

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 1969



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.

THE ART AND SCIENCE OF GREENSKEEPING

by James W. Timmerman, Agronomist
Eastern Region, USGA Green Section

Art is defined, first, as a skill acquired by experience, observation and study, and secondly, as the use of skill and imagination in the production of things of beauty. This is precisely what makes greenskeeping an art. In greenskeeping today, much of the technology and practices employed are the result of keen observation, thoughtful experimentation and diligent study on the part of inquisitive superintendents which has culminated into a rich bank of experience. When this experience is applied with skill and imagination it results in superbly conditioned and esthetically pleasing golf courses.

The science of greenskeeping has developed, to a large degree, from the practices of the past. The founders of scientific greenskeeping were the practical men of yesterday. First came the practice which was followed by the science. Today in the 20th century the art and science have been combined into the age of scientific practice. In this age of science we see a great deal of trial and error in practice before science can be applied.

Who or what is a scientist? He is one who experiments and is sure of only one thing, that is, he does not know for certain. This is so because we are working with biology or life and here nothing is for certain. This is what makes this work so interesting and challenging.

Should a superintendent be a scientist? Definitely yes! Some persons think they don't need to experiment for themselves since they feel they have the universities to do it for them. This is a false belief. Each experiment is only absolutely true or valid for that particular location, soil and environment on which it was conducted.

Research at a university can lay down general principles, but can never say definitely that a particular procedure is absolutely right for any given place. Using these principles, the superintendent can then experiment on a small scale to see which is best for his conditions. The reasons that absolute recommendations are not made is that no two golf courses, greens, fairways or tees are exactly the same. Variations occur in soil drainage, soil types, nutrients and pH, type of grass, environment and weather conditions. Only the general principles are the same everywhere.

One of the biggest needs today is for simple and straightforward experiments conducted by the superintendent. By doing so, he will not only be aiding himself but the scientific practice of greenskeeping.

Let us investigate the principles involved in a sound experiment. First, choose a limited area. Don't try to manage the whole golf course as an experiment. Furthermore, choose an area that is representative, one that most clearly depicts the condition of the golf course. As an alternate choice a nursery would be a good site.

Secondly, don't confound with more than one factor or treatment. For example, test the effect of aeration alone rather than aeration and spiking together.

Tom Curran Moves to The Country Club

When Tom graduated from Stockbridge at the University of Massachusetts in 1957 it was a foregone conclusion he would make it big. He was in charge of a course in Saginaw, Mich. for three years before going to Oak Hill in 1960. Since then he has brought Oak Hill into shape and it is recognized as one of the section's leading layouts. Now he has taken over the reins at "The Country Club," Brookline, Mass. Tom says, "he likes a job with a challenge because that helps to keep him on his toes."

Tom, his wife Nancy and their three children will be living in Walpole.



Tom Curran, Secretary, reading the minutes at a Directors' Meeting.

Next, always include a check or untreated plot in order to determine any possible benefits or harmful effects.

Replicate each treatment, including check, at least two or three times. The more the replications the less chance for error and the more reliable the results. An experimental plot without replications does not provide a way to measure variability; hence, there is no way to determine the degree of confidence we have in any conclusions we might draw.

Finally, keep adequate and up-to-date records of the experiment. What is done, when it is done, climate etc. Upon completion of the experiment make proper comparisons based on the data and your observations. A short summary should be written up and kept on file for future use.

If these principles are followed, the superintendent can perform meaningful experimentation that is invaluable to him. With all the information coming out of the numerous research stations today, it is most essential that tests be conducted to determine what recommendations are best suited for each particular golf course. By doing this the superintendent will be aiding in the development of the scientific practice of greenskeeping.

Golf Course Superintendents Association

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be January 6, 1969 at the Holiday Inn, Newton, Mass. (exit 53 from Route 128).

Directors' Meeting 10:30 A. M.

Regular Meeting 11:15 A. M.

Lunch 12:30 P. M.

Educational Program 1:15 P. M.

Mr. LaPlante, U. S. Gypsum — Mr. Keuloghan, U. S. Limestone

Welcome to New Members

Regular Membership:

Steve Kristof — Charles River Country Club

Stanley Sablak — Amherst Golf Club

Associate Membership:

Glenn Achley — Westboro Country Club

Raymond King — Plymouth Country Club

Assistant Membership:

Kenneth Gendall — Chestnut Hill Country Club

Donald Hearne — Lexington Country Club

New Memberships to be voted on at January meeting:

Associate Membership:

Earl P. Grey

138 Washington St.

Reading, Mass.

Bellevue Golf Club

John E. Morse

154 N. Main St.

S. Yarmouth, Mass.

Bass River Golf Club

"BLESSED ARE THE DEDICATED"



"Blessed are the dedicated . . . for they shall inherit the earth."

Maybe it's sinful to fracture a biblical decree. But the slight alteration is intended only as an underline in passing word of the appointment of Bill Brennan as superintendent at Weston's Pine Brook Country Club.

Brennan, already on the job and enchanting members with his ability and personality, is the epitome of the dedicated young man who serves as the ideal advertisement for his profession. Turf management and Bill Brennan have produced a perfect marriage, a perfect blend.

"It's true," Bill explains. "I am in love with my profession. Ever since I was a kid hanging around the Salem Country Club looking for any available job, I've wanted to make golf courses more enjoyable for others."

It was at Salem that Brennan was introduced to the life of the superintendent and where he courted the soil as an assistant to John O'Connor. "John was a big help", Brennan reveals. "He gave me direction, instruction and the advice every apprentice needs. I was with him for 13 years. I only hope some of his knowledge rubbed off."

While working his way up the ladder at Salem, Brennan took time to enter the Winter Turf School at the University of Massachusetts. His dedication and interest showed through in this particular endeavor, because he was elected president of his graduating class. That was in 1962.

Eventually, Brennan answered the call of his own job. It came from the Bear Hill Golf Club in Stoneham, a nine-holer which was begging for the touch of trusted care. Bill stayed at Bear Hill for five years and members there are still moaning the loss. During his command he put a complete new face on the course, even directing his own crew in the installation of an irrigation system.

"I was sure sorry to leave Bear Hill", Bill tells. "But I've

"KING ARTHUR"

It was only fitting and downright complimentary that the Wisconsin Golf Course Superintendents turned an eye to the East for a colorful and welcome addition to their panel for the third annual Golf Turf Symposium at the Hotel Pfister — Milwaukee.

Selected for the two-day, December 11-12 session was Arthur Anderson, retired super who once made all the dreams of the poa annua curse nightmares when he swept it out at Brae Burn.

Anderson is known as the king of the poa annua hunters in these parts, so it was natural that the Wisconsin group seek royalty in setting up its discussion leaders for the conference which was confined to an airing of the poa annua problem.

King Arthur took part in one of the windup events, titled "The Herbicides in Practice." The popular elder statesman of the New England Association was joined by Edward Riley of Philadelphia, Henry Elmer of Shawnee Mission, Kansas and Sherwood Moore of Woodway, Conn. in a section of the session dealing with the management or control of the most universally discussed and cursed of the turfgrass species.

The symposium was designed to provide a better understanding of poa annua. A large part of the program dealt with pre-emergence control chemicals, along with the proper application methods of such aids to control the pesty plant.

The speakers ranged from golf course superintendents to university researchers to chemical development specialists. All, according to the brochure, are outstanding in their field. So, it's no small feather in King Arthur's crown to be selected for listing among such imposing and knowledgeable experts in turf management and development. — Gerry Finn

always wanted to see what I could do along lines of the greater challenge. When the opportunity at Pine Brook came along, I couldn't turn my back on it. And in the few short months I've been on the job, I find myself completely satisfied with the decision to pick up that challenge."

Everyone at Pine Brook has been nice to Brennan. There was no pressing need for wholesale changes when Bill took the job, but he and the Pine Brook people are realistic about the future. "It always has to be the intention of the super to make his course better than it is", Bill states. "I know there are some things at Pine Brook which could use improvement. It's my belief that I can bring them about."

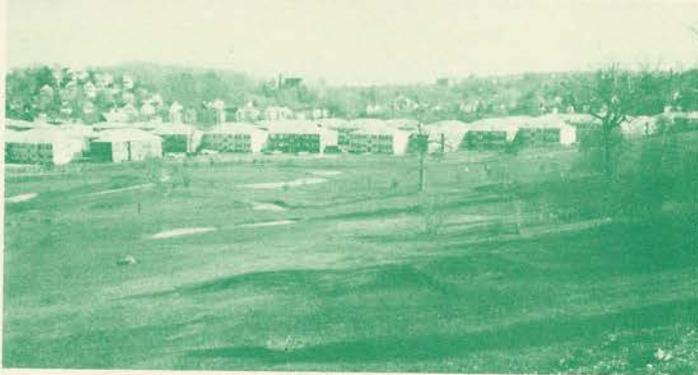
Brennan also is a student in public relations. One of the first things he did at Pine Brook was to establish grounds for stronger communication between the golf professional and superintendent. "Bob Crowley (Pine Brook pro) and I had lunch together a few times", Bill says. "We have the same goals in mind and similar responsibility to the membership. I think the pro and super should promote a relationship, so that they can discuss common problems. It benefits all concerned."

Away from the course Brennan is a proud family man. He is married and tickles himself into beaming expressions when he talks about son, Billy, Jr. who is 16 months old.

The affable Pine Brook super also has a special place in his life for the New England Association and its aims. In fact, he was instrumental in pushing his Bear Hills assistant, Lawrence Salamon, to the top post there. "Now I'm going to see to it that Larry comes into the national group and ours", Bill tells. "I'm all for our organization."

Bill Brennan, then, certainly has inherited the earth. And it couldn't happen to a more dedicated young man.

— Gerry Finn



NEWSLETTER

Golf Course Superintendents
Association
OF NEW ENGLAND
CONFERENCE ISSUE



Now that smogs have reached the tearful, coughing stage, the urban golf course has become an even better neighbor.

For many years, a metropolitan golf course touched the back line of my home property. It was a neighbor that burned no leaves, puffed no sulphur from a cluster of chimneys, and left me with at least one side of the house that was not exposed to an interminable string of motor cars and their exhaust.

When the wind blew across that several hundred acres, the air seemed as fresh as a zephyr from the ocean. Adding no pollutants, the golf course acreage supported a huge aerial cauldron that stirred and diffused the accumulative gases that rode the wind.

It is fortunate for us all that some men find it invigorating to slam golf balls. This healthy preoccupation with the ancient Scottish game has preserved thousands of green acres, mainly near cities where their spaciousness can do the most good. City parks have a way of disappearing, usually piece by piece — sometimes as school sites, often under a ribbon of asphalt roadway. Farms wither as fertile land far away grows crops that planes or refrigerator trucks can speed to city markets.

Golf courses have a way of going on in the face of adversity — at least until the economics of land finally makes continued holding untenable. For a club of diverse ownership, even that final day of economic reckoning has a way of being pushed farther and farther ahead. For men value golf, and golf tends to attract the decision-makers in our metropolitan areas. These are men who recognize that golf requires land and that land which promotes human enjoyment and health has a worthwhile use.

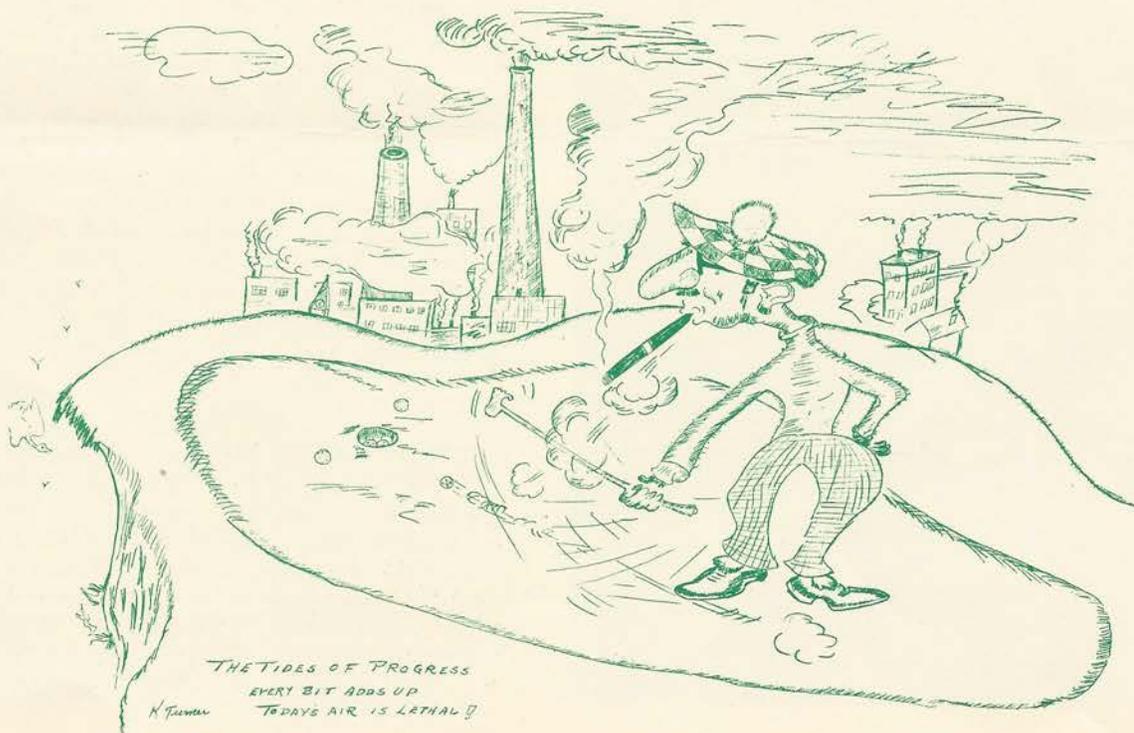
Fortunately for the inhabitants of cities, golf courses must be close to centers of human population in order to serve the sportsmen who use them. As time passes and men continue to grope with the problems of air pollution and human crowding, the presence of these large blocks of land near cities will become increasingly appreciated.

The fact that a golf course adds nothing to the air pollution burden is in itself a tremendously important asset. Already we have reached the point where every little bit hurts. No one actually knows when we will reach the proverbial straw on the camel's load — but, we know, and others will come to see, that golf courses will not add that straw. In fact, in many areas, golf courses may be blowing that extra straw away from the load.

Most golf superintendents undoubtedly are asking: "When will he get around to giving grass its just due for the oxygen that it contributes to the city air?"

Grass does, indeed, release oxygen into the atmosphere. It also contributes a greenness that pleases the human eye. And a stand of grass that lies over rolling acres — which describes the average golf course — gives those who see it a feeling of freedom and expansiveness. Its open space gives the city-dweller an escape from cramped quarters. Any of these services which a golf course renders simply by *being there* are important to man — at least so long as man continues to be a greater sum than what he eats and what he breathes.

BILL WAYNE



THE AIR IS DIRTIER THAN WE REALIZE.

Every day it cracks rubber, blisters and discolors paint, corrodes steel, and eats away stone statues. Annually it costs American farmers \$500 million in damage to crops and illness and death to livestock, and costs the country as a whole over \$12 billion in property damage.

It is harder to prove that the fumes which rot wire, wither leaves, and cause premature aging in animals also harm people. Even for inversion disasters like London's Black Fog of 1952 the damage is expressed only in "excess deaths over normal." (4,000 in five days and another 8,000 in the next few weeks). But here are a few facts from the U. S. Public Health Service's long list:

The number of factory workers absent because of bad colds rises and falls with the levels of air pollution everywhere, even in Japan and the Soviet Union.

- * Chronic bronchitis and bronchial asthma get worse on days of higher air pollution.
- * The death rate of older people with heart ailments goes up with any increase in the amount of sulphur in the air.
- * There are twice as many deaths from lung cancer in metropolitan areas as in rural areas even after full allowance is made for differences in smoking habits. The same is true of emphysema, the fastest-growing cause of death in this country.

OUR DIRTY AIR

As the chart shows, world-wide there are only two important sources of air pollution — the burning of fuels containing sulphur (coal and petroleum, especially soft coal and cheap No. 6 heavy fuel oil) and the automobile. Sometimes they are classified as the stationary (open fires, chimneys, furnaces) and the moving. From the stationary we get traditional London-type smog with its sulphur base; from the moving we get photochemical or Los Angeles-type smog with a carbon monoxide base. And with both types the smog we see and smell is only a fraction of the poison in the air. At least four-fifths of all air pollution is invisible, and most of it is odorless as well.

ACTION TO TAKE

Home-owners toe the mark in Los Angeles where dump fires and burn-it-yourself trash and garbage disposal is outlawed. New York has limited the sulphur content of fuel burned in the city and is now concentrating on upgrading apartment incinerators. In smoke-control areas of England only coke, "smokeless" coal, gas or electric heat are allowed. We could even cooperate with nature by cutting down on fuel consumption, suggests

President Dixon of Antioch College, and forbid picture windows in cold climates.

Utilities must stop burning soft coal and heavy fuel oil. Unfortunately, enough low-sulphur fuels do not exist to substitute for the high-sulphur coal and oil used at present. The safest future source of power for utilities is probably nuclear generators.

Miscellaneous industrial smoke can be cleaned up by devices which trap, screen, wash, and filter fumes and particles of dirt. Industries complain about the cost, figured variously as from almost break-even to an added 25 per cent. But as a matter of fact research has changed many pollutants into profitable steam, cinder blocks and even agricultural sulphur which sells for \$20 a ton.

And now, what about the worst air polluter of them all — the automobile?

Built-in pollution-control devices do some good, but their performance has been disappointing. So instead of devices, say experts in air conservation, we should:

1. Speed up the flow of traffic through cities. The faster an engine runs, the better its combustion. With stop-and-go city driving cars pour into the air four times the pollutants they emit while cruising at 40 m.p.h., with idling the multiple for some of the deadlier fumes jumps to 20.

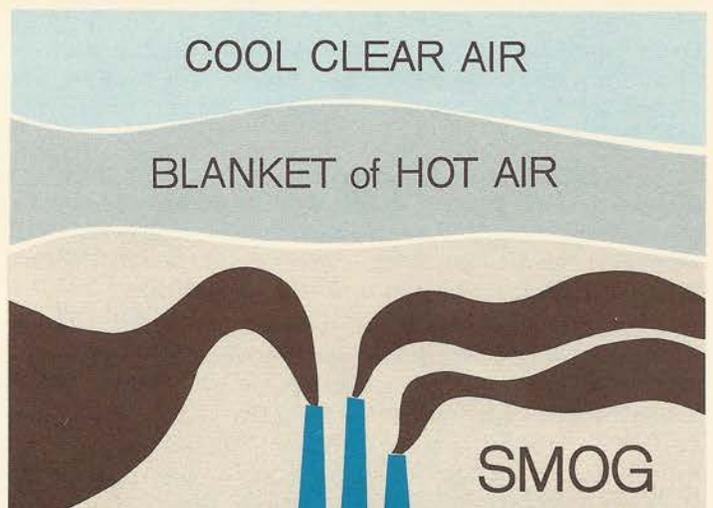
2. Develop efficient mass transportation systems. This will cut down on the use of autos while it keeps them out of the city. The fuel wastes produced will be centralized and more easily controlled.

3. Develop the electric car, our best hope in the long run. Today 120 million Americans — including most New Englanders — have a personal interest in reducing polluted air, because that is what they breathe. And unless prompt, effective action is taken to control it, predicts Morris Neiburger, professor of meteorology at U. C. L. A., "the atmosphere will grow progressively more polluted until, a century from now, it is too toxic to permit human life."

WHERE THE POLLUTION COMES FROM

8% HOUSE- HOLD	Cooking, heating houses and offices, burning trash. Even the ancient Romans complained of "the heavy air of Rome" and "the stink of the smoky chimneys thereof."
11% POWER PLANTS	They use high-sulphur fuel, then erect tall smokestacks to shoot the sulphurous smoke high in the air. Stacks 1,000 feet tall, almost twice as high as the Washington Monument, are now being built.
16% INDUS- TRIAL PLANTS	Some burn fossil fuels, some produce special contaminants in the manufacturing process, and many do both. Typical airborne pollutants are arsenic from paint manufacturers and hydrogen sulphide, the first step in the production of sulphuric acid, from paper mills.
65% AUTOS TRUCKS BUSES	More than half the pollution in the air over the United States comes from automobile exhausts. In the witch's brew are large amounts of carbon monoxide, odorless, colorless, and a deadly poison; benzopyrene, a cancer agent; nitrogen dioxide which causes chronic changes in the lungs and is the only gas pollutant with a color (yellow-brown); lead, a favorite poison with old-fashioned murderers; and other hazardous fumes and particles produced by incompletely burned and evaporating gasoline. In Los Angeles auto fumes account for about 90% of the total because all the other sources have been forced by strict laws to clean up. In Boston and New York autos are responsible for less than half, and the major polluters are utilities, factories and incinerators.

Temperature inversions are a routine natural event. They are especially common in the autumn but occur at all seasons and in all parts of the country about one-fourth of the time. Long ago the mountains in inversion-prone Appalachia were named the Smokies because the fumes exuded by their forests hung visibly over them in the stagnant air.



A FEW DEFINITIONS

AIRSHED — a region that shares a common air supply. Because of the nature of air, an airshed is not a precise physical division like a watershed. It is more of a political convenience for dealing with air problems that cross municipal and state lines such as the New Jersey fumes that poison the air in New York City.

FOSSIL FUELS — coal, petroleum, and natural gas. Created eons ago from fossil plants, they have remained buried in the ground, like money in the bank, ever since. Incompletely burned (as they always are), they pour sulphur into the air as well as smaller amounts of other pollutants. Their sulphur content varies considerably. It is high in oil from Kuwait and West Texas, for instance, low in oil from Libya and East Texas, and lower still in natural gas; low in gasoline, high in crude oil. With every big city in the world clamoring for "clean types" of fossil fuel there isn't enough to go around.

INVERSION — a stagnant air condition in which a layer of hot air sits on a layer of cool air and keeps it from rising. With no chance of moving upward and no wind to blow it somewhere else, the daily accumulation of poison from car exhausts, factory chimneys, town dumps, and other sources is trapped at ground level for us all to breathe.

PHOTOCHEMICAL SMOG — the modern Los Angeles mixture whose main ingredient is carbon monoxide. This smog is manufactured by the sun from auto exhaust and other pollutants. Sunshine cooks the old familiar poisons and converts them into new, complicated, and still mysterious substances. Photochemical smog occurs only in heavily-motorized cities where the air is stagnant and the sun is strong. It is uncommon on the east coast.

SMOG (TRADITIONAL) — smoky, sooty, sulphur-loaded air. The word was coined to describe the famous London brew of smoke plus fog. This is the smog we get in Boston and New York, except that with us stagnant air and cool temperatures usually take the place of fog. It is also the smog which when coupled with a sudden temperature inversion causes disasters like that in Donora, Pa., in 1948 when almost half the town was sickened and 26 died.

OUR* DIRTY AIR

CITY CLIMATE AND COUNTRY CLIMATE

Cities are warmer, drier, rainier, dustier, and foggier than the green countryside which surrounds them.

The higher year-round temperatures in cities come from heated buildings in the winter and the surface of roofs and roads in the summer. So Chicago, for example, is frost-free a month longer than the cornfields a few miles away.

Dry air is the inevitable canopy of square miles of waterproofed land. Buildings and paved streets cover 50 per cent of even small cities; the surface of Boston is said to be 90 per cent waterproof. When rain falls, it runs off instead of soaking in.

Nor is much space in cities occupied by plants. Plants transpire, that is, give off moisture. A large shade tree transpires hundreds of gallons of water a day. Cities have only a small fraction of the trees and other plants needed to keep their atmosphere as humid as that in the nearby country. And the plants they **do** have are between 10 and 20 per cent smaller than those grown in clean air.

Since city air is so dry, the ground underfoot is dry too. Every breeze stirs up the top dust and adds it to the particles of soot and smoke pouring from factory chimneys. At its best city air is 10 times as dusty as country air, and sometimes it is 10,000 times as dusty.

Dust and other pollution reduces the amount and quality of city sunlight. New York City gets 25 per cent less sun than its outer suburbs; in Chicago the loss is 40 per cent.

The pollution in the skies above acts like a perpetual cloud-making machine. Every droplet of rain or fog begins with a solid particle for moisture to collect around. City sky is filled with suitable specks, so cities get 10 per cent more rain than the surrounding country. They have an even greater excess of fog. Within the last half century the number of foggy days in Paris has jumped from 90 to 150 a year. But on weekends and holidays, when industry shuts down, city rain and fog slip towards the levels of the nearby countryside.

2 VIEWS of BOSTON



THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT

You will probably hear more about the greenhouse effect, sometimes called the hothouse effect, in the future.

The "greenhouse" is the earth and its blanket of air. The "effect" will be to warm up the atmosphere and make Boston as balmy as Miami. This in turn will eventually melt the polar ice, raise the level of the oceans, and inundate every coastal city in the world. And the catastrophe will be caused not by air pollution but by too much of a good thing — carbon dioxide — in the atmosphere.

Carbon dioxide is the basic chemical of all plant life including the fossil plants which time has changed into coal and oil. When plants, fossil or otherwise, are burned, carbon dioxide is released, and nowadays we are releasing it at the rate of billions of tons a year. Scientists figure that about half of this is absorbed by living trees and other green plants and by the ocean. The other half stays in the atmosphere. They also figure that since the turn of the century there has been a 10 per cent increase in the amount of carbon dioxide in the air and that another 25 per cent will be added during the next few decades.

This would be harmless except for one peculiarity of carbon dioxide: it absorbs infrared or heat rays. So the accumulation is expected to act like a glass roof. It will let in the usual amount of heat from the sun but allow less to escape back into space. If the greenhouse mechanism does indeed affect the old heat balance between income and outgo, the worldwide climate will warm up. A few degrees of extra heat will probably cause drastic changes in the location of belts of low rainfall. New England, for instance, might become semi-arid instead of well watered, with a few more degrees and time enough to let the polar ice melt, the level of the oceans will be 100 feet higher than they are today.

The greenhouse effect, if it comes, will be cumulative. Some scientists think that we have already embarked on an irreversible change. But most feel that we won't know for another few decades — and that a switch to nuclear power by the utilities will save us in the end.



Maine Golf Course Superintendents Association

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

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting was held on the 3rd at the Steer House Inn in South Portland. After a business meeting and lunch, a film on the 1968 Masters' Tournament was shown to the enjoyment of the members.

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ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Association will be held on Wednesday, March 19, at the Steer House Inn, South Portland. (This date will also be the first day of the University of Maine Turf Conference, about which a program will be given in a future issue of the Newsletter).

President Davis appointed a nominating committee of Jim Diorio, Camille Brochu and Norm Pease. The committee has submitted the following names for nomination at the election of officers for 1969.

President	Lloyd Ruby
Secretary-Treasurer	Ernest Hawkes
Southern Vice President	Norman Pease
Central Vice President	James Diorio
Northern Vice President	Harvey LaMontagne

The Directors have indicated a desire to change the Association year to coincide with the calendar. At the annual meeting a proposed change in the bylaws will be put to vote to effect this change. Wording of this change will appear in the next issue of the Newsletter.

* * * * *

1969 Schedule of Meetings

In keeping with the policy of scheduling meetings on the first Tuesday of the month when practicable, the Directors have announced the following tentative schedule of meetings for 1969.

January 7
 March 19
 May 6
 June 3
 July 8
 August 5
 September 9
 October 7
 November 4
 December 2

Announcement and place of each meeting will appear in the Newsletter preceding each meeting. The May-October meetings will comprise the summer schedule and be held at golf courses.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Tuesday, January 7, at the Steer House Inn restaurant. The business meeting will be at 11 A.M., followed at noon by a presentation "Trends In Modern Turf Sprinkler Systems" consisting of slides and script. Lunch will be at 1 P.M., dutch treat and one menu.

* * * * *

As Maine golf course maintenance begins to get ready to step into the modern age, a glaring weakness shows this time of year. That the "modern age" is upon us is evidenced by the increasing concern by golfers about the condition of their courses and that they should be improved. A fundamental part of any course improvement program is the establishment of a year-round maintenance operation even though golf here is seasonal, no longer than six months in northern Maine.

To achieve improvement a superintendent must undertake proper application of fungicide to greens and possibly tees to control snowmold, reduce the depth of snow cover on greens through plowing as the need arises, break up ice layers as they form on greens, break up ice floes and jams that might form on fairways — these procedures to reduce risk of winter injury to turf from ice cover — cover greens with suitable materials such as topdressing, tight or open plastic sheets, or hay and branches if needed to reduce probability of winter injury through drying winter winds.

Other winter procedures would be security of property, the shop, clubhouse and grounds, with such items as control of snow on roofs of building, control of "winter sports" by outsiders, directing traffic from skis, toboggans, sleds and motor sleds away from greens or from the entire property. Care of trees and shrubs plus clearing or thinning overgrown woods areas is best done during winter also. Finally, a good summer program requires a lot of specialized machinery, which can best be serviced by the superintendent and his crew, and winter is the only time available for general equipment servicing, repair and overhaul.

On practically all golf courses in the state we find that there is no winter program of work and that the superintendent and crew are absent from the property. Because golf is seasonal, so must be the superintendent and his crew, the reasoning goes. This situation must change if courses are to become better through inclusion of the procedures listed above (to say nothing of newer summer management techniques) plus the fact that only a year-round schedule of employment for a superintendent and key men in his crew will attract and hold good personnel to maintain a golf course to high standards. In addition this means the construction of a real shop to replace the usual shed without heat, water, toilets, floor or even power (!).

To those enterprising superintendents who wish to bridge the gap and begin to break the degrading image of a seasonal employee by working in the shops alone during winter months, the editor pleads in the strongest terms not to do this alone because it is so unsafe. Stay out of winter duties until at least one man of the crew can be employed as well.



New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents Association, Inc.



Robert Flanagan (left) outgoing President presents the gavel to newly-elected President George Hauschel

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It seems like only yesterday that we formed the New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents' Association, but actually, three years have passed. They have been three long, hard years for all the officers, directors, and members who have worked hard to bring our Association to what we are today.

Our gatherings at the Highway Hotel and at various clubs throughout the years have brought a warm relationship between superintendents, salesmen, sod-growers, grounds superintendents, and others who belong to our group. I feel that this is the kind of thing that will bind us together as superintendents and will eventually lead to more recognition of our profession by the general public.

It is my wish for the next twelve months not to set our goals too high, but at a level so that we can accomplish our new projects and not be disappointed if some are not completed.

I extend a greeting to our Maine and New England Associations with which we share the Newsletter; if there is anything that we can do to help, even in a small way, please call upon us.

I sincerely wish all our members and fellow-superintendents a most happy Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year.

Sincerely,
George Hauschel
President

NEXT MEETING JANUARY 14

The next meeting of the New Hampshire Golf Course Superintendents' Association will be held on January 14, 1969, at the New Hampshire Highway Hotel, Concord, New Hampshire:

Coffee Hour — 10-11 a.m.

Directors' Meeting — 10 a.m.

Regular Meeting — 11 a.m.

Lunch — 12:15 p.m.

Education Program — 1:15 p.m.

Topic 1: Drainage.

Topic 2: Gasoline Engines.

Informal gathering at 2:30 p.m. in the Lounge, for those who wish.



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

(Left to right, seated): Len Chace, Treasurer; George Hauschel, President; Bob Hale, Vice-President; Dave Marcotte, Secretary.

(Standing, left to right, Board of Directors): Ronald Palmer, Lyle Cheney, William Barrett, John Barry, Bob Flanagan (Outgoing President), Charles Pullen.

DECEMBER MEETING

The annual meeting was held at the Highway Hotel in Concord on December 10, 1968, and the following were elected to office:

President, George Hauschel, Rockingham Country Club, Newmarket, N. H.

Vice-President, Robert Hale, Kingswood Country Club, Wolfeboro, N. H.

Secretary, David Marcotte, Concord Country Club, Concord, N. H.

Treasurer, Leonard Chace, Charmingfare Links, Candia, N. H.

Board of Directors:

Lyle Cheney, Bald Peak Colony Club, Melvin Village, N. H.

Charles Pullen, Nashua Country Club, Nashua, N. H.

William Barrett, Portsmouth Country Club, Portsmouth, N. H.

John Barry, Abenaqui Golf Club, Rye, N. H.

Ronald Palmer, Kearsarge Valley Country Club, North Sutton, N. H.

Professor Leroy Higgins of the Plant Science Dept. at UNH, was our guest. Professor Higgins congratulated the two winners of the Leroy J. Higgins Golf Tournament held at the Charmingfare Links in October of this year: Low Gross, Len Chace of Charmingfare and Low Net, Norman Pease.

All committees will be appointed at the January meeting.



Len Chace (left) and Norman Pease (right) winners of the Leroy J. Higgins Tournament in October.

"HE 'FITZ' THE BILL"

Jim Fitzroy is one of those young lions of the modern age who is a refreshing departure from the snarling rebels apparently bent on hogging the spotlight from the majority of their otherwise enterprising generation.

"Fitz" is this year's winner of the Lawrence S. Dickinson Memorial Scholarship, a sterling project of the New England Association which heaps financial reward on a deserving student in turf grass management.

There is no doubt about the qualifications of Fitzroy, a 21-year-old native of Hinsdale, Massachusetts who is undertaking the four-year program at the University of Massachusetts.



Left — Phil Cassidy, Scholarship Chairman, Jim Fitzroy and Dr. Joseph Troll.

Fitzroy made it to the December meeting for the presentation ceremonies, conducted by scholarship program chairman Phil Cassidy. He impressed all with a matured approach to his future and a solid hold of himself in expressing his appreciation for the honor.

There is every reason to believe that Fitzroy will be joining the ranks of professionals in the turf management field. Jim started to show interest during his vacation stints from Wahconah High School. He spent those working at the Wahconah Country Club in Dalton and even found time to steal away long enough to establish a 12-handicap as a golfer.

Athletics walk hand in hand with Fitzroy's assured outlook. He was a rugged linebacker on Wahconah football teams, played on the school basketball squad and made it to the starting line on the golf team.

Professor Joe Troll was highly pleased with Fitzroy's selection. "He is one of our top boys at UMass", Joe revealed. "Right now, he seems definitely interested in becoming a golf course superintendent. What I like about him is that he has his two feet on the ground and has the self-assurance to go along with lofty ambitions. We're all sure he'll be top-grade when he graduates and moves into the challenge of a superintendent's position."

Fitzroy, then, would appear to be a solid choice. He "Fitz" the bill as scholarship material. The selection committee should be commended.

— Gerry Finn

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"THE CASE FOR CERTIFICATION"

(Second of a two-part series on the proposal to further dignify the profession of Golf Course Superintendent by establishing a program of certification. Part one dealt with the reasons for considering such a big step. Part two covers the requirements for certification along with comments on an accompanying Code of Ethics).

Now that there have been established grounds for certification, it remains to be seen how it can be attained without overstepping the boundaries of practicality.

First, there must be a form of eligibility. Those seeking certification must be presently employed as a golf course superintendent and a Class A member of the national for the past three years.

Requirements would be based on experience, education and association activity . . . certainly a logical means of assessing applicants.

A point system has been offered to include all three phases, with minimums of 70 points in experience, 50 in education and 15 in association activity.

The total for certification might be set at 200.

Experience, naturally, would weigh very heavy. In that vein a table could be arranged with points earned according to the size of the golf course. For example a spread of 10 points would differentiate experience on courses of less than 18 holes, 18 holes and more than 18 holes. Then, a superintendent with five years on the job would receive 50, 60 or 70 points . . . in the previously proposed arrangement based on size of the course.

Participation in golf course construction also would fall under the experience category. And again the size of course determines the point spread. Generally speaking, each regulation nine holes would earn 15 points.

The education setup would follow a similar pattern with attendance, degrees etc. in college contributing to the total . . . along with participation in national and regional turf conferences.

Association activity would reward the applicant on an incentive basis. The more interested would make larger gains.

Included in the overall picture is a strict, hold-the-line observance of a Code of Ethics which is another form of preserving the promoting the image of the profession.

These are presented as suggestions for behavioral guidelines. The most common recommendations, outlined to maintain the good name of the golf superintendent and to preserve the pride associated with the profession, concern methods of seeking employment and conduct in the matter of product endorsement. The employment aspect covers a number of things but concentrates on over-the-table bargaining along with steadfast custom of dealing only with qualified GCSAA members. In the product endorsement stage, it shall be unethical for any association official — be he on the national or regional level — to use his office in product endorsement.

Presented above are the bare sketches of a program to determine just who shall be qualified to take on the label of certification. Obviously, a more refined arrangement would be necessary before the entire project becomes reality.

The series on certification has been offered as an absolute introduction to its possibilities. It is in keeping with the continuing effort of the New England Association to keep alive its members interest in furthering the common cause of all bona fide superintendents . . . that of constantly improving the status of the profession.

— Gerry Finn

See You in Miami!!

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