

Scotch Plains Times

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Scotch Hills C.C. Extends Welcome

The Scotch Hills County Club opened for viewing by the public on Saturday, June 19, with its completed dining room, lounge room and kitchen facilities. Mayor Patterson was on hand to welcome the residents, along with the Chairman of the Recreation Commission, George Venezio, and

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other members of the official family and Recreation Commission. Mrs. Eugene Schiller, Mrs. Wm. Christian, Mrs. C. Larry Metzgar, Mrs. Daniel DiQuollo and Mrs. Ernest DiFrancesco, Jr. of the S.P. Junior Woman's Club served soft drinks and cookies.

Hundreds of people walked through the quaint old country club, previously known as Shady Rest. The Recreation Commission has renovated the old farm house, keeping with its colonial atmosphere in its originality. The club house has an interesting historical background. The lovely old farm house on Jerusalem Road, so classic in its simple beauty is the only one of its type, other than one in Connecticut. The building was

included in the tract of thirty acres known as the old farmhouse and plantation sold by Ephraim Tucker to John Lacey in 1808. In 1882, George B. Osborn bought the property from the Robert Rhea estate. Mr. Osborn's daughter, Edith Osborn Wyatt, remembered the lovely old farmhouse with its huge kitchen. As late as 1952 she wrote to the Westfield Leader recalling her childhood there.

In 1897 the thirty-acre tract was sold to the Westfield Golf Club and operated as an 18-hole golf course. It later became known as the Shady Rest Golf Course and was operated as a nine-hole course.

The club at the present time has over 500 members who pay annual dues. The golf course was taken over approximately a year ago by the Township and has added many improvements to its greens and fairways and to the grounds in general to improve playing conditions.

The golf course promises to be an outstanding asset to the community as a recreation facility, as well as financially. It also provides an open space area in keeping with the New Jersey Green Acres program.



GRAND OPENING of the Scotch Hills Country Club, hosted by the Scotch Plains Junior Womens Club. Pictured above standing left to right are George Venezio, Mrs. Ernest DiFrancesco Jr., President; Mrs. C. Larry Metzgar, Mrs. Eugene Schiller, Mrs. Daniel DiQuollo and Mayor Russell Patterson.

Through The Years With Dr. Bill

"Tell them I was no angel; everyone has his faults." By "them" Dr. William J. McGinn was referring to the school children of Scotch Plains and Fanwood. He had served as their school physician for over 30 years prior to his retirement this spring. It was only for "them" that he was willing to talk about himself.

His advice to the students trying to decide what to do with their lives? "First, you should be honest and have a desire to do something worthwhile with your life. Second, show ambition; choose a vocation and go all out for it. Do your best whether it be a mason, carpenter or profession. We need all types of people in the world. You can be educated to make a living in many different ways."

"Dr. Bill", as he is known to many, was serious and thoughtful as he spoke. His thoughts came quickly and his speech precise and orderly. He belied his age of 81 years. Speaking to youth, he added, "You don't have to be brilliant either, I wasn't—I was ordinary".

Ordinary or not, in his own estimation, Dr. McGinn has been most extraordinary to the many who have loved and respected him because of his compassion, selflessness, and understanding.

William John McGinn was born December 1, 1883 on a farm west of Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, Canada. The farm had originally been owned by McGinn's great grandfather. "It was a farm with cattle, chickens, potatoes, turnips and grain. It was a farm where each one helped the other."



DR. WILLIAM J. MCGINN, School Physician for over 30 years.

It has been one of Dr. McGinn's most enjoyable experiences to return each summer to Prince Edward Island where two brothers and a sister still live. Another brother lives in Boston. All are over 70 years of age.

After attending the Prince of Wales College and St. Dunstons University, both on Prince Edward Island, young McGinn started

on a career of teaching school.

For nine years he taught in rural, one-room, elementary schools on PEI, in Alberta, where the school had a stable for the ponies which were ridden to school by the children, and in Saskatchewan where "life grew lonely on the prairie".

Before deciding on a career in medicine Dr. McGinn served on the police force in Regina, Saskatchewan and in the Canadian army (during World War I). Upon discharge from the army in 1919 he entered McGill University medical school in Montreal, Quebec. His class, of 140 which graduated in 1924, was composed entirely of men who had been in the armed services. McGinn taught English to immigrants to help finance his education. He was thrilled to be able to return to McGill for the 40th anniversary of his class graduation, last summer.

McGinn served for two years as an intern in Kings Park State Hospital, Long Island, where he worked with 700 of the 5,000 mentally ill patients of all ages. An 18 month residency in Mercer Hospital, Trenton, followed. It was then, in March, 1928 that he

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