

# New England Notes

BY LLEWELLYN L. DERBY

THE past month has been one to test the skill and ingenuity of the New England greenkeeper to keep his course in shape, for it has been comparatively dry in this section and play has been extremely heavy.

As to the dryness of some of the courses, part of it is due to lack of moisture this season while on the other hand we must point an accusing finger at last summer's drought for after-effects responsible for much more of it.

Speaking of the punishment absorbed by courses due to the hundreds of feet trooping down the fairways, the daily average for a week recently at Franconia, municipal course at Springfield, Mass. was 540, while on one day 652 played the 18 holes to set a record for attendance.

The writer found on a visit the other day, that this Springfield venture was worth inspection and recommends it to greenkeepers who penetrate into the Connecticut Valley this summer. First of all, it is a thing of beauty and a late afternoon and early evening would not be wasted if one was merely to sit on the clubhouse veranda and look out over its interesting topography.

The greenkeeper is George Post, originally an Easterner and a graduate of Massachusetts Agricultural College, who gravitated to California where he was in charge of several private courses and now has come back to New England.

One's first impression of the course at a glance is that it is a difficult one with traps on every hand. However, a little analysis hole by hole proves the fallacy of this notion for the traps are to right or left as they should be.

Horton Smith, teaming up with Diegel, Farrell, and Cruikshank at Franconia last week in an exhibition foursome expressed the

opinion that the course was a bit sporty in spots. Perhaps it is and shouldn't be so, or would you take the other side of the argument? Wouldn't a good many folks get considerable satisfaction in having conquered a certain hole with a minimum of strokes?

But for those who don't agree with this line of argument, there is Washington, D. C. with four public courses, graded in severity. As a player becomes expert on the easiest course he qualifies to perform on the next more difficult one, and continues to graduate from course to course according to his improvement.

There is music at Franconia, too. Part of the time last winter was spent in building bird houses and Greenkeeper Post reports swallows, martins, bluebirds, and wrens as summer tenants.

Dr. Dahl of the Green Section of the United States Golf Association was a visitor at the Massachusetts Agricultural College plots recently, Prof. Lawrence S. Dickinson reports. By the way, these plots have been thrown open to play by the summer school students in order to approach ordinary conditions as much as possible. The experiment may be continued with the enrollment of the regular students in the fall according to the success of the summer trial.

The New England and Connecticut Associations join up for a meeting at Worcester Monday, August 4th.

Rhode Island greenkeepers organized on June 23 at a meeting held at the Bonnet Shores Country Club, Narragansett, R. I. The following officers were elected: R. Wallace Peckham, Sachuest Country Club, president; James Lawson of Misquamicut Country Club, secretary; and Thomas Galvin of the Rhode Island Country Club, treasurer.

Meetings are to be held the third Monday of each month and the club plans to work in

conjunction with the Greenkeepers Club of New England. The next meeting is slated to take place at the Sachuest Country Club, Newport, July 21st.

Lloyd Stott, formerly assistant at the Country Club, Brookline, Mass., is now assistant to James Lawson at Misquamicut Country Club, Watch Hill, R. I.

Greenkeepers of New England held their July meeting on the seventh at the Weston Country Club, Weston, Mass.

William Lindsay is now in charge of the Manchester (N. H.) Country Club course.

Guy West, superintendent of the Fall River Country Club, reports Eastern Massachusetts as vying with the Western part of the state in the matter of practice fields.

A new miniature course, the Wonderland Golf Course, modeled after the Plaza Links at Miami Beach, Florida, has been opened at Revere Beach, Mass. under the management of John F. Coleman, Jr. It is an 18-hole course with varied hazards and par is 42 strokes.

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