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Says

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GEERING



IT has been said that a night is bad indeed when it is not fit for a tree to be out. Unfortunately, upon just such a night, affronted by generations of unappreciated existence, trees choose to draw attention to themselves in no uncertain manner. A storm-ravaged tree can inflict extensive and not easily repaired damage, and because both trunk and branches are subject to complex tensions, clearing up is dangerous work.

Worse, if it can be shown that the owner knew, or ought to have known, that it was a menace and did nothing about it, his negligence may result in crippling damages being awarded against him. He can never rely upon a plea that "this was an act of God", because a court will decide that if a reasonable man would have felled or lopped the tree then he should have done so.

Again, if Farmer Heckmondwike runs over your favourite sheep-dog it is neither humane nor legally permissible to retaliate by planting yew, laburnum or other poisonous trees along your joint boundaries—if his cattle die so may your bank balance!

Before buying property, bear in mind the question of dangerous, poisonous, or overhanging trees: if such hazards are obvious it will be no good complaining afterwards.

Poplars Not Popular

If your trees overhang a neighbour's property, or if their roots invade his kitchen, then they have committed trespass and unless you can persuade them to mend their ways they can be described as a "nuisance"; with or without adjectives.

Do not plant trees (especially poplars) close to buildings. Their roots spread alarmingly, and can drain thousands of gallons of water away from foundations—causing subsidence.

If your trees encroach upon your neighbour's land, he may abate the nuisance. But he must act reasonably, damaging the trees only to the extent necessary.

Trees, then, may cause feuds which last for years and begin to rival the Mafia vendettas of Sicily. If someone can prove that he has suffered hurt or

financial loss he may refer the matter to the courts without warning and with enough chance of success to make prevention far better than cure.

You may feel that if you wish to fell trees on your own land then that is up to you: not a bit of it! The Forestry Act of 1951 lays down that generally speaking timber trees may be felled without a Forestry Commission Licence only when they are dangerous, dead, a nuisance, interfere with electricity supply lines (the Electricity people may cut these free!), or when they are less than three inches in diameter measured at five feet above the ground.

Orchard or garden trees may be felled unless there is prior agreement not to, or local by-laws or acts of Parliament apply. The Town and Country Planning Act (1947) enables you to fell when permitted development requires it.

Razing Regulations

You may also fell timber trees without a licence if the cubic measure of the trees felled does not exceed 825 Hoppus feet in a quarter; of which no more than 150 H/feet may be sold per quarter.

Although some land-owners pay little or no attention to these felling regulations they do exist and can be enforced.

When deciding upon tree work it is necessary to realise that all the legal requirements applicable to contractors who specialise in this work apply to you.

If you undertake work for which you are not insured, or encourage farm workers to attempt tasks for which they were not trained, it is very probable that in the event of an accident you will be held responsible.

Also, if you involve yourself or your employees in operations which could endanger the lives or property of members of the public, either on or off your land, then you should certainly obtain public liability cover.

Hazardous Haul

When the trees are down the danger is not over. The haulage and loading of trees, some weighing many tons, is at the best of times a hazardous business. It should not be attempted with a tractor which does not have *at least* a seven-ton timber winch.

If an accident does occur, and negligence is proved, arising from inexperience or the use of incorrect methods or faulty or inadequate machinery, then the courts may grant substantial damages and costs to the injured person.

Many ancient common rights exist in the countryside, and the term "estovers" covers rights of taking "reasonable" amounts of timber and underwood from woods or waste lands belonging to another person. Beware of these "rights". So many changes are taking place in rural areas that only after the most searching enquiries should you take wood which does not belong to you.

In 1586 it was said that: "The tree is no sooner fallen downe to the ground, but everie one is readie to runne upon it with his Hatchette"—it is wise today, however, to be sparing with the hatchet—unless you are prepared to look as "old-fashioned" as this ancient "saw"!

With grateful acknowledgments to the author and the "Farmer and Stock-breeder".

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News



from the Sections

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

Hon. Secretary:
18 Albert Road, Hendon, N.W.4.
Tel.: SUNnyhill 0245

OUR SPRING TOURNAMENT WILL be held at the Finchley Golf Club, Nether Court, Mill Hill, N.W.7, on Wednesday, 16th May. Closing date for entries is Monday, 30th April, and on no account will any be accepted after that date. Only members whose subscription has been paid up to date will be eligible to compete.

Members travelling by train from all main line stations should take the underground (Northern Line) to Golders Green and then a No. 125 bus from outside the station which will take them to the Finchley Golf Club.

February Lecture

We all enjoyed a most interesting evening on Wednesday, 28th February, when Mr. Escritt kindly came along to talk to us in place of Mr. Bartle who was unable to be present. The many questions asked were most ably answered. One in particular came from two members who have trouble with the weed Parsley Piet. Our sincere thanks are due to Mr. Escritt.

New Members

We welcome the following new members to our Section: E. G. Long, Lavender Cottage, Dymchurch Road, New Romsey, Kent; S. Tucker, 20 Acoyne Drive, Raynes Park, S.W.20; and D. E. Smith, c/o 60 Gresham Road, Drayton Estate, North Norwich.

NORTH-WEST

By B. Ellis

Chairman
O. P. JONES,
(Bramhall G.C.)

Hon. Secretary:
Romiley G.C.

OUR SECTION ANNUAL GENERAL Meeting will be held on Thursday, 7th June. Time and venue will appear in the May issue of the Journal.

Spring Tournament

Our Spring Tournament will be held at the Bramhall Golf Club on Wednesday, 2nd May. Entries should be sent in by 25th April in order that I may make the necessary catering arrangements. Trains from Piccadilly to Bramhall as follows: 7-50 a.m., 8-12 a.m., 8-50 a.m. and 9-50 a.m. Buses from Piccadilly to Stockport (Mersey Square) No. 92 every 7 minutes. Buses from Stockport to Bramhall, Nos. 75, 76, 77, every 15 minutes. Members should book to Robin Lane, and will find Ladythorn Road but a short distance from there.

Change of Address

J. Janovskis has now moved to 1 Woodcroft, Fernleigh Road, Grange-over-Sands, North Lancs. We wish Mr. Janovskis every success in his new post as Head Greenkeeper to the Grange-over-Sands Golf Club.

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MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

Hon. Secretary:
76 Four Oaks Common Road
Sutton Coldfield, Warwickshire.

OUR SPRING TOURNAMENT WILL be played at Drayton Park, Tamworth Golf Club, on Tuesday, 1st May, by kind permission of the Committee.

A coach will leave the Hall of Memory, Birmingham, at 8-30 a.m. Will members who intend playing please let me know at once in order that I may arrange catering. Members intending to travel on the coach should also mention this, so that I may know the size of coach required. We shall be very pleased to see those of our Vice-Presidents who may care to join us and play in our invitation 18 holes after lunch.

Subscriptions

Will members please note that our financial year ends on the 30th of this month, and remit their subscriptions to our Treasurer without delay to enable him to carry out the necessary transference to the Association Treasurer.

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

Chairman:
G. W. MASON
(Halifax West End)

Hon. Secretary:
8 Goit Stock Terr., Harden,
Bingley, Yorks.

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT the closing date for entries for the Spring Tournament on Thursday, 26th April, to be played at Otley Golf Club (by kind permission of the Committee), is Saturday, 14th April.

February Meeting

Our February meeting on Tuesday, 13th, was held at The Market Tavern, Bradford, and was in the form of a film show given by Mr. G. Vaughan, of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, in conjunction with our President, Mr. W. Mountain.

An excellent attendance of over 40 members turned up to see two most interesting new films. The first, a short one, dealt with the care and maintenance of the Certes and gang unit of the Ransomes machines. The second showed a tour of European countries by a representative of the firm, and demonstrated their different machines dealing with many and varied grass cutting problems. Watching this film it was hard to realise that we were in the middle of an English winter. The photography and scenes were first class, and I am sure everyone present was very much impressed. During the interval, sandwiches and drinks were provided by our President to whom our sincere thanks are due. Following the break, our friend Bill Palmer ably answered questions fired at him.

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A vote of thanks was proposed by our Chairman, Mr. G. Mason, seconded by Mr. J. Scott. Mr. G. Vaughan suitably replied to close a most interesting and entertaining evening.

Visit to International Harvesters Ltd.

Twenty-five members, a rather disappointing number, turned up on Tuesday, 6th March, for a visit to International Harvesters (Tractors) Ltd., at Idle, Bradford. Unfortunately, owing to a labour dispute, members were unable to see the assembly line in production. The tour was most instructive however, and members were able to see the various processes that take place. A vote of thanks to the firm and our guides was proposed by Mr. G. Mason and heartily endorsed by all present. Members then retired to a local hostelry where drinks and snacks were kindly provided by Mr. Teddy Foulds to whom our thanks are due.

EAST MIDLAND

By S. T. McNeice

Chairman:
S. TALBOT
(Wollaton Park)

Hon. Secretary:
40 Edward Road,
Clarendon Park, Leicester

I HOPE ALL MEMBERS HAVE NOTED the date of our Spring Tournament, Wednesday, 9th May, to be played at the Sherwood Forest Golf Club, Eakring Road, Mansfield, Notts.

Members who intend to compete should let me have their entries not later than Wednesday, 2nd May, showing the name of their home club and handicap. We are looking forward to a large gathering so even if you do not intend competing, do not let this stop you from attending, but please do drop me a line to this effect in order that I may complete catering arrangements. Do not delay, please send that entry now and so help me to do my job.

Annual Subscriptions

Will members please note that Annual Subscriptions are due on the 1st May.



THE SCOTTISH GOLF GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION

NORTH AND MIDLAND SECTION

AN INTERESTING LECTURE WAS given by Mr. W. Beveridge, of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, on the 14th February in Nicoll & Smiberts Rooms, Dundee, when 34 members attended. The lecture was illustrated with some excellent films.

Appointment

S. Christie, who was Assistant Greenkeeper at Monifeth Golf Club, has been appointed Head Greenkeeper at Dudley Golf Club, Worcestershire. We wish him every success in his new appointment.

W. RITCHIE, Secretary.

EAST SECTION

OUR FEBRUARY LECTURE HELD ON the 15th at the Monktonhall Golf Club, by kind permission of the Committee, was attended by 30 members, a most encouraging number. Mr. Beveridge, of Messrs. Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies, and Mr. Tait provided a film show, after which Mr. Beveridge dealt with the many questions. Light refreshments were also provided by Messrs. Ransomes. Our Chairman, Mr. H. Smith, thanked Mr. Beveridge and Mr. Tait on behalf of all present.

Annual Outing

Our Annual Outing will take place at Monktonhall Golf Club on Thursday, 10th May, by kind permission of the Club.

A. HUIISH, Secretary.

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MAJOR A. WHITLEY LAVARACK, M.C.

It is with great sorrow that we report the death of Major A. Whitley Lavarack, M.C., Secretary of the English Golf Union for many years and ultimately its President. He was a Vice-President of the British Golf Greenkeepers' Association for more than 25 years, taking a

particular interest in the Southern Section at the beginning of this period and in the Association as a whole throughout the time he was closely linked with the administration of golf in England.

HON. SECRETARY'S NOTES

OUR ANNUAL TOURNAMENT will take place at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club (by kind permission of the Committee), on the 13th, 14th and 15th August, 1962.

Catering arrangements have been made as follows. Lunch and High Tea will be available at an inclusive charge of 11/6. Lunch 6/-, High Tea 5/6, or Plain Tea will also be available if requested.



Permission for practice has been given after 10-30 a.m., and 2-30 p.m., on Sunday, 12th August.

It is hoped that members will find the published list of board residences helpful in booking accommodation, but should any difficulty be experienced, they should write to Mr. B. Jones, Greenkeeper at Pyle & Kenfig Golf Club, Waun-y-Mer, Pyle, Glamorgan, who, with his assistant, Mr. D. Robinson, has kindly offered to help. Early application is advisable.

Southern Section Dinner

I would like to express my appreciation to the Southern Section for their kind invitation to attend their Annual Dinner on the 9th March. It was a most enjoyable evening and it gave me much pleasure to meet so many Southern Section members and representatives of the Trade.

I was also very pleased to see present my predecessor, Mr. D. V. D. Moss, who appeared to be in first class form.

C. H. DIX

Book your accommodation EARLY BOARD RESIDENCE, PORTHCAWL

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Mrs. M. J. Jones, 47 Esplanade Avenue	4	1	14/6
Miss M. E. Rees, 33 Esplanade Avenue	7	2	14/6
Mrs. N. George, 9 Fenton Place	3	1	12/6
Mrs. M. James, 11 Fenton Place	1	1	12/6
Mrs. E. James, "Cranford", 25 Fenton Place	2	1	12/6
Mrs. Larner, 7 Fenton Place	2	1	12/6
Mrs. Miles, 45 Fenton Place	2	1	12/6
Mrs. Maddock, 31 Fenton Place	2	1	12/6

Mrs. H. Griffiths, 2 Kings Hill	2	1	12/6
Mrs. L. Hier, 5 Kings Hill	2	1	12/6
Mrs. M. I. Fisher, 218 New Road	3	2	12/6
Mrs. Z. B. Newlyn, 181 New Road	3	3	12/6
Mrs. B. Tapper, "Rhoslyn", 189 New Rd. (Tel. 3075)	2	2	12/6
Miss H. Jones, "Edale", 9 Queens Avenue	2	1	14/6
Mrs. M. A. Griffiths, 64 Suffolk Place	2	2	12/6
Mrs. P. Hughes, "Lindens", 16 The Green Avenue	2	2	14/6
Mrs. T. Lewis, 13 Victoria Avenue	3	5	14/6
Miss G. E. John, 6 Wellfield Avenue (Tel. 1168)	4	2	14/6
Mrs. P. Barkus, 25 West End Avenue	8	1	12/6
Mrs. Sam Best, "The Oaks", 2 Woodland Ave.	2	1	12/6

NEW COURSES

Another tour of continental courses was completed last month by Mr. Bernard Clayton, Senior Advisory Officer of the Sports Turf Research Institute. He visited Lyon (both the existing course and a site for a new 36-hole layout) Basle, two courses recently opened near Paris, and a Canadian Army course near Metz.

Work is also well advanced on another 9-hole course near Metz—a co-operative effort between the town, the French army, and a group of private individuals. The site is attractive parkland at the Château de Chérissey and the layout will preserve many fine specimen trees and much of the woodland, which are now approaching their best.

Our picture suggests that the landscape architect had a golf course in mind when he laid out the grounds originally.



NORTH EAST NEWS

A lively meeting at Gosforth Golf Club of Northumberland & Durham Greenkeepers on 19th March decided to link up with the B.G.G.A. and to go all out for recruits in the coming season.

The Chairman and Tommy Oliver led the discussion and B.G.G.A. Chairman, Jock Glass and Hon. Secretary C. H. Dix answered specific points. Mr. Leslie Jones, President of the Section and Deputy President of the E.G.U. promised his personal support. 250 copies of the April issue of the Greenkeeper are going off to clubs in the two counties.

The general drift of the meeting!

Most clubs have not yet woken up to the grim results of the law of diminishing greenkeepers. A few bright exceptions will not materially affect the future. Club officials should see that their ground staff can get to lectures and meetings, help them with expenses and subscriptions. In the long run it would be all for the good of the courses.

And if there was one thing these boys took pride in—that was it. No personal grumbles, no criticisms, no bitterness—just facts and what was best for greenkeeping and the golf course.

Let's hope they get the wide support they deserve.

JUNIOR GOLF MOVES ON

CUTTINGS FROM THE GOLF FOUNDATION PROGRESS REPORT No. 8 From Schools and Clubs

Reg Knight reports good progress at Forest School where the boys have built a green with bunkers on the playing field—most useful for improving the short game.

★

David Chambers, 17 years old, won the Edinburgh Boys' Championship and Speirs Trophy. He received Golf Foundation coaching from George Yuille of Turnhouse Golf Club in a composite class.

★

The Junior Section of the North Wales Golf Club, Llandudno, is one of the biggest and best in Wales. Three girls played in the British Junior Trials, and one, Jill Cheetham, was a semi-finalist as well as the youngest competitor in the Lancashire Ladies' Championship. All have been taught by Sid Collins, the Club professional.

★

Tom Currie, professional at Lundin Golf Club, Fife, gives news of one of his star pupils, D. Webster, who won the Open Tournament at Elie for boys under 16 years of age, and represented the East of Scotland against the West.

★

M. Dawson of St. Bees, a Golf Foundation pupil under D. Masey, played for England in the Boys' International match at Dalmahoy. He is 16 years old. He also went round his home course in 65-5=60 net in a medal competition (S.S.S. 70).

★

John Yeo, a 15 year old pupil of the Bude Grammar School, Cornwall, won the "Daily Telegraph" Cup at Treose with a score of 78-9=69. His coach, Jack Gibson from Westward Ho!, is confident he will be a scratch golfer in the near future.

Robin Thorpe, aged 16, a Foundation pupil of H. Southcott, Holyhead Golf Club, tied for the premier competition, the Holyhead Town Trophy, with a net score of 133 over 36 holes. His handicap has since been reduced to 8.

★

Jill Morris, an 18 year old girl who started playing golf 4 years ago, won the Welsh Girls' Championship at Llandudno. She was also awarded a Golf Foundation trophy for showing the greatest improvement in her game during 1960/61.

★

Nicholas Gareth Jones, aged 14½ years, of Cardiff Golf Club, was awarded a Golf Foundation trophy by the Welsh Golf Union at the Boys' Championship for making the most improvement during the year. Shortly afterwards he returned a score of 60 net at Llandrindod Wells.

MAGAZINE POSTAGE

The Executive Committee has decided to recommend an increase of 1/- in Magazine Postage to the Annual General Meeting in August. 3/6 instead of 2/6 to meet the dearer stamps and general increase in the cost of bringing the Greenkeeper to your door each month.

No obligation yet but if Section Secretaries like to collect the extra 1/- this year instead of next it will all help to keep the magazine moving on to an ever brighter future.

SHORT OF PATIENTS?

"The suggestions made by Dr. Drybrough-Smith could be carried out, namely, to adapt this nine-hole course into a compact 18-hole golf course. . . .

The upkeep of this 18-hole golf course would be little more than half that of the old St. Leonard's course, owing to the fact that one fairway would be used for three holes instead of the normal one."