



NEWS LETTER



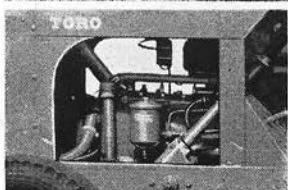
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JANUARY
1942

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NEWSLETTER

This NEWSLETTER is published by the Greenkeepers Club of New England, and sent free to its members and their Green's Chairmen. Subscription price one dollar per year.

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January, 1942

Vol. 14, No. 1

The ideas and opinions expressed in the subject matter of this NEWSLETTER are not necessarily those of the Editor or the members of the club as a whole.

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GREENKEEPERS' CLUB OFFICERS

SAMUEL S. MITCHELL, *President*, Ponkapoag Golf Club, Canton, Mass.

PHILIP I. CASSIDY, *Secretary*, Needham Golf Club, Needham, Mass.

FRANK H. WILSON, JR., *Treasurer*, 543 Dedham Street, Newton Centre, Mass.

N. J. SPERANDIO, *Chairman Entertainment Committee*, Marlboro Country Club, Marlboro, Mass.

JOHN COUNSELL, *Chairman Welfare Committee*, Salem Country Club, Peabody, Mass.

ARTHUR ANDERSON, *Chairman Employment Committee*
Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton, Mass.

ALEX OHLSON, *Chairman Golf Committee*, Lexington Country Club, Lexington, Mass.

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was held at Steuben's on Boylston Street, Boston, January 5, 1942.

The officers and committees reported on their activities for the year and the reports were accepted as read.

The officers and committees elected for 1942 are: president, Samuel S. Mitchell; first vice-president, George Rommell; second vice-president, Homer C. Darling; third vice-president, Paul Wanberg; secretary, Phillip I. Cassidy; treasurer, Frank Wilson; trustee for three years, Harold Mosher; chairman entertainment committee, N. J. Sperandio; chairman golf committee, Alex Ohlson; auditing committee, John Clinton and Alfred Smith.

President Sam Mitchell, Secretary Phil Cassidy, Treasurer Frank Wilson and George Rommell, the retiring Editor and Business Manager of the Newsletter, were each given a rising vote of thanks for the service they have rendered the club.

It was voted to send a letter of appreciation to Director Ray Koon for the use of the Waltham Field Station as a meeting place during the past year.

It was voted to buy four one hundred dollar defense bonds, the money to be taken from the trustee fund.

The proposed amendment to the Constitution, that the Club change its name to The New England Greenkeeping Superintendents Association, was tabled because of lack of time for discussion before dinner. This will probably be acted

upon at the regular February meeting.

The social part of the evening, in which the ladies participated, was a decided success. A very fine dinner and an excellent floor show were enjoyed by those present. The maestro presented a special number, "God Bless America" for the Greenkeepers Club in appreciation of their vote to purchase defense bonds. The recently married Narry and Phyllis Sperandio were also honored by the rendition of an appropriate musical interpretation.

Following the floor show dancing was enjoyed by the members and guests. Some of the highlights on the dance floor were: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Wanberg in a stiff-armed, stiff-kneed specialty dance known as the Swedish Sway; Mrs. Phillip Cassidy's fine interpretation of "Bumps-a-Daisy" although handicapped with a ludicrous and unskilled partner; and a weaving, waving, wandering, war dance called the "Conga" by the entire party.

Jack Counsel

PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR 1941

The year 1941 has been to me a very pleasant year. It has been a pleasure to act as president of The Greenkeepers Club of New England for this time. I wish to express my appreciation to the Board of Directors, to the various Committees, and to the members of the Club for the support and cooperation I have received from them.

The year 1941 saw a change in "The Newsletter". Guy West, who instituted the magazine and car-

ried it along so well for so many years, was forced to drop his club activities. His place was ably filled by George Rommell, who did double duty as business manager and editor.

The year 1941 saw difficult conditions for golf courses to operate under. We had an unusually severe and protracted drought. Along with this condition turf at most courses was more or less damaged by white grub of the June Beetle. Perhaps golf courses are going to have to take this problem into more serious consideration in the future than has been done in the past.

The secretary and other officers and committees will no doubt give you a detailed report of our club activities for this past season, but I do wish to especially mention the Sectional meeting held at Weston Golf Club with Greenkeeping Superintendents Association. This was the first meeting of this kind that we have participated in and to my mind marks the beginning of better and closer associations between the G. S. A. and The Greenkeepers Club of New England to our mutual benefit.

I would also like to note that we had our annual joint meeting with the Service Section of the Massachusetts Golf Association; our annual John Shannahan Memorial Tournament held jointly with the New England P. G. A., and we took part in the program of the golf section of The Recreational Conference at Massachusetts State College at Amherst.

The year 1941 has seen very critical developments in the history of our country. We have lost two of our members, Francis Tus-

cher and Tom Mattus, who are now in active service for the United States Army. Many greenkeepers are taking an active part in the local home defense and air raid prevention programs being carried out.

The year 1942 will be probably a trying one for golf courses and greenkeeping. The ingenuity of each and every greenkeeper will be taxed to the utmost in his efforts to produce with limited resources as good a golf course as he has been able to in the past.

It would seem to me that under these conditions our club will prove to be of greater value to us than ever before. This opportunity to get together once a month

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with fellow members of our profession and discuss our mutual problems is of great assistance. I hope therefore that each and every member of the club will make a special effort to take as active a part in the affairs of the club as possible this next year for his own benefit as well as that of his fellow members.

Respectfully submitted,
Samuel S. Mitchell

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting was held at the Waltham Field Station, December 1, 1941. The speaker was Professor Lawrence Dickinson of the Massachusetts State College. He gave a very interesting talk on the outlook for 1942.

CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER ISSUE

The first part of February we begin to get "boils" in the ice. These, apparently, are made by water coming up from under the ice through an air hole or crack, freezing as it seeps out, thus building up a pile of ice or "boil" on the surface. The first few of these we cut off with an ice chopper. As the season advances, the number of boils increases, until finally the rink is covered with one every foot or so. They will appear on resurfaced ice between the time that we stop spraying and midafternoon. At times we have had them develop while we were spraying, building up faster than we could spray them out. We are considering using a planer for resurfacing the ice after boils start developing. If this would work out, we

could extend the season for good ice by a couple of weeks. By March it is impossible to keep a good skating surface, even though the boils were controlled or eliminated. By this time the sun is so high, that the surface of the ice becomes soft and slushy during the day, regardless of how cold it gets during the night.

Snow removal is done with a Myers snow plow, equipped with a hydraulic lift and mounted on a 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -ton Ford truck. Except for the first couple of storms, when the snow is pushed up around the edges of the rink and parking field, we push it off onto an adjacent rough. Snow fences, erected northwest of the rink each fall, help to keep the snow from drifting too badly on either parking field or rink.

It was suggested by one of our members that we try some decorations, painted on the ice, for our annual carnival. Previous to this event, we tried it out in a small way on one corner of the rink. We used both cold water paints, Muresco, and regular house paint, spraying over the areas after painting. This worked well as long as the weather was cloudy or cold, but as soon as the sun came

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out the ice over the paint went to pieces.

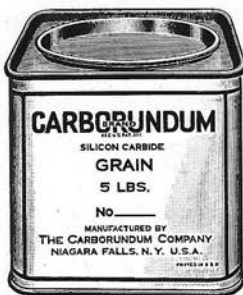
The rink has been popular with the members. During weekday evenings we get as high as 75 skaters, and on weekends as high as 150 a day. Each year the club holds an ice carnival. The rink is decorated with pennants. Various kinds of events such as races for men, for women and for children, exhibitions of figure skating, etc., are held. Colored movies are taken, and shown later at the Annual meeting of the club. The Ice Carnival has developed into one of the big events of the club.

Skating has helped to keep up the interest of the members in the club at a season when interest in, and activities at a club are usually at their lowest ebb. In addition

to member interest, the rink has provided winter employment for two of the golf course employees, thus helping to assure some experienced help for the golf course each spring. This is worth something to any golf club.

The Greenkeeping Superintendent Association will hold its 16th annual National Educational Conference at the Hotel Sherman in Chicago, Ill., Feb. 10, 11, 12 and 13, 1942.

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