton of sand will cover 66 square feet of 4 inches or 44 square feet at depth of 6 inches
- Average sand trap will use 5-8 tons of trap sand at 4 inches to 6 inches depth
- Formula to determine amount of sand required length x width x depth divided by 2000 lbs.

Credit: The Gateway Green

President's Message

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you bring it to myself, the officers and/or Board of Directors of this association in complete confidence. We will look into the problem for you. Do this before rumors and innuendoes start spreading and before one's character, integrity and reputation are damaged unjustly.

Robert W. Ostermann, CGCS
President, CAGCS

Grass Catcher

Why is it that the weather is always the main topic of discussion?

Well, certainly the dependency of our profession on mother nature is a factor. However, the consistently non-consistent trends of the past two years make us stand up and scratch our heads. This spring being no exception. Reports from all over Connecticut and New England as well tell of exceptionally cold soil temperatures, severely injured turf, especially poa annua in low spots, and major injury to dogwoods and broadleaved evergreens. Turf has been somewhat slow to respond to normal maintenance intended to help it recover. The crowning blow, of course, was the four to five inch rainfalls of mid-May. Now all we have to wait for is the 100 degree days of July.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The attendance of Dr. Jerry Walton of Connecticut Agricultural Station at our last meeting was very welcome and refreshing. An open invitation is extended to all Station and Extension personnel. Jerry has been working with some mixtures of bluegrass variety trials under low fertility (1.0 lb. N.M. ft. sq./yr.). His information to date shows a 50-50 mix of Glade & Nugget to perform quite nicely.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Nominations are now being accepted for the Executive Committee of GCSAA. Nominations should be sent to: Mr. John Spodnik, 6710 McVay Dr., Westfield Center, OH. 44251. Also, dues are payable for the 1978-79 fiscal year. Be sure to fill out the back of your invoice stating your current status of employment. This is a must. Finally, non-members of GCSAA are encouraged to subscribe to THE GOLF SUPERINTENDENT. Subscription rates are reasonable and no where can be found a better publication. See myself or Frank Lamphier for information.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Dick Cook, the golf committee, and host superintendent Fran Rogers are busy putting together plans for this year's Pro-Superintendent Invitational. All agreed that last year's event went beautifully and this year's promises to be a repeat. Get those reservations in early!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The last few weeks have certainly seen some changes amidst our ranks. Dana Wells has left Pequot G.C. to assume the reins at the newly purchased Norwich facility. Paul Christ has replaced him at Pequot. Mark Loper has moved on to new challenges at TPC while Stanley Sablak is the new super at The Farms. Roy Sibley moves over to Hart Seed Company to return to his first love! Peter Rappacio has replaced Dick DePencier at Silver Springs C.C. who left the profession altogether. Old friend Pat O'Connor is now operating Cedar Ridge

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Head Table At Joint MGCSA & CAGCS Meeting

L to R: Kelly Moser - Host Pro, Bob Phipps - Host Supt., Bob Osterman - CAGCS Pres., Ted Horton - MGCSA Pres., Dr. H. Tashiro and Pat Vittum - Cornell University.

Summary of Talks Given at April and May Meetings

The April presentation, given by Dr. H. Tashiro and Pat Vittum of Cornell University dealt with the Hyperodee weevil and the impact of the insect in Connecticut.

The Hyperodee weevil has been a serious pest in this area since 1965. Overwintering as an adult under white pine debris as well as some other forms of protection, it moves out into the fairways at about the time of full dogwood bloom. It travels via crawling and through flight. At this time eggs are laid in the crown of the annual bluegrass plant. Five instar stages result in the mature larvae, a very small larvae with a brown head, white body without legs. This is the most damaging stage of the pest. Damage appears most severe at the edges of the fairways and on collars and aprons.

The key word for control is *timing!* Proper control can be achieved only if material is put down when the insect is in the target area. Recommendations for control include Diazinon at two lbs. A.I. per/A being split into two applications during mid-April and mid-May. Dursban is recommended at the same rate per acre but at one application during full dogwood bloom. Present research shows little or no difference between granular and liquid forms of the insecticide. Also, it appears that watering in of the material is not necessary.

During 1977 a second and possibly third generation of the pest appeared in mid to late June and again in mid to late August. Although much research is needed and is proceeding it appears that constant visual contact with areas prone to infestation is needed to determine if the pest is present at that time. If infestations are found control can be achieved with Dursban at four lbs. A.I. per/A and Diazinon at six lbs. per/A. Chemical control for the possible August generation does not seem necessary as turf at this time is not under as much stress and can weather the insect damage.

In conclusion much work is still necessary

concerning the Hyperodee weevil especially regarding the second generation. This work is being carried on along with looking at other chemicals for possible control.



Guest Speaker Richard Smith At May Meeting

Richard Smith of I & E Supply, Inc., presented a talk entitled, "Pumphouse Efficiency - Energy Utilization" at the May meeting. He pointed out that energy conservation is important in all areas, the pumphouse being no exception.

Pumphouse efficiency can be divided into three main areas:

- 1) Proper pump selection — Careful selection of pumps to provide a smooth pumping operation that prevents overloads and surging.
- 2) Proper pumphouse construction — Construction of the pumphouse should guarantee room for maintenance of the pumps and good ventilation.
- 3) Proper sizing of pipes and valves — Using the correct size pipes and valves to accomplish the intended use.

Normally, the most efficient systems operate at constant greater pressure. This allows for the use of lesser HP pumps and less energy use. Yearly inspection of the pump house is necessary to insure that efficiency isn't being lost through worn parts.

In closing, Mr. Smith mentioned a new technique of placing a pressure gauge at the far point of the golf course on variable speed systems. This would represent a savings in energy by requiring the pumps to maintain only the pressure needed at the far point and no more. It is hoped that this idea will prove positive. — Bruce Cadenelli

First Aid on the Golf Course

What would you do if a golfer had a heart attack before your eyes? Would you recognize it as a heart attack? What would you do for heat prostration? Stroke? Poisoning? A serious laceration? A broken leg or arm?

How many of your employees would know what to do in any of these situations?

The employees and golfers at a course, while vulnerable to the normal range of afflictions requiring first aid, are even more likely to suffer from some of them than the average person. Strenuous work or recreation, exposure to a variety of chemicals and the use of potentially dangerous tools and machinery all lead to an increased likelihood of injuries occurring on your golf

course.

Every superintendent should have a well-thought-out procedure to put into action when a medical emergency occurs on his course.

Post the telephone number of the emergency care facility in your community near every telephone — a good place is in front of the phone book. Many communities use "911" as an emergency number. Also, make sure you know where the emergency room in the nearest hospital is in the event that an ambulance is not available.

Strongly encourage your employees to participate in a first aid training course, and be the first to sign up. In many areas, the Red Cross will provide free instruction to your group, so the only cost is for materials. First aid classes are often offered through local adult education programs or from the Red Cross.

CPR — cardiopulmonary resuscitation — is another important skill for you and your employees to acquire. CPR is a method used by either one or two people to restart breathing and heartbeat in an injured person. The CPR method is not difficult to learn, but it has great potential for saving lives. The American Heart Association estimates that 100,000 lives a year now lost could be saved by basic CPR followed by advanced life support. CPR training is often incorporated into first aid classes.

Equip and maintain a first aid kit. Consider keeping kits at many locations around the golf course. Don't forget to replenish supplies as needed.

Finally, consider that the Red Cross estimates people who have had first aid training are much less likely to become injured themselves.

— "Forefront"

Of Golf, Capitalism and Socialism

By Armen A. Alchian

A puzzle has been solved. Despite their intense interest in sports, no golf courses exist in the Socialist-Communist bloc. Why is golf solely in capitalist societies? Because it is not merely a sport. It is an activity, a lifestyle, a behavior, a manifestation of the essential human spirit. Golf's ethic, principles, rules and procedures of play are totally capitalistic. They are antithetical to socialism. Golf requires self-reliance, independence, responsibility, integrity and trust. No extenuation is granted misfortune, mistake or incompetence. No second chance. Like life, it is often unfair and unjust, with uninsurable risks. More than any other sport, golf exploits the whole capitalistic spirit.

A golfer is his own creator, his own destroyer. He plays his own ball. It is a contest against Nature, by, and yet against, himself. No scapegoat can be found — no socializing of skill or consequences. No opponent's or partner's skill or clumsiness affects his performance. Tennis has an opponent on whom one can rely for aid or error. Football, with many partners and many opponents, is more socialistic.

Randomness of fortunes in golf, as in life and investment, defies specification, calculation or insurance. Rolling into a divot mark, getting a bad bounce or lie in a bunker is part of the game. The game even has a name for this unfairness — "rub of the green." Like illness or disaster it is to be borne without relief. The unfairness of golf is like that of capitalism. Some risks and hazards are foreseeable. Bunkers, trees, lakes and wind cunningly offer a rewarding or disastrous gamble or test resistance to temptation. A golfer plays his own style and reaps his own rewards — or consequences. Whatever causes misfortune makes no dif-

ference. He alone bears the consequences. No socializing of disaster or success.

No second chances. Every stroke counts in golf. In other activities, second and even third chances are given. Two serves in tennis, two free throws to make one in basketball, three strikes in baseball, four downs in football. No later act or good fortune will cancel earlier misfortunes. But later misfortune will cancel earlier good performance.

Honor and integrity are always at stake. A golfer monitors himself with no possibility for a stroke to be uncounted. Any temptation to dishonesty is thwarted by the impossibility of lying to one's self successfully. You live with what you do, not with what you may say you did. No umpire calls errors; no umpire judges performance. The game is purely objective. A stroke was taken or it wasn't; the ball is out of bounds or it isn't; on the green or it isn't; in the cup or it isn't.

How elegantly one performs is irrelevant. No A's for effort — only for results. Only the number of strokes counts, not how you did it. Results — not intentions, or procedure — count. How thoroughly capitalistic.

The game is unreliable. Disaster strikes in the midst of good performance. Confidence is shaken. Was it luck? Deterioration in ability? What change could be made, if any? As in capitalistic society, those persisting questions are answered privately with responsibility for consequences yours alone. The reward for good performance — whether by real skill or good luck — is insecure. If due to increased skill, a new reference base is established, and elusive improvement remains the goal. To do better — always better — is the goal. How powerfully capitalistic and antisocial.

Golf is conservative. Rules change slowly; some never. Ancient and honorable customs must enhance survival values if they have withstood the test of time.

The socialist spirit, so pervasive in other

areas, has tried to invade golf. Handicaps are proposed to equalize results. But a true golfer shuns handicap play. At best it is to him only an index — a prestige of ability. Efforts to make competition more equal or "fair" are diseases that would have killed a less capitalistic game. The socialists have also sought to reduce the penalties for misadventure — the two-stroke penalty for a ball out of bounds or lost. A two-stroke penalty for a ball lost because of poor eyesight or because of weeds was deemed unfair. But not by the true golfer who understands the reasons. The game withstood that attempt and the conventional penalty has been restored.

Match play was introduced to permit partners or opponents to save one from himself. But the true golfer plays for his own score. What his playing companions do is of no interest, either during or after play.

Even in the beginning of golf we have evidence. Who but the self-reliant individualist Scots, the progenitors of Adam Smith, could create a game so congenial to the capitalist society and mentality. And at this end of history, who have become the most recent and avid devotees of golf? The Japanese and nationalist Chinese. Is more evidence required to demonstrate that golf is the spirit of capitalism?

Looking into the dim future, if golf is ever to enter in the rifts of the socialist bloc, surely it will be where the latent, but suppressed, capitalistic spirit is strongest — in the valleys of Soviet Armenia. Actually, seven courses exist in Czechoslovakia, holdovers from pre-World War II society with 1,000 members — only 160 per course. Is it surprising the Czechs are the most troublesome people now behind the curtain?

Mr. Alchian is a professor of economics at the University of California, Los Angeles.

— Reprinted from "Wall Street Journal"

NCA Protests Tax Proposal

The National Club Association (NCA) has issued a special report regarding the possible impact President Carter's tax reform proposal will have on private clubs. GCSAA members should be aware of the serious implications of this proposal and consider discussing it with the management of their courses. Members are urged to contact their representatives and senators about this issue.

According to the NCA report, President Carter has asked Congress to:

- Reduce to 50 percent the deduction for business meals (at private clubs and restaurants).

- Eliminate deductions for dues and entertainment (such as for green fees and cart rentals when entertaining clients) at social, athletic or sporting clubs, in addition to expenses for hunting lodges, tickets to sporting events such as the Master's, etc.

- Reduce to 50 percent the deductions for dues at clubs which the Treasury says are "operated solely to provide lunches under circumstances conducive to business discussion."

If dues are disallowed as business deductions, NCA says the effect will be to cause withdrawal from the club by those who believe they cannot shoulder the entire cost of membership alone. This will cause a reduction in revenue which will force the club's remaining members to shoulder more of the financial burden, causing more withdrawals.

Further, NCA believes the approval of this legislation would set a precedent allowing the federal government to influence a businessman's decision regarding how he will spend his sales promotion dollars.

GRASS CATCHER

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G.C. while Stan Drabik enjoys semi-retirement. Good luck to all and forgive me if I missed anyone.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Finally, the excitement created by DEP's sudden enforcement of the new pesticide laws has simmered somewhat. Some were caught totally unaware and not sure of what to do or where to turn to for advice. Unfortunately, many are still in the dark as to what chemicals are restricted and which are not. If you have any question contact Pesticide Compliance at 566-5148. Dr. Hitchcock of that department assures us that it is not their intention to severely punish anyone or to put anyone out of business. They simply intend to enforce the law. Plans are now being formulated for a training session to assist those who are not now licensed. More info will follow.

Steve Cadenelli

Future Happenings

June 6	CAGCS Meeting - Tumble Brook C.C. - 1st Round Championship
June 7	Rutgers Turfgrass Research Field Day Ryders Lane Station Plot tours begin at 10 a.m.
June 20	CAGCS Superintendent's Invitational - Pautipaug C.C.
June 21	Lofts Field Day Bound Brook, N.J. Program begins at 11 a.m. Plots open at 8 a.m.
July 11	CAGCS Meeting - Pine Valley G.C. - 2nd Round Championship
July 26	University of Massachusetts Turfgrass Field Day University Farm, South Deerfield, Mass.

Profile of Host Superintendents

June — Dave Stimson, CGCS — Tumble Brook C.C.

Dave will be hosting our group for the second time in two years. This is indeed a pleasure for those of use who were rained out of golf at Tumble Brook last year. Dave is enjoying his fifteenth year at this fine club; ten years as superintendent. Besides maintaining one of the finest clubs in the state Dave has been active on the Board of Directors for several years. He currently serves as secretary-treasurer and should be credited for his excellent management of association funds. Finally, Dave is one of nine superintendents in Connecticut who can use the title, "Certified Golf Course Superintendent." Congratulations again and thanks for your efforts.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

June — Fran Rogers — Pautipaug C.C.

Those attending the 1978 Pro-Superintendent will see a new look at a familiar golf course. Fran, who is starting his second year at Pautipaug, has been hard to work grooming and shaping this course for tournament play. Another in the long list of Charlie Baskin's proteges, Fran spent a year at Pine Orchard Yacht & Golf and eight years at Madison Country Club prior to assuming the position at Pautipaug. He is a graduate of the UMASS Winter School and a ten year member of both CAGCS and GCSAA.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

July — Leo Della Bianca & Sons

Leo, along with his sons Larry and Lee, will be welcoming our group to their fine golf facility for our July meeting. Since our last visit there construction has begun on redesigning of several holes and the addition of several sand traps. Those members who attended the annual meeting there last fall are sure to remember the fine hospitality and will be quite anxious to return.

A Portrait of A "Super" Wife

Let's Take a Peek
In A Path Few Would Fare,
Since We Are To Speak,
Of A Quality So Rare;

Can True-Loyalty Be Told,
With A Sputtering Pen-In-Hand,
Word Glorious Justice - Unfold?
Try We Will Till The End;

There Is A Lady,
We'll Call Her Katy, —
She's The Super's Wife,
Who Revels The Down-To-Earth Life,
Which Is Devoid Of Fancies and Flings,
And Embraces Only Genuine Things;

Tho' Life's Not Always A Hummer, —
Indeed — Not During The Summer

When Katy Has No Recourse, —
(Since Her Rival's A Grass-Skirted Course);
But To Tread Alone With Her Sprightly Few.
Losing The Battle To A Tameless Shrew;

(Patiently She Endures The Season's Flirtation);

For Her Man Wings About Like A Timely Gear,
With Umpteenth Diseases Spawning Fear, —

Which Resolves Nature's Turbulence In the Soil;

But Lenghtening Shadows Diminishes The Day,
As The Echoing-Ring-Of-Metal Is Tended Away;
Homebound — His Steps Quicken

In The Gray Mist;
Katy At The Doorway — Clings
To A Tender-Kiss;

(Gracefully She Soothes The Simmering Tide).

— Frank Paladino

The Following Companies Are Contributing To The Support Of The Conn. Clippings:

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John Grant, CAGCS member
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Pleasant Valley, CT 06063
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