

A brighter side to events in Belfast was the opening last month of a new £250,000 sports complex on the slopes of Belfast's Black Mountain. The Green Briar Golf Centre is situated on a 24-acre site, easily reached from the city and already has a 135 ft. covered driving range in two tiers which cope with 24 customers at once. Two uncovered Driving areas, each with 15 bays, will be added shortly and work has already begun on developing a short 9-hole course.

Journalist Mike Borissow has just completed the first 9 holes of his own golf course on farmland between Sissinghurst and Benenden. The Borissows bought a run-down farmhouse with 100 acres, obtained planning permission, hired farm worker Charlie Woolford as groundsman and in eighteen months had 9 holes ready for play.

On the other hand, Mr Fell who omitted to get planning permission before making his 9-hole course on land opposite his home in Lapworth, Warwickshire, has been told he cannot play on it. Mr Fell has now applied for planning permission and hopes he will not be obliged to revert the land to its original use.

Average strokes taken by competitors in the Open at St. Andrews were highest at No. 17. Over the four rounds, players failed to make par at this hole 208 times and only 5 birdies were recorded.

Whitburn Golf Club is living on the edge of a cliff as quarrying operations creep closer to the back door of the wooden club-house. Crockery rattles on the shelves in the greenkeeper's cottage when blasting takes place.

