

MERSEYSIDE

“... The frost's unrelaxed grip this time has meant that not a ball has been struck in anger or pleasure, outdoors, for the best part of six weeks. And even grimmer for addicts of which Merseyside has thousands, is the warning by most clubs here that when the thaw comes it will be between ten and fourteen days before greenkeepers will let us play.

These turf-tending experts, always more concerned for the well-being of their beloved greens than with the impatience of members, have left clubs in no doubt that the severity of frost in the ground—in some cases more than twelve inches of it—will make it essential for the ground to be completely thawed out before play is permissible.

This unsuspected postscript delay to the great cold spell will dismay golfers to an even greater extent. Their vexation at being denied a game for so many weeks is assuaged by glances at links

patently unfit for anyone save metal monkeys or for anything except skating and skiing; to have to sit in clubhouses looking (often through picture windows) at green, but still unplayable, courses will be a much harder thing to bear. . .”

Leslie Edwards in the *Liverpool Post*.

FISONS ENTER AMERICAN MARKET

Mr. G. V. K. Burton, Chairman of Fisons Horticulture Limited, announced on 23rd January that his Company had taken “decisive steps to establish their products in the American Horticultural market”. His statement followed Treasury approval of the investment needed by Fisons to secure an 80% share of the equity of the Doggett-Pfeil Company of Springfield, New Jersey, and to provide the working capital necessary to support an extension of its activities. The Company will be re-named Doggett-Fison.

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News



from the Sections

NORTHERN

By J. Parker

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

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

Grand National Sweep

MEMBERS ARE REMINDED THAT the closing date for the return of counterfoils and monies for the Grand National Sweep is Saturday, 16th March. It is hoped that every effort will have been made to make the Sweep a success.

Spring Tournament

The closing date for entries for the Spring Tournament, to be played over the course of the Woodsome Hall Golf Club on Tuesday, 9th April, is Saturday, 30th March.

January Meeting

Despite the wintry weather, forty members turned up at the White Swan, Leeds, on Tuesday, 15th January, for a film show. The films, presented by Mr. Teddy Foulds, were kindly loaned by Slazengers Ltd. The two films, "Slazenger 279" and "Saving Strokes", featuring Norman Von Nida, were most interesting and thoroughly enjoyed. A vote of thanks to Mr. Foulds was proposed by our Chairman, Mr. G. Mason, and seconded by Mr. E. Mums.

New Appointment

Mr. J. E. Coyer of Cleckheaton Golf Club has been appointed Head Greenkeeper to the Lincoln Golf Club. I'm sure we all wish him the best of luck in his new position.

SOUTHERN

By W. Mason

Chairman:
J. K. GLASS
(Thorpe Hall)

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

AS ALREADY MENTIONED IN THE previous journal, the last of our winter lectures will take place on Wednesday, 13th March, at 6-30 p.m. at the Talbot Restaurant. This will be a Quiz with Mr. G. K. Glass as the Question Master, as usual. We look forward to a full house with plenty of problems to be discussed after this very long spell of bad weather.

Arrangements have been made for both our Spring and Autumn Tournaments. The first will take place at the Thorndon Park Golf Club, Essex, on Wednesday, 15th May. Final details will be given in the April journal.

All older members of the Association will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Hugh MacLean, who leaves a widow, one son and three daughters. He was Head Greenkeeper at the Sunningdale Golf Club for forty years and, previous to that, was foreman to Willie Parke, who laid out the old course in 1899. On his retirement, his son, Jimmy took over and is still carrying on with the good work. I have written on behalf of the Southern Section and expressed our deepest sympathy.

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NORTH-EAST

By T. Oliver

Hon. Secretary:
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Newcastle-on-Tyne 3.

Chairman:
J. SIMPSON
Ponteland G.C.)

Visit to S.T.R.I.

ON TUESDAY, 23rd APRIL, A VISIT to the Sports Turf Research Institute has been arranged. A bus is engaged to leave Newcastle at 8-30 a.m. It can be arranged to pick up en route at convenient places. We shall also welcome members of Golf Club Committees to accompany their Greenkeeper. To enable me to make final arrangements, will members please let me know at their earliest convenience if they are coming and whether accompanied by any of their officials. Lunch and tea will be at the Research Station. Total cost of bus, meals, etc., will be known later. I can thoroughly recommend this visit to all concerned. The officials and staff of the S.T.R.I. are looking forward to meeting us.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Durham County Golf Union Committee for the cheque I received from Mr. W. A. Chrichton, Hon. Treasurer, value £5, as donation to the funds of our Association.

We are very glad to hear that Mr. Allan Harrison is recovering from his illness. We all hope he continues to do so.

Bingley Visit

If it will be more convenient for members of Durham, regarding information for Bingley visit, for seats, please contact Mr. J. L. Lawery, 14 Galloping Green Road, Wrekenton, Gateshead. I have to attend the Infirmary for treatment on 15th February and hope to be back to normal by then.

Spring Meeting

The Spring Meeting to be held at Hartlepool—Mr. Nicholson said he would let the Committee know about a suitable date in May.

MIDLAND

By F. Cashmore

Chairman:
G. HART
(Gay Hill)

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

Spring Tournament

OUR SPRING TOURNAMENT IS AT the Sutton Coldfield Golf Club, Streetley, on Thursday, 4th April. Will members please let me have their entries by 25th March. We shall be pleased to have any of our Vice-Presidents join us for 18 holes after lunch. There is a Midland Red bus which leaves New Street at 8-29 a.m., which put you down at Streetley Station and then the club house is about 250 yards up the hill. The service number of the bus is No. 101. There is another bus, the 113, via Perry Barr, leaving at 8-52 a.m. and 9-15 a.m., which after putting you down at the Buccaneer on the Chester Road leaves you a considerable walk down Manor Road.

President's Match

Mr. Bretherton has fixed up his match, Presidents' Team v. Greenkeepers, at Handsworth Golf Club on Tuesday, 11th June, when we can again look forward to a very enjoyable evening.

Autumn Tournament

The Committee of the Handsworth Golf Club have kindly given us the courtesy of their course for playing our Autumn Tournament on Thursday, 26th September. We are extremely grateful for their kindness.

At the time of writing these notes, 6th February, there is not much sign of playing golf. I have not seen any green grass since 26th December, but they say to-night that the thaw is coming, so perhaps you will be able to get some practice in.

MISCELLANEOUS

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NORTH-WEST

By B. Ellis

Chairman
T. Brennan
(Wilmstow G.C.)

Hon. Secretary
Romiley G.C.

WE WELCOME TO OUR SECTION Mr. W. Earnshaw, who has taken up the post as Head Greenkeeper to the Davyhulme Park Golf Club. His address is 21 Eddisbury Avenue, Flixton, Urmston, Manchester.

Owing to the inclement weather conditions on 21st January, the lecture that should have been given by Mr. Clayton was postponed and we hope to fix it for a later date.

24 members attended the visit to Ellis Rees and a very pleasant afternoon was spent. I hope that, by now, those members who were snowed under are about again.

WELSH

By S. A. Tucker

Chairman:
M. GEDDES
(Royal Porthcawl)

Hon. Secretary:
36 Clase Road,
Morriston,
Swansea, Glam.

OUR SPRING MEETING WILL BE held at the Clyne Golf Club on Wednesday, 3rd April. I would like all members who intend to come, to inform me not later than Monday, 25th March, as I have to let the stewardess know how many to cater for. Please come early in the day, as we would like to play 27 holes. I hope the weather will be much better than it has been of late, so that members can get in some practice. Those coming by bus should go to the United Welsh Garage by the theatre and take a ticket to Mayals Green, then take the road opposite the bus stop up the hill—about 5 minutes' walk.

It is with regret that I have to announce the death of Sir Robert Webber, J.P., D.L., a Vice-President of our Association. I am sure his passing will be a great loss to the Association, particularly the Welsh Section, with whom he had been in close contact for many years.

Members will also have noted with regret from the Southern Section Notes, that Mr. Hugh MacLean, who was Head Greenkeeper at Sunningdale Golf Club for forty years, before his retirement, has died and I am sure they would like to join me in expressing their sincere sympathy to his family.

C.H.D.

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HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED—Modern accommodation available. Apply in writing with full details of experience to the Secretary, Lee-on-Solent Golf Club, Brune Lane, Lee-on-Solent, Hants.

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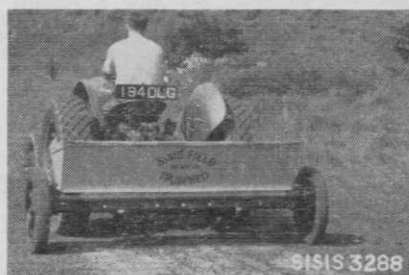
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Social Evening

THERE ARE A LIMITED NUMBER OF tickets left for our annual social in Nicoll & Smiberts, Dundee on 23rd March at 7-0 p.m. Those wishing tickets and any member with some over, please contact the Committee or myself before 13th March.

New Members

We welcome Mr. R. Cameron, 8 King Street, St. Andrews, and Mr. J. Moffatt, 97 Market Street, St. Andrews.

The Annual Spring Competition of the West Section will be held over the Erskine Golf Club on Thursday, 18th April, 1963.

Viewpoint

The Editor,
The British Golf Greenkeeper.

Dear Sir,

During this exceptional spell of rough weather, I have listened with great interest and, at times, annoyance to the remarks of some members, who think that, because the course is under snow, all the outside staff have to do is to play cards.

I should like to use a small space in the Journal to give these people an insight of what really goes on during hard weather.

Most courses nowadays are equipped (or should be) with good sheds, where the staff can work in all weathers.

With the continued popularity of golf, more materials, especially compost are needed to keep the greens and tees up to the required standard. The average course needs at least 50 tons, which has got to be prepared ready for spring and

summer use; it must be realised, to make compost properly takes a lot of time and a spell like this is very helpful.

Then there is the repairing and painting of the boxes, flag poles, seats, etc. Also, the frames of gang mowers must be kept painted, in an effort to stop rusting.

So that at least one hole can be kept playable, all paths leading to the clubhouse have to be kept clear of snow.

If the weather is not too bad, there is always the job of clearing the bottoms of hedges and lopping off overhead boughs.

This is only a list of the things that must be done, which does not give much time for playing cards.

Yours sincerely,

Jock Glass.

The Cottage,
Thorpe Hall Golf Club,
Thorpe Bay, Essex.

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ENQUIRY BUREAU.—The Editor desires to point out that he will be pleased to answer enquiries from our readers, and forward to them the name and address of the manufacturer or supplier of any particular proprietary article or product used in the construction, maintenance and upkeep of a golf course. Enquiries are coming in from greenkeepers asking for such information. They may, for example, know the trade name of the article or product they wish to purchase, but may not be conversant with the name and address of the actual manufacturer or supplier. The Enquiry Bureau will gladly supply this information, and thus enable the greenkeeper to contact the manufacturer or supplier direct.

TO MANUFACTURERS.—In order that our information may be kept constantly up to date, manufacturers or suppliers are requested to forward their latest trade lists, catalogues, and any other confidential information regarding their products. By so doing the Bureau will be able to function to the mutual benefit of all concerned.

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