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The autumn course at the Sports Turf Research Institute was so heavily booked that it was decided to run three courses of a week instead of the customary two. A total of 77 attended of which 49 were from golf clubs.

* * *

The foot-and-mouth disease outbreak in Westmorland produced many voluntary extensions of precautions to limit movement around the countryside. The Ullswater, Coniston and Lunesdale fox-hounds have all given up hunting and Kirkby Lonsdale Golf Club announced that they had closed their course until further notice.

* * *

Bridge of Weir’s Old Ranfurly Golf Club were putting a big increase of annual subscription to an extraordinary general meeting on 30th November. Resolutions to be discussed asked for a £5 levy until the end of the financial year in February and an increase of subscriptions from 14 gns to £20. The club captain, Mr D. M. Gibson, said he thought the days of cheap golf were over.

* * *
The Stafford Sports Council in a survey of local golf requirements caused some worry to the Stafford Council Golf Club when they suggested that an extension from nine to eighteen holes would have to be considered in the light of any proposals for a municipal golf course. However, the Council’s chairman at the annual general meeting allayed their fears and the meeting decided to reword the section to imply support for the Castle Golf Club and backing for any suggested extensions.

* * *

The fifth green at Hazlehead Golf Course, Aberdeen, was the worst hit when four greens suffered damage from galloping horses last month. Mr A. Pirie, head greenkeeper, found the damage while making his routine round of the course.

* * *

The Strood Rural District Council is planning to negotiate for the new golf course site near Hoo. The previous site which they had considered was found to be unsuitable but the Council is determined to provide golf facilities in this area of Kent which is not now very well served.
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A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A GREENKEEPER
AT ST ANDREWS, SCOTLAND

by JOHN K. CAMPBELL,
Links Supervisor, St Andrews, Scotland

IT IS no easy matter to condense all that this heading implies in one short article for, as every greenkeeper knows—wet or fine—the successful day's work is the result of previous planning, and indeed this goes for the work from one year's end to the other. Here at St Andrews, the set up is somewhat unique not only for the publicity that comes our way, but because there are four 18-hole courses, three of which have to be maintained at championship standard. In addition, my parish further extends to a five-acre turf nursery, five acres of public putting greens, a bowling green, practice ground and a number of recreation grounds. My duty as Links Supervisor is governed by the Joint Links Committee which consists of ten members—five elected by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and five by the Town Council—who meet once a month and to whom I submit a report dealing with such items as work done, pending, and contemplated together with matters concerning plant, machinery, compost, fertilizers, and a forecast of further work.

Staff Includes 22 Greenkeepers

The staff consists of a foreman, 22 greenkeepers and four apprentices. Of the total three are starters and, during the season, two are rangers; in effect this works out roughly at five greenkeepers and one apprentice per course, the outside work being taken in the stride. All of them are well able to tackle any job and it is particularly pleasing that the apprentices are as enthusiastically showing their mettle, members of the Greenkeepers' Association to a man, and full use is made of the periodic vacancies in the lecture courses at the Sports Turf Research Institute where so much valuable information can be picked up. The monthly meetings of the Scottish Golf Greenkeepers Association are also well attended. Special care is taken in the work and training of the apprentices and younger members of the staff for they will be the greenkeepers of the future, and overall it is gratifying that committee members are thoroughly interested in all that we do.

Having mentioned planning, I would add that at the end of each season the next year's work is mapped out in broad outline with alternatives for the inclement weather common to all courses, and the result is that the bulk of the work is largely completed.

Work Programmed in Full

On this foundation is built the monthly and weekly programme, on all of which the staff is informed. This is appreciated because they know in advance what is expected of them, perhaps a minor point but one that concerns them individually. There is always plenty of indoor work to be done during bad weather such as the compost factory, machinery maintenance, painting tee-boxes, repairing seats, and other jobs that go into the making of a tidy course. Major repairs are done by the mechanic who has a fully equipped workshop, but those in charge of tractors, mowers, etc. are capable of tackling normal running repairs and adjustments. All machinery in use is cleaned before the end of the day, filled up and ready for the start of another day. By so doing minor faults can be detected and dealt with long before the stage of a major overhaul. The standard of workmanship is necessarily high and conditions are such that when a vacancy occurs on the staff there is no dearth of suitable applicants.

Another feature worthy of note is the interest of machinery manufacturers. The area of the Links is considerable (450 acres, including 18 acres of fine turf) and to overtake the work it is

(Continued on page 8)
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essential to keep abreast of the times and give these firms the opportunity to try out new ideas under conditions not so available elsewhere.

During the season the layout of the next day’s work depends on the reservations over the various courses, and a study of the list is essential so that special attention can be given to whichever course is to be affected, thus giving the players a free run. Irrespective of these reservations, and there are many, men are detailed daily for the normal work on greens, tees, and bunkers keeping in advance of the players.

Following the initial morning’s work the various squads are rearranged and then engaged in the cutting of fairways and greens with the least possible disturbance to players.

Generally, the Links are worked as a whole because the layout is such that, for example, when dealing with fairways—either cutting, fertilizing, or anything of a similar nature—it is more practical to make a continuous sweep. Where gangs are concerned, tractors with trailers are used to set the men to their work and the reverse process is used for the midday break—individuals are picked up on the way and the whole idea is to make the best use of the available staff during working hours.

The day’s work is not merely a job, it is part of a considered plan and practical suggestions from various members of the staff frequently occur, thus adding to the general efficiency.

The number of paid rounds over the four courses amounted to 120,774 during 1964, with the Old Course bearing the brunt and closely followed by the New and Eden. The Jubilee is gaining in popularity and the turf is excellent. Many visitors, particularly those from overseas, wish to play on the Old Course. The ballot is full during the season and slow play tends to restrict the full use of the daylight hours, while the task of the ranger is indeed a thankless one. Divots galore are the bugbear of the greenkeeper; only a minority of players take the trouble to replace and heel-in with the result that the cost involved in dealing with this menace is very considerable. The fact, too, that not many players take the trouble to smooth over the sand in bunkers calls for a good deal of unnecessary work. Every greenkeeper however will go to any length to keep his course immaculate. So far no machine has been invented to lift divots and lessen the manual effort.

With the season approaching tees and greens are receiving the special attention necessary following scarifying, slit tining, composting, etc., and with distinct signs of growth we may look forward to a pleasing spectacle to meet the eyes of the discerning golfers who visit St Andrews every year from many parts of the world.

(Reprinted from “The Golf Superintendent”, May 1966)
WINTER PLAY ON GOLF GREENS
by C. R. SKOGLEY

GOLF course superintendents employed in those parts of the continent that are subject to cold winters share one major concern—winter injury to turf grass. O. J. Noer stated this fact clearly when he wrote: “When grass survives the rigours of winter, summer is no problem in the far north. In this region, winter and early spring are the critical seasons for turf grasses.”

Many articles have appeared in golf journals over the years on the subject of winter injury. The concern over the problem is certainly nothing new. In recent years, however, there has been an increased awareness both of the problem and of the exact causes of it. There has been a real effort to learn how to prevent this seasonal headache. Much of this recent interest has been spurred by two extremely bad winters. The winter of 1958-59 caused more turf injury in the north-east than had been recorded for at least 35 years. The winter of 1962-63 was nearly as bad.

Winter injury is very complex. Injury to the grass takes many forms and is caused in several different ways. Soils, too, may be damaged as a result of winter weather.

In a recent article on the nature and prevention of winter injury, J. R. Watson, Jun, indicated that winter injury, occurring in northern climates, falls into two rather general categories—mechanical and physiological damage. Mechanical damage, except for frost heaving, he indicated, was caused by man and damages turf directly or indirectly.

“Direct injury,” he wrote, “is produced by traffic when the grass is covered by frost or when it is dormant or semi-dormant and the soil is partially or completely frozen.” Watson categorised direct injury as “(a) bruising (cellular rupture) resulting from traffic on frosted grass” (usually occurring in late autumn and early spring); and “(b) attrition from traffic on partially or completely frozen soil especially when grass is near or at dormancy”.

Watson suggested that mechanical damage to soil produced by traffic on partially frozen or wet soils causes indirect turf grass injury. The visible evidence of this type of injury is actual soil displacement—footprints, ruts or similar surface disfigurement. Indirect injury may also be of an invisible kind—soil compaction. Chances for this type of injury are greatest on wet soils and during periods of grass dormancy since there is less mat or cushion present.

The physiological damage referred to by Watson is what is most frequently referred to as “winterkill”. This is the injury resulting from disease, scald, suffocation, desiccation and related causes.

Mechanical injury to greens during the winter seldom gets adequate attention. Most of the efforts to avoid winter injury, and most of the current research on winter injury, relate to physiological injury. Perhaps this is proper since physiological injury is more complex and cannot be as quickly eliminated as mechanical injury. Mechanical injury (except for heaving) generally can be avoided by eliminating traffic during periods of adverse weather or when soil conditions are poor.

A report by A. M. Radko following the hard winter of 1958-1959 indicates certain damage from mechanical injury resulting from traffic. He wrote: “Traffic injury from winter play was also pronounced. The winter being an open season, more winter play was a factor. Turf around cup placements and walk-off areas is sparse at this writing.” This would refer to visible direct mechanical injury. On many golf courses in northern areas where winter play is regular, similar or worse injury is encountered each spring. The indirect and invisible mechanical injury although not obvious may well be the most serious result of winter play.

The effect of frost action and compaction on wet soils has received (Continued on page 11)
DECEMBER 13th Southern Section Lecture—Stirling Castle, 6.30 p.m.

25th

1968

JANUARY 9th North-West Section Lecture.
10th Southern Section Lecture—Stirling Castle, 6.30 p.m.
26th North-East Section Annual Dance.

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and throughout the New Year
considerable study. The action of frost on soils can be favourable or unfavourable depending on the soil texture, organic matter content, moisture content, the rate of freezing, frequency of thaws and depth of freezing. Buckman and Brady have indicated that the force developed by the freezing of water is an almost irresistible force equivalent to about 150 tons of pressure to the square foot. That soil moisture content, then, is important in considering frost effects on soils is easily understood.

It is generally considered that frost action is beneficial. It is believed that alternate freezing and thawing causes a granulating effect on soils and may help overcome compaction caused during the regular playing season. Baver states that freezing and thawing do not always result in improved soil conditions, however. If the soil is dry during the winter there will be little change in aggregation, and, if it is excessively wet there may actually be a dispersion of aggregated materials.

It is usually possible, and certainly desirable, to make sure that greens do not go into the winter in a dry state. It is not possible, generally, to regulate soil moisture in late winter, however, when the frost starts to leave the soil. Since thawing commences at the soil surface any excess water is trapped at the surface by frozen soils below. It is customary to have periods in late winter or early spring when the surface soil is saturated. It is during this period that traffic damage to the soil is most likely and most lasting.

Traffic on these "fluid" soils not only causes visible injury but actual puddling can occur with a subsequent loss of aeration and drainage. It is difficult to maintain adequate soil aeration and surface drainage under heavy play on golf greens when play is confined to the growing season. When traffic is permitted on soils that are waterlogged as a result of alternate freezing and thawing will be lost.

Winter play on golf greens is most likely to cause injury in late autumn or early winter and again in early spring. The injury caused by this play is primarily mechanical—bruising resulting from play on frosted turf when the grass is not completely dormant, or attrition, actual wearing out of the grass at a time that it cannot be renewed. A second type of injury is to the soil. This is most serious during the time the soil is thawing and shortly thereafter.

There are several ways to lessen damage from winter play. The most obvious is to provide small temporary "greens" near the regular green for winter play. Since the surface of a green seldom provides a good putting surface under frozen conditions and golfers are generally more interested in exercise than in score at this season, the temporary "greens" are generally acceptable. Some superintendents provide extra large cups in the winter "greens" to help compensate for poor winter putting conditions.

Another method used to reduce injury in late autumn is to water the greens lightly in the mornings to remove the frost from the grass before permitting play. Many courses close for play on the days the superintendent feels the injury potential is high.

It is well to keep the membership informed of the damage potential from winter play. If winter play is regular, an additional budget item should be requested as some repair work will be necessary with the arrival of spring.

Reprinted with acknowledgments to the "Golf Course Reporter:"

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News

Greetings

From the President
Best wishes to the members of the B.G.G.A. in 1968. I hope this will be a happy and successful year for you all.

CARL BRETHERTON.

From the Chairman
I should like to send best wishes for a Happy Christmas to all members of the B.G.G.A. and their families, and a Happy and Healthy New Year to them all.

C. A. MOORE.

From the Hon. Secretary
To every member of the Association I would like to extend my very best wishes for a Happy Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year.

C. H. DIX.

November Lecture
BEFORE INTRODUCING THE LECTURER to an excellent gathering of over 50 members, our chairman, Jock Glass, asked every one to stand in silence in memory of Bob Cox. He went on to apologise for the absence of our president, Mr Jack Wallis-Arthur, who had been unable to attend owing to severe foot trouble. We sincerely hope that it will be better in time for our next meeting, Mr President!

Mr Shepherd talked very interestingly about aerating and mowing machines, mole drainage equipment, etc., and put his vast experience of these subjects at our disposal afterwards in question time. After our chairman had thanked Mr Shepherd and Mr Wyatt for coming along, Mr Shepherd invited all members to a drink at the bar.

Eight-a-side Match
Southern Section versus Southern Secretary match at Royal Mid-Surrey Golf Club was a clear-cut victory for the greenkeepers.

Morning foursomes 2½-½; afternoon singles 5-3.

New Members
We welcome to the section the following new members: R. C. Falle, A. E. Watson, A. W. Clements, E. Ives, G. E. Westcott, S. D. Ashworth, A. A. Juniper, B. S. Bastone, P. R. Green. Welcome to J. J. Dearlove from the Sheffield section who is now at Wildernesse, Seven Oaks.

January Lecture
The next lecture will be at 6.30 on Wednesday, 10th January 1968, at the Stirling Castle, London Wall, Moorgate, and we will be given a talk by Mr R. H. Crisp, of Atcos of Reigate. This will be our first visit from Atcos and I understand it will be a very enjoyable evening.

NORTH-EAST

By D. Earsman
Arcot Hall Cottage
Dudley
Newcastle on Tyne 3

In Memoriam
IT IS WITH DEEP REGRET THAT I have to inform members of the death of our vice-chairman, R. H. Nicholson, for many years head greenkeeper at Hartlepool Golf Club, who died suddenly on Thursday,
19th October. We will miss him very much as he was always a man we could look to for help and advice. There is no doubt that greenkeeping has suffered by his passing; and we shall certainly miss him at our future meetings as he was always a regular attendant.

I would like to take this opportunity of offering on behalf of the members of the North-East Section their deepest sympathy to Mrs Nicholson in her great loss.

Greetings

On behalf of the North-East Section may I take this opportunity to wish all members of the association, and the many golf clubs and firms who so kindly support us throughout the year, a Happy Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

New Member

We welcome to the section Mr W Pender, of Stewart’s, seedsmen, Edinburgh, who has been elected vice-president.

Subscriptions

Would members who have not yet paid their subscriptions do so as soon as possible as they are now overdue.

Greetings

ON BEHALF OF THE MIDLAND Section may I extend to our president, Mr Bretherton, to all members of the association and our many friends in the trade, our best wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Subscriptions

A few members have not yet paid their annual subscriptions. Mr Cashmore, our treasurer, would be pleased to hear from these members, to enable him to bring his books up to date.

New Member

We welcome to the section the following new member: Andrew Jamieson, who has moved from Scotland to the Leamington County Golf Club.

Season’s Greetings

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS opportunity of wishing all the members of this section a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

By S. Fretter

Chairman:
J. Burnham
Hon. Secretary:
20 Woodcote Road
Leicester. LE3 2WD

Autumn Tournament

THE ANNUAL AUTUMN TOURNAMENT was played over the course of the Alwoodley Golf Club on Thursday, 26th October (by kind permission of the Club Committee). Thirty-four members took part. Unfortunately, a gale force wind and a heavy rain shower made conditions very unpleasant and good scores hard to come by.

Results

Scratch Prize—K. Driver (Serby Park), 82.
1st Division—1st, S. Smith (Alwoodley), 80; 2nd, E. Paley (Whitefield), 83; 3rd, A. Money, 86.
2nd Division—1st, C. Ramsden (Cleckheaton), 78; 2nd, D. Ward (Scarcroft), 79; 3rd, W. Wilkinson (Shipley), 79.
Veteran’s Prize—D. Scole (Scarborough North Cliff), 84.
Vice-Presidents—A. Brophy (Sand Moor), 83; 2nd, T. Toulson (Gott’s Park), 88.

Following tea the prizes were presented by the captain of Alwoodley Golf Club. A vote of thanks was proposed by our president, Mr W. Mountain, seconded by the chairman, Mr D. Roberts. Our thanks are due to all members of the club staff for helping to make it an enjoyable outing. My personal thanks to Mr T. Hullah for taking over the clerical duties in my absence. Finally, thanks to local golf clubs who so kindly contributed to our Prize Fund.

Benevolent Fund

At a short ceremony in the clubhouse of the Horsforth Golf Club on Saturday, 23rd September, our president, Mr W. Mountain, was handed the sum of £20 as a donation to our Benevolent Fund. This was the result of the efforts of Mr Ron Hartley, steward of the club and also a section vice-president, who with the permission of the club organised a pile of pennies on the club bar counter.

New Members

We welcome to the section as a new member Mr J. Taylor, 46 Windsor Avenue, Skipton (Skipton Golf Club). Also Mr D.
J. Blackburn, formerly of the Southern Section, whose new address is "Lancott Willoughby Road, South Rauceby, nr. Sleaford, Lincs.

Seasonal Greetings

As this will be the last issue of the Journal before the festive season I would like to take this opportunity of wishing all members of the association a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

By S. A. Tucker
Chairman

MISCELLANEOUS

PROFESSIONALS AND GREENKEEPERS having stocks of used golf balls contact Sparkbrook Golf Ball Co., 295 Highgate Road, Stoney Lane, Birmingham, with a view to filling export orders.

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Chairman: D. L. MACDIARMID
Royal Burgess Golfing Society
Barnton, Edinburgh, 4

General Secretary: R. B. MOFFATT
Cathkin Braes Golf Club, Rutherglen

EAST SECTION

Spring Outing 1968

THIS OUTING WILL BE HELD OVER the Royal Musselburgh Golf Club on Thursday, 25th April 1968, by kind permission of the captain and his committee. More details will be given nearer the time stated.

Christmas and New Year Wishes

The chairman of our section, Mr W. Paton, and the committee hope for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy Healthy New Year for all members and our trade friends.

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NORTH WEST SECTION NOTES

Annual Trip

THE ANNUAL TRIP THIS YEAR WAS to Slazengers at Horbury. Seventeen members went and a very warm welcome was extended to us by Miss Pritchard, the personnel officer, on behalf of the directors and management. After making a tour of the works employed in the leather work of golf equipment — bags, gloves — we were entertained to a very nice lunch, after which we made a further tour of the works to see the making of cricket bats, tennis racquets, etc. I would like to say, on behalf of the members who took part, to the directors, the management and all the workers of International Sports Co., thank you most sincerely for a very enjoyable day.

Lectures

The last talk was given to us by Mr Hewitt of Ato’s Longton Service Branch, and took the form of an instructional talk on machinery and then of a quiz, the questions asked being on matters appertaining to our work and general knowledge. Mr Hewitt, on behalf of Ato’s, presented the prizes to the winners. We should like to thank Mr Hewitt for an enjoyable evening and the light refreshment provided. The next lecture will be on 9th January and will be given by Mr Wyatt, of Messrs H. Pattison & Co. The venue will be the Garrick Hotel, Fountain Street, Manchester.

Congratulations

On behalf of the members of the section I should like to extend our heartiest congratulations to Mr L. Haken, of Sale Golf Club, who has now reached his eightieth birthday and somewhat reluctantly has decided to retire and call it a day as far as active greenkeeping goes, but I am sure he will be only too willing to help with his very, very valuable advice. Congratulations, Len, and many happy days to come.
Pork is in season from September until April, but around Christmas it is most popular. The lean should be a good pink colour and fine in the grain.

**Pork Pies**

1½ lb. of lean pork, seasoning, stock, 1 lb. of raised or hot water crust, a little beaten egg, parsley.

“Pastry” hot water crust

½ lb. of flour, ⅛ of a teaspoonful salt, ½ gill of milk and water mixed, 2½ oz. of lard.

Mix the flour and salt, heat the milk, water and fat, then add sufficient to the flour to form a stiff paste, keep warm.

Wipe the pork, then cut into small pieces, add the seasoning and 2 tablespoonfuls of stock.

Divide the pastry into six portions, keep back one-third of each portion and stand in a warm place. Have six cups or small gallipots inverted. Mould a piece of pastry round each to about 3 in. high. By the time the sixth one is moulded the first one can be removed from the mould. Fill each case with the prepared pork. Moisten the edges, and roll out each top separately, place on the pie and trim the edges, using scissors. Continue with the others in the same way. Make a hole in the top of each pie and moisten the edge of the hole. Roll out the scraps of the pastry and cut into fancy shapes; place round the hole. Tie a band of paper round each pie (the same height as the pie). Bake for one hour, remove the paper bands and brush pies with egg. Reduce heat and cook for a further 30 minutes. Fill the pies with hot stock, garnish with parsley.

Time 1½ hours, regulo Mark 5, electricity 380° F.

**Pork, Pickled**

Belly, shoulder, leg, head or feet (1 lb.), salt, 1 oz. saltpetre, ½ lb. of sugar, 6 pints of water, ½ oz. of bruised black peppercorns.

Place all the ingredients in a pan, and bring to the boil. Allow to become quite cold. Sprinkle the pork with dry salt and rub the meat well. Leave in a cool place for 48 hours. Drain off the liquid, place the meat in a large pan, and cover with the cold brine; this should come to 2 in. above the pork. Place a dish on top with weights to keep the meat under the pickle. Leave from 3 to 30 days. It is usual for the belly, head and feet to be pickled in a few days, the shoulder in 14, also the leg.

**Mock Goose (Pork)**

1 lb. of lean pork, 2 onions, 1½ oz. of breadcrumbs, seasoning, 1 teaspoonful of sage, 1 egg, stock, 1 tablespoonful of flour, fat for roasting, apple sauce, gravy.

Remove the rind and wipe the pork, pass it through a mincing machine. Peel and chop the onions.

Into a hot pan add the pork and onions and stir rapidly over a brisk heat for six minutes, cool slightly. Add the breadcrumbs, seasoning and sage, add the egg and sufficient stock to bind the mixture. Turn onto a board and form into a roll; rub over with flour. Make a little dripping hot in a tin, place in the roll and cook for one hour, reducing the heat when the outside of the roll browns. Serve with apple sauce and gravy.

Regulo Mark 4, electricity 370° F. Time 1½ hours. To serve six people.

May you all have a very Happy Christmas and every good wish for 1968.

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