

Ganson Depew, Section Chairman and Noted Sportsman, Dies

GANSON DEPEW, a leading gentleman sportsman of the United States, died at his home in Buffalo, N. Y., Sept. 25, following a two-week illness. He was 68 years old. He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Carrie Gorton Depew, and his daughter, Mrs. Lucia Depew Parkinson.

Depew was one of the finest fellows in the game. Probably the passing of none other of the grand men the game has lost in recent years has been felt with such wide, sincere sorrow. As an active member of the USGA official family Ganse had two tough jobs. One of them was as the head of the Green Section; the other as the head of the Public Links Section. He was a leader in Buffalo's financial, social and scientific life for 50 years as well as its ranking gentleman sportsman and when he took the job as chairman of the Public Links Section there were those who thought he was miscast. There is no denying that the public links championships were rather sorry affairs of pseudo-amateurism by work-dodgers in whom larceny glowed. Ganse was evangelist, mentor, father-confessor and house detective in this field and to him more than to any other individual in this country is credit due for the high class sportsmanship in the public links event.

When he was made chairman of the Green Section he realized that the earnest efforts of the Section were not having the extensive value they should have because of a lack of friendly and understanding feeling among greenkeepers. So he packed his bag and turned missionary. One time, when the NAGA was having a convention at Chicago, Depew rushed from a corporation directors' meeting in Buffalo to the train, visited for a couple of hours with the fellows at the Chicago convention, addressed them and then made a wild drive in a taxi to get a return train for a bank directors' meeting the next day. Countless similar incidents tip off the Depew work in bringing the greenkeepers today into a keen appreciation of mutual-ity of sentiment and interest with the Green Section of the USGA.

There's no real reason for doubting

that one of the things that caused the death of Ganson Depew was doing so much to help other fellows enjoy life. But he enjoyed life too, and during his 68 years he was blessed with the honors and enjoyed the happiness that finished him ahead of the normal score on sorrow and he had been heavily hit by sorrow, too. Ganson Depew was the last male of the distinguished Depew family. His son, a naval aviator during the war and later an assistant U. S. district attorney, died in 1924.

In his youth, Ganse was one of the tennis stars of his district. He began playing golf in 1896 on the three-hole course at the Buffalo CC. For many years he was chairman of its green-committee. He was very active in district golf affairs and held numerous official positions in district organizations. In civic matters he never slighted those onerous responsibilities many men prominent in public life usually handle casually. At the time of his death he was president of the Buffalo Chamber of Commerce. He was one of the four honorary members of the Society of the Cincinnati, the aristocrat of patriotic bodies. He also was an honorary officer of the Polish army and an admiral in the Kentucky navy. He used to hope that Kentucky and Poland never got into a brawl as he always wanted to do his best by all his friends.

Ganson Depew was an outstanding, lovely character, a rare combination of aristocrat and democratic gentleman sportsman. May his fine soul be led into the psalmist's green pastures, for on the green pastures in this country he enjoyed himself and we all enjoyed him.

THE FIELD of players for the Oregon coast seventh annual midsummer golf tourney, held in late August over the Gearhart (Ore.) GC course, was split into two age groups—players under 32 years of age formed one flight of 16 while players over that age formed another. Victors in the respective flights then played for the all-Gearheart championship.