



# NEWS LETTER

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*A GREEN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SAYS  
FAIRWAYS AT BROOKLINE  
THE SPOTLESS HORSEMAN  
NOVEMBER MEETING  
FALL WORK AT NEW BEDFORD*

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**NOVEMBER**

**1932**

This NEWSLETTER is published monthly by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Greens' Chairmen. Subscription price ten cents a copy, or a dollar a year.

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312 Mt. Pleasant St., Fall River, Mass.

MARSTON BURNETT .. Business Mgr.  
Wyantenuck G. C., Great Barrington, Mass.

November, 1932

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### A GREEN COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN SAYS:

It has been an education and a pleasure to attend the meetings of the Greenkeepers Club of New England. It has given me the opportunity to exchange ideas with some of your veterans and listen to the humorous stories of *your friend*, John Shanahan.

I want Mr. Cassidy to attend as many meetings as possible, as it gives him more dignity, and he also comes back with more knowledge of his problems and better able to supervise his work.

Last year I visited twenty-seven golf clubs, not to play, but to seek information. As I looked over the courses, it brought home to me the fact that our greenskeepers are not ordinary men. They must be very efficient and have sound judgement in order to accomplish such good results.

The criticism I would make is that you boys are too modest. Turn on the light. Give yourselves more publicity. Drive it home to the Golf Clubs, through their Greens sections, that you are no longer greenskeepers. That term doesn't mean anything. You are Course Superintendents. The time is gone by when you work with your hands. All work on a golf Course comes under your supervision, and that requires brains, and you are the brains! Your title puts you on a higher standard with the Directors and members, and this leads to increased salaries.

Golfers organize clubs for pleasure. Your organization was formed, not only to promote good fellowship, but for the purpose of putting your occupation on a higher basis.

I. C. Judkins,  
Chairman, Greens Committee  
Needham Country Club.

### FAIRWAYS AT BROOKLINE

We have some fairways here at Brookline which are very good, also some are very poor. Our low fairways and the hollows are considered good but our main fight is the hills and knolls which are of solid ledge, and we have seeded, fertilized and loamed these spots almost an average of twice a year and we get results for the time being. Then comes a dry spell and we are right where we started from with the lack of water. Many have said, "Why don't you run hose or pipe water to these knolls?" In the first place, these knolls are many and it seems to happen away from any pipe lines. Secondly, to run pipe to most of these places or near them would mean blasting your way for proper drainage, and this costs plenty, but we are bit by bit gaining by creeping a line here and rounding a hill there to get water to serve the needed spot, and I feel sure before long the need of a good water system for our Fairways will be the next big step.

Our approaches we have kept watered two to three hundred feet in front of the greens and with fertilizer and loam they have come along splendidly, and with this to prove how moisture will hasten better conditions, I feel sure it will hurry up our fairway system.

When we speak of hills and knolls, we do not mean we neglect the other spots of fairways but we do try to concentrate on the weak places. We have applied about a thousand yards of loam

here and there to fairways with fertilizer and some seed, the seed has been mostly Fescue used on knolls, and we used four different kinds of fertilizer, the loam applied was screened and matted in. We feel that screening the material saves us money, as picking stone by hand and damage to units amounts to more than the screening.

All in all when we can have a good fairway watering system we think it will more than pay for itself, by less care to the fairways, needing less seed and loam and labor.

Howard D. Farrant.

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### A REWARD FOR HONESTY, INTEGRITY AND CHARACTER

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*Quoted from Collier's, the National  
Weekly, for March 27, 1926*

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### THE SPOTLESS HORSEMAN

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By Grantland Rice

"Pop" Geers, Sir Galahad of the turf, was winning at seventy-three. The monument they're raising to "Pop" Geers, veteran champ reinsman, is a monument to integrity, honesty and sportsmanship.

One man in Cleveland has given \$250,000 toward it, and contributions have been coming in from all parts of the world.

It will be in large part a monument to honesty, integrity and character—beyond the reach of all the money ever harvested.

Part of the inscription will read something like this:

*Dedicated to the memory of Edward Franklin (Pop) Geers—The Silent Man of Tennessee, the greatest reinsman that ever lived and the only competitor ever heard of who remained a star and a champion for over fifty years.*

In this long span there was never the slightest hint of trickery, cheating, goat getting, rule breaking, rule evasions or anything else not ordered in the spirit of the code.

For Pop Geers possessed integrity almost beyond belief. It was so marked that even his closest rivals in any race were willing to leave the settlement of any issue to Pop's statement, without argument or debate.

### 100 Per Cent Fine

If there was any point at issue in a race, the judges would often ask Pop what had happened, and his answer definitely settled the discussion to the complete satisfaction of his rivals. If Pop said so, it was true. His word was the final statement; something which judges and rivals were willing to accept at 100 per cent.

There was something in his character that seemed to carry his confidence to the horses he drove. Geers could take a strange horse and handle him better than some owner who perhaps had driven him for years.

The number of races he won in this long span runs to an unbelievable count. He was seldom beaten, even when driving the slower horse. His average was the highest his sport has ever known—not the highest for twenty years—but for more than fifty years. And that is only part of his story.

### A Secret of Horsemanship

He had a certain touch of the hands, a certain something, never understood, which went direct to the horse he was handling. Horses beyond control of others abandoned their mutiny and gave him their best.

### The Shrine of Honor

Geers has left a memory for the younger generation of sportsman and competitors to study and consider. He has shown beyond all debate the worth of straight shooting, square dealing,



friendly helpfulness, rugged honesty; of giving his best at every start. He had no alibi and no complaint, no matter what the break against him. He had no excuses to offer, for no excuses are due when one has given 100 per cent of what he has to give.

He started straight, at sunrise; he was walking straight when the sun went down.

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#### From Heart to Heart

About The Spotless Horseman—can you recall another instance of a monument dedicated to a sportsman's honesty, integrity and character? Isn't it wonderful, a beautiful thing?

What man deep down in his heart who reads this can help saying "Amen" and yet how many of us live up to these ideals, not one day in the week but every day?

If there were only more of this in our daily contact and intercourse, wouldn't it at least be the beginning of the solution to our problems, the leaven that leavens the whole lump?

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#### NOVEMBER MEETING

The November meeting was held a week early to try to get good weather for the last outdoor meeting. Some thirty hardy members gathered at the Commonwealth Country Club, Brighton, Mass. and played an eighteen hole medal handicap tournament in a fine example of a "Scotch mist".

Low gross was won by Joseph Oldfield with 79.

Net prizes were won by:—Lloyd Stott, 92-25-67—C. E. Treat, 91-20-71—A. Wendell, 89-18-71—Paul Hayden, 92-20-72.

At the business meeting following lunch, Joseph A. Cashman was elected to membership, and Joseph W. Cataldo was elected an Associate Member.

#### Fruit of his Observation

Essay on the banana by a Japanese Boy who is learning English: "The banana are a great remarkable fruit. He are constructed in the same architectural style as sausage, difference being skin of sausage are habitually consumed, while it is not advisable to eat wrappings of banana. The banana are held aloft while consuming, sausage are usually left in reclining position. Sausage depend for creation on human being or stuffing machine, while banana are Pristine Product of honorable Mother Nature. In case of sausage, both conclusions are attached to other sausage; banana on other hand are attached on one end to stem, and opposite termination entirely loose. Finally, banana are strictly of vegetable kingdom, while affiliation of sausage often undecided."

Boston Business.

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Orville O. Clapper, Manager of the New England Toro Co. with family rushed home to vote on the 8th, following a month's trip through the Middle West. The Clappers covered some 4000 miles by motor and 2000 by train.

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The Rhode Island State College Greenkeepers' Short Course will start on January 30, and continue through February 3. Each day's program will start at 10 o'clock and continue until 3 P. M. There will be lectures and discussions on grass fertilization and maintenance, liming, weed control, and diseases. A complete program will be printed in the next Newsletter.

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"To choose between two products needs experience and brains. A robot can choose between two prices."

# HOVEY'S SEED

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Mr. Greenskeeper:

Now is the time to plant a few bulbs around the clubhouse such as Tulips, Hyacinths, Crocus, Snowdrops, Scillas, etc.

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## ADVANCED SCHOOL FOR GREENKEEPERS

"Believing that you will be interested to know what courses are being offered in the advanced school for greenkeepers, I have prepared the following data. This school is open only to those who have been through the regular Winter School for Greenkeepers.

Courses	Lab.	Lect.	Instructor
1. Entomology	2		Mr. Kellogg
2. Interpretation of scientific and professional articles	1	2	Mr. Dickinson
3. Soils	2	1	Mr. O. H. Thayer
4. Construction, surveying, plan making	3		Mr. Dickinson
5. Motors	3		(Mr. Gunness Mr. Pushee)
6. Report making and presenting	1	2	Mr. Dickinson
7. Forum (with first year men)		5	

Total hours in classroom each week 32.

Registration January 3, 1933. Classes begin January 4, 1933.

Laboratory periods 2 hours each. Lecture periods 1 hour.

Classes will be regularly scheduled and conducted.

There will be an opportunity for the discussion of other subjects pertinent to greenkeeping in courses 2 and 6.

Members of the advanced school may also "sit in" the classes of the regular school.

We are planning to have an exhibition at the close of the school, probably March 11, 12 or 18, 19.

Cordially,

L. S. DICKINSON,  
Assistant Professor of Agronomy.

**Ed. Note**—The Winter School for Greenkeepers is fully enrolled at this time, and there is a long waiting list.

The firm of Woodworth Bradley of Providence has recently gone out of business.

"Beware the situation that finds you unprepared. There's seldom luck in things that sneak up on you."

"Uncle Shylock—the man who poured out men and money to end a war out of which he got nothing but raised eyebrows from the nations he had helped."

"Character and common sense are requisite to confidence. Panics never germinate where people trust each other".

Apply this to golf course maintenance—"It's been wholesome to discover how many things we didn't really need".

"Self-satisfaction is death to achievement".

## FALL WORK AT NEW BEDFORD

Fall work at the New Bedford Country Club including building over the sixth green, making a large compost pile, and renovating some of the tees which had had the worst wear this season.

We raised the sixth green from two to three feet in the rear in places, and brought it down to a level in front so that it would shed water; whereas before, water sometimes stayed in the centre of the green as long as two days after a heavy rainstorm. In rebuilding, we used over one hundred yards of sandy loam, four tons of barnyard manure, and also some bonemeal. We used the same sod that was on the green except for some places which had brown-patch. These we replaced with sod from the nursery.

We made quite a large compost pile out of peat, loam, and manure. I think a compost pile is a very good asset to a golf course, as it is much better than the amount of space it occupies.

Looking forward to a good season in 1933.

Michael J. O'Grady.

"A realization of the fact that the grounds crews on most courses have been cut down to one half or one third their normal operating strength surely can place no blame on the greenkeeper if the layouts lack something of their former smartness. It is true that a good turf man with about two assistants could keep the ball rolling on an eighteen hole course. It is true that a couple of huskies given a cow pasture could provide golf of a kind. It is also true that under these conditions playing comfort must be sacrificed.

"Greenkeeping before the financial crash was a decidedly clean collar job. But without waiting to be asked these men have thrown aside their coats and ties and have mounted the tractor seat,

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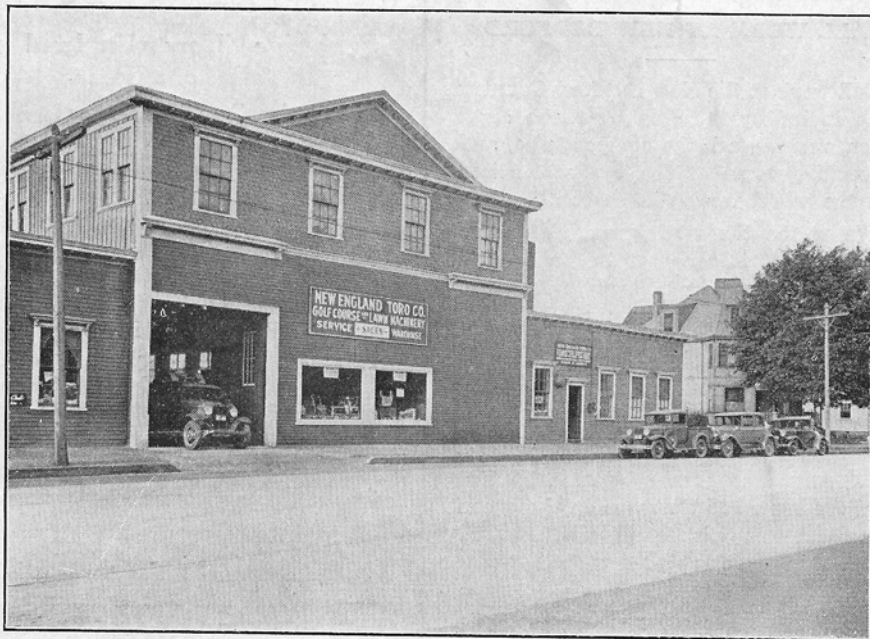
grabbed the steering wheel, pushed a mower, and manned the compost pile when the need arose. All honor is due to these men who are going to pull the golf courses of the country through financial difficulties if they can get half a break from the playing public."

From an article, "A Plea for Tolerance" by Ernest Law, in the October Pacific Greenkeeper.

The December meeting will be held at the Narragansett Hotel, Providence, R. I. on December 5th. The annual meeting will be held in Boston, probably at the Hotel Statler, on January 9th. Keep these dates in mind!

The Board of Directors held a meeting at the Woodland Golf Club on November 21st.





### “OUR NEW HOME”

We have just completed the first year's occupancy of our new “Home”, and we are more than ever convinced that it was a forward step, even during these trying times, to have located ourselves in a much larger building so that all materials may be under one roof rather than three as in previous years.

Our entire lot, most of which is occupied with our building, approximates one half acre of floor space. This large area has made it possible and convenient for us to have carried larger stocks during 1932 than during any previous season. We feel assured that 1933 will require stocks equally large and we are proceeding on that basis.

Our shop is now equipped with three large power mower grinders as well as other equipment for emery and oiling and general repair work. We maintain we have the finest and best equipped lawn mower shop in New England and that our quality of work is second to none. We solicit your service on the basis of good work, reasonable rates and prompt delivery. List your equipment and we will quote you rates.

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