

# THE CONN. CLIPPINGS



APRIL 1971

VOL. 4 NO. 1

## THE SCOTTISH WAY

By Pierre Coste

Scotland is where it all began and from this unique and beautiful country the game of golf was brought to these United States with all the frustrations that go with it from the Players point of view and from the maintenance point of view.

If there is humbleness in your soul it will come from within you at least half way around the Old Course at St. Andrews. You cannot curse the hazard your ball is in because it was there before your ancestors were born. You can say to yourself, "How lucky I am to be walking this ground that has brought pleasure to more people than any other sport we know."

It was a great experience to see the people who turned out each day on the golf courses visited, in any kind of weather, to play their game, the way they have for centuries. Anywhere you go people talk golf and of the great tournaments and fine golfers who played in them in the past. They will also tell you where the big ones will be for the next few years, and just what each course will offer new to challenge the worlds best golfers.

Improvements are made on the golf courses in Scotland but only after great study and planning. The exception is the Old Course at St. Andrews, that is a state of preservation and will never change except from natures hand. Some courses are now enlarging tees due to the increase in play both from the Scots and the growing tourist trade. I did see some greens rebuilding and strangely enough the new designs are still in keeping with traditional small green design which most courses have in Great Britain.

The practices on the various courses are similar to our New England courses in

(continued on page 4)

## TURFGRASS SHORT COURSE

In the recent questionnaire sent out to the membership in regard to the turfgrass short course to be sponsored by the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents and the University of Connecticut, 56% of the questionnaires were returned.

The results of the questionnaires returned are:

1. Would you prefer the program to be held at
 

|                                       |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| a. University of Connecticut          | 55% |
| b. more central location in the state | 43% |
| did not answer                        | 2%  |
2. Do you want the course held
 

|                |     |
|----------------|-----|
| a. 1 day       | 21% |
| b. 2 days      | 41% |
| c. 3 days      | 33% |
| did not answer | 5%  |
3. If the course is held 2 or 3 days, would you want the program to be scheduled
 

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| a. On consecutive days                         | 47% |
| b. one day each week over a 2 or 3 week period | 46% |
| did not answer                                 | 7%  |

The committee, made up of members of the CAGCS, is working on plans for the course, and the program information will be printed in Connecticut Clippings when it is finalized.

The purpose of the course is part of continuing education for study of some of the problems and basic principles underlying the growth of turfgrasses. The program will be developed with this in mind and the course material covered will be orientated to professional turf people.

## THE GRASS CATCHER

By Charles G. Baskin

There was a greater than normal variance throughout the state in the amount and duration of the snow cover. This led to a wider span of opening dates for the Connecticut golf courses.

If you allowed snowmobiles on your golf course this past winter, now is the time to analyse the program and its effect on the golf course. Snowmobiles are increasing in numbers and strict controls are needed to protect the golf course from damage that might take away from its primary function, an area to play golf. Every club should have a Winter Activities Committee, as a subcommittee of the Green Committee, to regulate the use of the club grounds during the winter time.

The National Golf Foundation lists for Connecticut 150 regulation golf facilities and another 16 par 3 golf courses. The number still keeps on rising although at a slower pace than a few years ago. Nationwide, we have over 10,000 golf facilities and by 1980 the total will be over 14,000. This coming season will find over 12 million golfers swinging away at that little white ball.

Buyer's Beware: The first sweet taste of low prices too often is later tainted by the bitterness of poor quality.

There's a company in New Zealand that makes dark glasses for cows, and they are selling some of them. After workmen in that country had laid a natural-gas pipeline through several cow pastures, their owners discovered that the cows were going blind. After a thorough investigation, the Minister of Electricity announced that no one had explained to the cows that it is harmful to the eyes to watch welders

(continued on page 3)

## CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF GOLF COURSE SUPERINTENDENTS

President ..... Charles G. Baskin  
 Vice President ..... Robert Viera  
 Secretary ..... Pierre Coste  
 Treasurer ..... Charles Traverse

### Board of Directors

Richard Bator            James MacDonald  
 William Dest            Michael Ovian  
 Frank Lamphier        David Stimson  
    John Perry

The object of this association is to promote research, education and an exchange of practical experiences in the field of turf grass culture so that the increased knowledge will lead to more economic and efficient management of golf courses and related turf areas.

The CONN CLIPPINGS is an official publication of the Connecticut Association of Golf Course Superintendents.

Charles G. Baskin, editor  
 22 Lee Street  
 Waterbury, Connecticut 06708

## HANDICAPS FOR THE 1971 SEASON

(figured on the USGA slide rule system)

### CLASS "A"

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Anderson, Ed    | 14 |
| Barrett, Roger  | 5  |
| Bedus, Ed       | 2  |
| Barry, B.       | 8  |
| Bianowitz, Bob  | 13 |
| Bonner, Steve   | 13 |
| Chaney, John    | 8  |
| Cipriano, John  | 9  |
| Cook, Dick      | 6  |
| Coste, Pierre   | 7  |
| Dinwoodie, A.   | 15 |
| Dolan, J.       | 8  |
| Dziedzie, Louie | 11 |
| Fenn, Francis   | 8  |
| Furgess, Bert   | 11 |
| Goodwin, D.     | 14 |
| Gorton, George  | 14 |
| Grywalski, Tom  | 5  |
| Guttay, Bob     | 15 |
| Kowalski, Ben   | 6  |
| Kowalski, Lee   | 6  |
| Kristof, Steve  | 12 |
| Lamphier, Frank | 2  |
| Lowell, Walt    | 0  |
| Mierzwa, Max    | 14 |
| O'Conner, Pat   | 15 |
| Ovian, Karnig   | 7  |

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Ovian, Kay      | 5  |
| Ovian, Mike     | 3  |
| Parsons, Dick   | 9  |
| Perry, John     | 5  |
| Polidor, Tod    | 15 |
| Queen, William  | 14 |
| Rodgers, Fran   | 13 |
| Ryan, Maurice   | 7  |
| Scully, Robert  | 8  |
| Thompson, Felix | 7  |
| Viera, Robert   | 9  |
| Warner, W.      | 8  |
| Whalen, Richard | 15 |
| Wiacek, Ed      | 14 |
| Wiget, Floyd    | 10 |
| Witkowski, R.   | 3  |
| Zwolac, J.      | 12 |

### CLASS "B"

|                   |    |
|-------------------|----|
| Bachand, F.       | 30 |
| Barrett, P.       | 17 |
| Baskin, Charles   | 16 |
| Bator, Richard    | 16 |
| Bidwell, Joe      | 19 |
| Chalifour, Bob    | 22 |
| Christie, George  | 19 |
| Dest, William     | 17 |
| Hawkins, Al       | 20 |
| Kelliher, Kenneth | 36 |
| Knoblock, Carl    | 20 |
| Ladzinski, Paul   | 21 |
| Ladzinski, Bob    | 18 |
| Lindenmuth, H. T. | 20 |
| Lynch, John       | 19 |
| McDonald, Jim     | 24 |
| Meusel, Harry     | 24 |
| Osterman, Bob     | 31 |
| Silva, Robert     | 15 |
| Stimson, Dave     | 21 |
| Suchinski, Hank   | 16 |
| Tosh, Robert      | 18 |
| Whitley, B.       | 23 |
| Wydra, Adam       | 24 |
| Wydra, John       | 18 |
| Zenisky, Edward   | 31 |

### SENIORS

|                |    |
|----------------|----|
| Jenkins, Chet  | 26 |
| Lentine, Andy  | 25 |
| Russell, Lloyd | 33 |
| Sherman, Henry | 14 |

### ASSOCIATES

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Arison, Al      | 20 |
| Callahan, John  | 24 |
| Carson, Purdy   | 16 |
| Colt, John      | 14 |
| Downey, Frank   | 14 |
| Kennedy, Robert | 7  |
| Sanson, Edward  | 15 |
| Scally, Thomas  | 28 |
| Somers, William | 10 |
| Terhune, Sid    | 30 |
| Ryiz, Paul      | 5  |
| Wallace, Carl   | 34 |

## ANOTHER MOTHY SUMMER COMING

Litchfield County Agricultural Experiment Station has predicted another summer snowstorm of gypsy and snow white linen moths for late July and August for the state, an occurrence which appears to be turning into an annual event.

Those animated white flakes which you found last year flapping against the windshield of your car, and mysteriously clustering around your porch light, have promised to return, and this time, in larger numbers than ever.

John Anderson, head of the department of entomology at the station, said surveys have found that the south, west and central western portions of the state will be hit with the most severe defoliation damage in the early spring, after the eggs are hatched and the caterpillars begin picnicking in the forests.

Last year the state had a fairly extensive outbreak of the gypsy moth, and his cousin, the snow white linen moth, and the year before saw only a scattering of the insects.

This year, however, Connecticut can expect a severe out-break of the moths, and extensive damage to foliage, promising to be the costliest picnic outing of the year.

The moth, imported to the United States from France for experimentation in 1869, escaped from a Massachusetts laboratory, and since 1906 the states and the United States Department of Agriculture have been working together in attempts to control it.

Anderson said he could give no reason as to why the state would be hit harder than past years, and added that the surveys are out in full force trying to estimate the amount of eggs with which the state is rapidly being infested, and the damage to trees and foliage that can be expected.

## CAGCS MEETING

Date: April 12, 1971

Place: Country Club of Fairfield  
 Fairfield, Conn.

Host: Leo Kowalski

Time: 11:00 a.m. to  
 1:00 p.m. - golf  
 5:00 p.m. - Board of Directors  
 6:00 p.m. - Business Meeting  
 7:00 p.m. - Dinner

Program  
 Speaker: Dr. Paul Satoretto  
 W. A. Cleary Corp.  
 "Mercury and the Future"

## EDITORIAL

Ecology and the environment are two very important words in the life of everyone, especially the golf superintendent. At every meeting where golf course superintendents are congregating, the environmental issues are brought forth from the podium and come up in discussions. Golf courses are an important factor in our environment besides providing recreation for over 12 million golfers.

A Louis Harris poll last summer asked people to choose among 26 things they considered important to their happiness. 95%, more than any other response, selected "green grass and trees around me." People enjoy nature — open spaces, trees, green grass — our country club property.

The golf course also plays an important part in the reduction of air pollution. An acre of grass has the cooling effect of a 70 ton air conditioner and also recycles enough oxygen during the process of photosynthesis to provide the total oxygen needs of 1/2 persons on a daily basis.

The golf courses that provide these benefits to mankind are being threatened by many who are trying to eliminate certain chemicals that are needed to properly maintain the turf and woodlands. These chemicals, when used properly, are not a threat to mankind but are, instead, a positive step forward. The local, state and federal government should use extreme caution in the placing of bans on chemicals. We find that many agencies and legislatures have acted before analysis of all the available data has been studied. Actually, the golf industry, superintendents, clubs and allied associations, should become more active in bringing forth their viewpoint on the environmental issues. We are for the environment . . .

C.G.B.

## FINANCIAL PAGE?

Writing of his early days as a sports reporter, Grantland Rice commented that golf got short shrift in the columns of the *New York Daily Mail*, chiefly because Francis Albertanti, the sports editor, considered the game a sissy's pastime. T. E. Niles, the paper's managing editor, once called Albertanti into his office to ask why golf was being neglected.

"Golf? What's golf?" asked Albertanti.

"Why, it's a game — an important game," replied Niles. "A lot of businessmen are playing it."

"Then put it on the financial page," retorted Albertanti.

## THE GRASS CATCHER

(continued from page 1)

at work unless dark glasses are worn. As a result, a New Zealand company is now manufacturing MooMaster Goggles for cows.

Harry Meusel, superintendent of the Yale Golf Course, gave an excellent presentation at the 1971 Penn State Turfgrass Conference. His topic was, "Ecology of a Golf Course." Ecology is of vital interest to Harry and he has gained a wealth of knowledge on the subject through his studies at Yale University and his work at the golf course.

The Ryan Equipment Co. recently premiered a movie entitled, "A Living Carpet." This full-color, 20 minute movie features major problems and their solutions in growing grass on virtually all turf areas from homelawns to golf courses. A broad spectrum of turf maintenance procedures are explained in non-technical terms. This film would be excellent for superintendents to use when they give presentations to civic organizations. Groups, clubs or individuals wishing to view this film are advised to contact their nearest Ryan Distributor or Salano Studios, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Metropolitan Golf Course Superintendents Association has extended an invitation to the members of our association to meet with them on May 25. The meeting will be held at the Rockland Country Club in Sparkill, N. Y. Ron Boydston is the host superintendent. The Hudson Valley, Long Island and New Jersey chapters have also been invited to this meeting. Make your plans for attending, now.

Harris, Kerr, Forster & Co. an accounting firm specializing in club finances, reports an increase in club operating costs of 10.4 % in 1970. Labor costs are still taking big jumps each year. The cost for supplies and equipment are going up and up. Taxes are taking a bigger bite each year from the clubs and its members. Even Ralph Nader has become involved in club finances as he attacked the state of Maryland for their open spaces program. This all means the operating costs will not level off, unless service drops. It also points up the need for sound fiscal policies and competent personnel.

There should be no problem obtaining summer help for the golf course this year. Plenty of college and high school boys around looking for work. It is difficult to even find placement training for the boys coming out of the turfgrass programs at the universities.

At our next meeting, Dr. Paul Sartoretto, President of the W. A. Cleary Corp. will speak to us on the mercury

dilemma. The meeting will be held on April 12 at the Country Club of Fairfield.

ON A 90-DEGREE DAY, baseball and football players can expect to play in temperatures up to 123 degrees if artificial turf is under foot. That's the finding of testing in Busch Stadium, St. Louis, and corroborated by similar data from the Orange Bowl, Miami.

Bill Simmons of the St. Louis football Cardinals said that on one day when the official temperature was 90 degrees, the field surface temperature was 123 degrees. It was 116 degrees at one foot and 114 degrees at six feet.

Testing by the Miami News produced similar conclusions. Artificial grass gets about 20 degrees hotter than natural turf, the News said. At an air temperature of 93 degrees, natural turf remaining in the stadium pushed the mercury to 96 degrees. Where the artificial grass had been installed, the temperature was 116 degrees.

## SOLVING THE PROBLEM

Not long ago, the editors of *Farmer - Stockman* printed a picture of a deserted farmhouse in a desolate sand-swept field, then offered a prize for the best 100 word essay on the disastrous effects of land erosion. A bright Indian lad from Oklahoma bagged the trophy with this graphic description: "Picture show white man crazy. Cut down trees. Make too big teepee. Plow hill. Water wash. Wind blow soil. Grass gone. Squaw gone. Whole place gone to hell. No pig, no corn, no pony. Indian no plow land. Keep grass. Buffalo eat grass. Indian eat buffalo. Hide make teepee. Make mocassin. All time Indian eat. No work. No hitch-hike. No ask relief. No build dam. No give dam. White man heap crazy."

## "SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT"

Are you an active member,  
The kind that would be missed;  
Or are you just contented  
That your name be on the list?

Do you attend the meetings  
And mingle with the flock;  
Or do you stay at home  
And criticize and knock?

Do you take an active part  
To help the work along;  
Or are you satisfied to be  
The kind that just belongs?

Do you ever go to visit  
A member who is sick?  
Or leave the work to just a few  
And talk about the "clique"?

Think this over, member  
You know right from wrong;  
Are you an active member  
Or do you "just belong"?

Anon.

### THE SCOTTISH WAY

(continued from page 1)

that the frost danger is still there in the Fall and courses are closed until the danger has gone. Other hazards are different like the Crows that fly onto the courses at St. Andrews and pick up divots looking for insects. You see divots all over the turf and think for a while that the golfers here are worse than at home. When you get in a bunker you might be unfortunate enough to lose a ball in a rabbit hole. There are hundreds of rabbits there and they dig in every day, and bunkers are easier digging than through the fescue of the fairways.

The grasses are different than in New England, as the fescues grow naturally there and without much fertilizer. The abundant rainfall and moderate temperatures make for good growth, but not rapid. Cutting is not as frequent generally in all of Scotland, as the weather controls the rate of growth with cool winds. The greens have bent grasses of many varieties and you can even find some *Poa Annua* here and there.

The soil on the seaside courses is as expected sand based and well drained. The root systems are excellent and shot making is very smooth through the turf. On the inland courses there is generally a very heavy soil, and a rock and ledge problem some places. The rocks are evidenced by the many stone walls along property lines and roadways. Buildings are also commonly built of fieldstone or brick.

We should congratulate the members of the Scottish Greenkeeping Association

### TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

Following is our list of clubs and where our major tournaments will be played in 1971.

- APRIL 12 C. C. of Fairfield
- MAY Open at this time Supt.-Press so plan on inviting someone early. Guest speaker will be a sports figure.
- JUNE 8 Willimantic C. C. McLaughlin Trophy
- JULY 13 Golf Club at Aspetuck 1st. round Supt. Championship
- AUGUST 2 New Haven C. C. 2nd round Supt. Championship
- SEPTEMBER 14 Glastonbury Hills C. C. Rain date for Supt. Ch., if one round is rained out.
- SEPTEMBER 21 Club open at this time. Supt.-Pro-President-Chairman
- OCTOBER 5 Tumblebrook C. C. Conn. State Trophy
- NOVEMBER Hop Meadow C. C. Annual Meeting Awarding of trophies, including best 4 rounds, gross and net in each division. 2 special awards to be given for the most 3s, 2s, and 1s (ones???) scored over the season, and for the most 8s, 9s, 10s, etc. Please turn in a line score for each round you play.

Your tournament committee for the season will be comprised of the following:

- |                          |                |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| Frank Lamphier, Chairman | Robert Kennedy |
| Richard Cook             | Edward Bedus   |
| William Somers           | Edward Sanson  |

There will be a tournament committee meeting immediately following play at the C. C. of Fairfield, so if anyone has any suggestions, please pass them along to any one of the committee before that meeting. Remember, these are your tournaments.

for the fine job they do on the hundreds of golf courses in Scotland. Thousands of golfers from abroad play there annually and surely all come away completely satisfied with the fine conditions of the courses.

*Secondary Education?* — By the time the average American teenager graduates from high school, according to *Education Digest*, he has spent about 5,000 more hours in front of TV and movie screens than he has in a classroom.

### CONN CLIPPINGS

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### FIRST CLASS



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