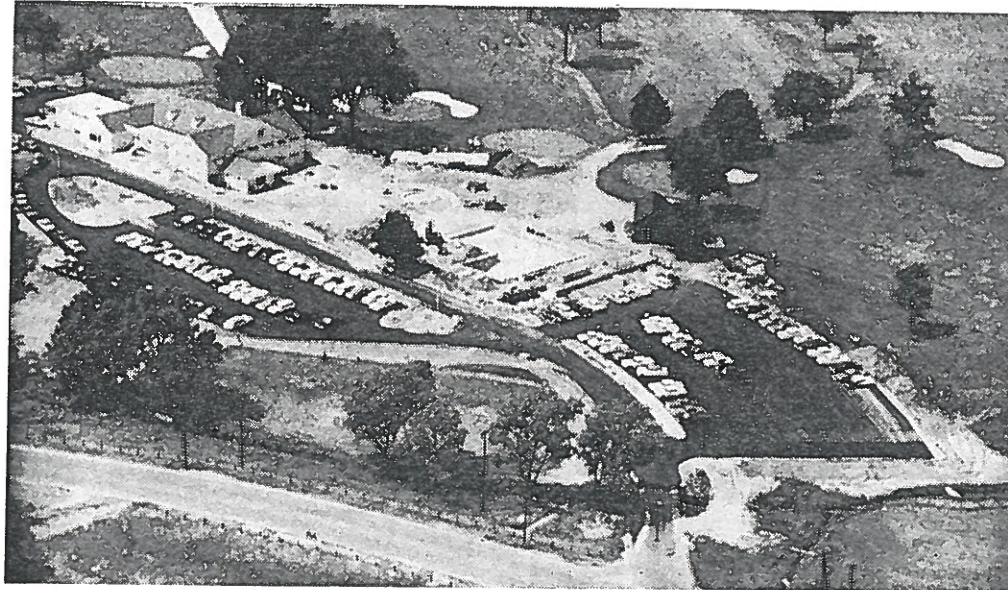


Country Club -

June 11, 1901 Day Eve. News

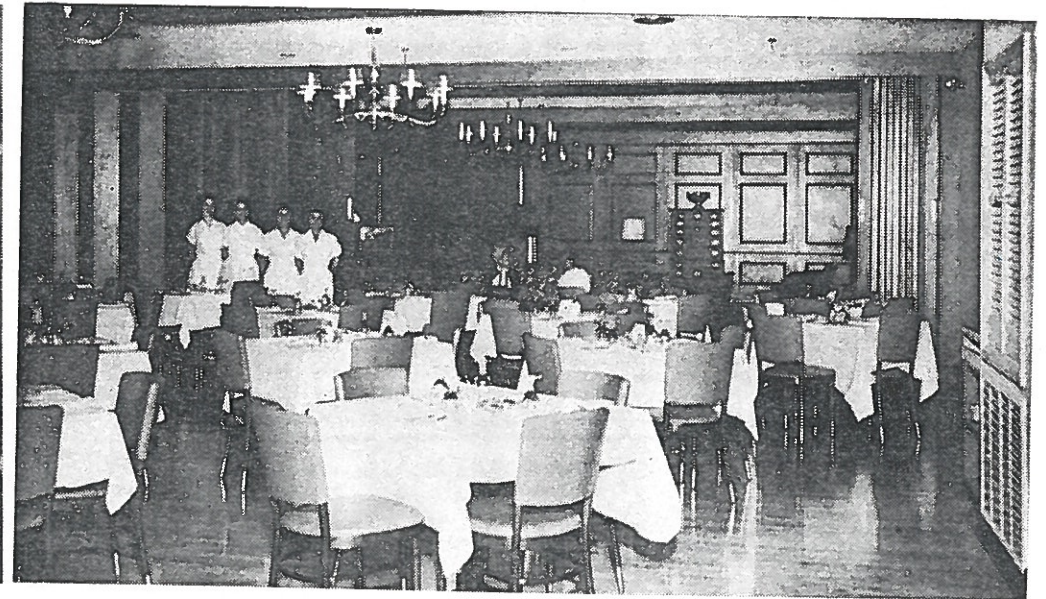
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# Ridgewood to Open Attractive New Clubhouse Tonight



AERIAL VIEW of Ridgewood Country Club's new clubhouse, L-shaped pool (center) and parking facilities which will be formally opened at a dinner-dance tonight in the clubhouse. Bermuda

governor Maj. Gen. Sir Julian Gascoigne and Lady Gascoigne and other dignitaries will attend. (The News-Times—Mannion, from plane provided by Danbury School of Aeronautics.)



NEW DINING ROOM at the Ridgewood Country Club is inspected by four waitresses prior to formal opening tonight. At upper right is sliding door which can partition off the lounge room to

the rear. The new clubhouse replaces one that was destroyed by fire a year and a half ago.

(The News-Times—Mannion)

# Danburia

By Johnny Wooster

No doubt about it. If Danbury's recreational expenditures are to stay within reasonable limits, Danburians must lose some weight.

Every year, when the town budget is being prepared, the Recreation Commission again brings up the question of enlarging the beach at the Town park, which is becoming ever more overcrowded.

This is partly because in the last eight years Danbury's population has increased some 40 per cent. But there is yet another reason. Not only does Danbury have more citizens than it used to, it also has more citizen per capita than most towns.

Among the first things a newcomer to Danbury notices is the remarkably generous padding of the inhabitants. Then, almost before he has ceased to wonder at the girth of those about him, he finds that he himself is occupying a considerably larger area.

Science has yet to explain this phenomenon. Possibly there is something in the Danbury air that makes calories do twice the work they do elsewhere.

Anyway, we'd say offhand the average Danburian outweighs the average American by 15 to 20 pounds, not an ounce of it muscle. And in terms of beach space, this obviously helps to create a major problem.

The sad fact is that a beach in Danbury accommodates fewer citizens per square yard than do beaches almost anywhere else. We could, indeed, name quite a few Danburians each of whom requires a whole square yard to himself, standing up straight and holding his breath.

In hardly any case is three square yards of beach enough for two vertical Danburians unless they are married or at least very good friends. And it must be remembered that many Danburians aggravate the situation by lying down and spreading.

Certainly something must be done to make the beach less crowded. But enlarging it is a very expensive proposition.

Two plans have been discussed recently. One, which calls for dumping sand behind a retaining wall, would provide an additional acre and a half for \$30,000. The other plan is to buy Wildman's Landing for \$240,000.

It seems to us a more practical solution of the overcrowding problem would be to reduce the population, not in number but in the middle. And here we must regretfully find fault with Recreation Commission policy.

For even while it deplures the growing congestion on the beach, the commission is again preparing to lease a refreshment concession there. With space already at a premium, it is calmly arranging to stoke an overstuffed army of beachgoers with hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and malted milk.

Surely this is to invite financial disaster. Income from a refreshment stand cannot furnish a tithe of what it will cost to provide sufficient sand area for the Danburians refreshed.

A little thought should convince the commission it would be wiser to discontinue the food concession at the park and replace it with some other type of business. A Slenderella salon, perhaps.

# Danburia

By Johnny Wooster

James Murphy, proprietor of Murphy's stationery store, showed us a picture taken in what really were the "good old days."

The photo, which pre-dates us, is of a group of local sports on an outing at Lake Kenosia, and was taken about 45 years ago.

In addition to Mr. Murphy, the only one in the picture we can recognize is Gus Deakin, our town clerk, and we recognize Gus only after he has been identified.

Others in the picture, who are still around, include Thomas McNally, Neal Keane, Shorty Gildea, Hugh Dyer, Doc Heffernan, George Flynn and Frank Creagh.

No longer with us are Mike Cuff, Cap Ginty, Jimmy Durkin, Jim Brennan, Art Krom, Bill Deakin, B'Il DeYoung, Ben Flanagan, George Stott, Charlie Griffin and Gus Lynch.

The group is posed in front of a tent on the shores of the lake, which at that time was a popular gathering place, only a nickel trolley ride from here.

Male fashions in those days for informal lake picnics allowed the shirt sleeves to be rolled up, but neckties were kept firmly in place. So were the hats, quite a few of which were derbies.

We wouldn't have believed that anyone could have a good time while wearing a derby, but these young men appear to be enjoying themselves greatly.

Ahead of them, although they could not have foreseen it, were dangers and privations. War was slated for the near future. And prohibition.

\* \* \*

Remember our man who had to go to Danbury hospital for X-rays and they confiscated his clothes and made him walk around in a sack dress?

He was sent to Grace - New Haven Hospital for more of the same and reports that they do things better there. Or at least with more flair. They still snatch your clothes and make you wear a sack dress, but the dresses are more fetching than the plain white cotton ones here.

They are of white seersucker with vertical green stripes. This gives the garment a slimming effect, he reports, and adds that he has seen worse-looking sack dresses right here in the office.

Man likes to live dangerously.

Danbury N+T  
4/15/1958



**MAKING THEIR SELECTIONS** from an array of tropical dishes—a serious moment at the Tropical Fiesta Saturday night at the Ridgewood Country club. Left to right are: J. Thayer Bowman, Jr., Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Richard Hoyt, Mrs. Charles T. Riall and Dr. Henry N. Blansfield.



**FUN AND FORMALITY** characterized the supper hour. Shown (left to right) are: Erich Triegel, Mrs. Henry A. Rocano, Herman N. Beckett, Mrs. Walter J. Van Lenten, Mrs. Erich Triegel, Henry A. Rocano, Walter J. Van Lenten and Mrs. Herman N. Beckett. (Baird photos)

## *Ridgewood Club Stages Tropical Fiesta*

With elaborate decorations keyed to the tropics, the Spanish fiesta held Saturday night at the Ridgewood Country club was attended by about 100 persons, getting the club's social season off to a colorful and successful start.

The attractions arranged for the evening by Mr. and Mrs. James Diamond, the club stewards, were three-fold, beginning with a cocktail hour and continuing with a buffet supper which featured tropical foods, and dancing to music by Merle Reed's orchestra.

Tropical colors and a tropical scene arranged as a backdrop helped create the illusion of a patio somewhere in Latin America and guests attending were in gay colored informal attire. Flowered skirts, beads and tropical straw hats were the order of the day.

# Elegance Set the Stage for Gala Ball to Aid Danbury Hospital

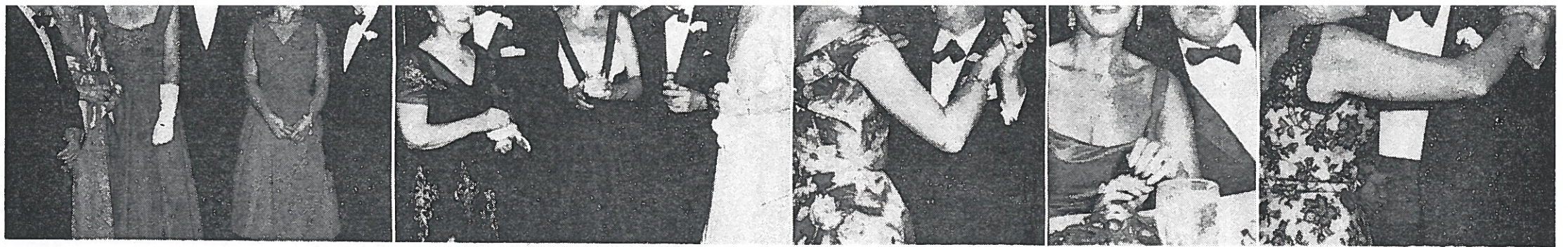


**HAVING A WONDERFUL TIME** at the first annual charity ball to benefit Danbury hospital last Saturday in Ridgewood country club are, from left, T. Clark Hull, of Danbury, chairman of the ball committee; Mrs. Lockwood J. Towne, of Brookfield; Mrs. Bertram A. Stroock, of Newtown, and Mr. Stroock, co-chairman of the ball; Mrs. Hull; and Mr. Towne, president of Danbury hospital. Chatting before the music begins are, from left, Mrs. and Mr. John Leahy, of Danbury; Mrs. and Mr. John W. Douglas, of Brookfield center; Mrs. Paul Kunkel, of Brookfield. Dancers are Mrs. John Senior, Jr., and Eugene Brown, of Danbury. While between dances are Dr. and Mrs. Michael Yoburn, of Danbury, Dr. and Mrs. C. K. Hamilton of Brookfield, enjoy a dance.



**BUSY WITH LIGHT DINNER CONVERSATION** are, from left, Mrs. and Mr. Lazarus Heyman and Mrs. Joseph Landsman, of Danbury; Mrs. Joseph Dumser, of New Fairfield; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Carley, of Danbury; Mr. and Mrs. Rolf Thal, of Danbury; Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Fript; Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fript, all of Danbury; Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Effron, of Danbury.





Sunday Post photos—Fonseca

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**ENJOYING THE GLITTERING AFFAIR** are, from left, Mrs. Walter Van Lenten, of Danbury, chairman of decorations, who stands near the bandstand covered with gold foil and sprayed evergreens; Mr. and Mrs. Towne, at dinner; Mr. and Mrs. Henry T. Wilson, of Newtown; Mr. and Mrs. Victor Machcinski, of Bethel; Lazarus S. Heyman, of Danbury; Mrs. and Mr. Walter Werner, of Redding; Mr. and Mrs. Serge Battaglia, of Danbury. Ninety-four couples attended the affair which raised some \$2,000 for the hospital's Progress fund.

pg 1/4

# Danbury News-Times

Forecast

Chance of Light Snow on Sunday (Details on Pg. 9)

Vol. 78, No. 35

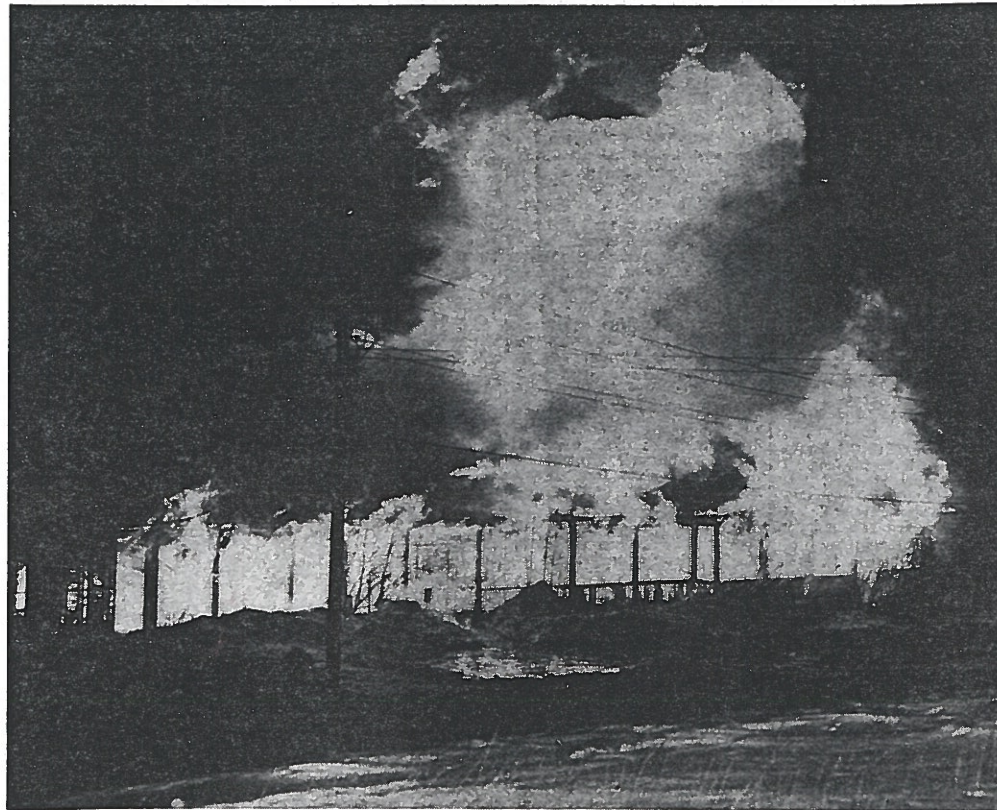
Telephone Pioneer 3-5591

The Good Evening Newspaper for Over 21,000 Families

Danbury, Conn., Saturday, February 11, 1961

14 Pages 7c

## Fire Destroys Ridgewood Country Club Loss Estimated In Hundred Thousands



FLAMES SHOOT more than 100 feet high during height of Ridgewood Country Club fire. This view is toward main entrance on west side. Other photos on Pages 6 and 9.

### Members Lose Golf Supplies; Pro Shop Saved

DANBURY—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the Ridgewood Country Club last night with a loss in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

The sprawling wood one and one-half story structure, the main part of it over 80 years old, burned spectacularly for four hours. It had been a stable for the former Ridgewood Stock Farm, a training place for trotters and pacers, many years ago.

George McLachlan, club president, said today the club was insured "in the neighborhood of \$100,000." But, he said, replacement could cost between \$300,000 and \$400,000.

The blaze was discovered shortly before 8:30 by the club manager, James Diamond, who was driving by on Franklin St. Saw Smoke, Couldn't Get In

"I saw white smoke drifting over the club," he said. "I drove up to the main entrance and looked inside. There was a lot of fire and smoke and I couldn't get inside to make a telephone call to the fire department.

"I jumped back into the car and drove back to Franklin St., in the neighborhood of the Kohanza St. intersection, and pounded on someone's door in order to get to a phone."

William J. Hunt of Hilltop Manor also saw the fire about the same time and turned in a telephoned alarm, as did several other passers-by and nearby residents.

Ironically, members passed

Reduced to rubble is the kitchen which in recent years served a growing number of diners—service clubs, private parties and businessmen who rendezvoused at Ridgewood often for lunch or dinner.

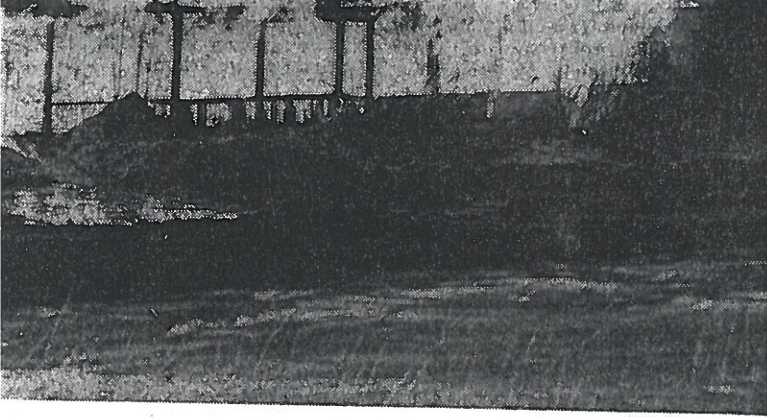
Consumed with the rest is the enclosed terrace overlooking the 18th green which also served as a dining area in summer, along with other large porches.

Spared was the professional shop located across the drive from the clubhouse.

Being Redecorated

For the past several years, since heat was installed in the clubhouse, the Ridgewood has been closed only during the month of January. This year, however, the usual Feb. 1 reopening was delayed because of painting and redecorating in most of the rooms.

Club officials said some five



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ire. This view is toward main entrance on west side. Other photos on Pages 6 and 9.

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page 2 of 4

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William J. Hunt of Hilltop Manor also saw the fire about the same time and turned in a telephoned alarm, as did several other passers-by and nearby residents.

Ironically, members passed preliminary plans for renovation last Thursday and instructed their architect to put the job out to bid. A January meeting had authorized expenditure of \$50,000 on renovation.

Because many liked the rustic beauty of the old building they were reluctant to build a new one. A member said one estimate of the cost of a new clubhouse was about \$750,000.

**Quaint Dining Stalls**

Reduced to charred ruins were the quaint dining stalls which once housed race horses, including a famous trotter, Quartermaster.

Gone is the rustic ballroom with its balcony that once served as a hay mow.

Destroyed were a score of Currier & Ives paintings valued at approximately \$2,000.

Also lost were hundreds of sets of golf clubs, golf shoes and other equipment stored in the locker room by many of the members. Individual losses ran from \$100 to more than \$500.

Gone, too, is the lounge with its huge fireplace and comfortable furnishings, as well as the adjoining bar.

**Club Records Lost**

Lost, also, are nearly all the club's records kept in a second-floor office.

All photos of the Ridge-wood Country Club fire carried in today's edition were taken by News-Times photographer Bob Mannion who arrived minutes after the fire-fighters.

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Club officials said some five days of painting remained, and the club was scheduled to reopen two weeks from now, on Feb. 25.

**Over 80 Years Old**

The main part of the clubhouse is more than 80 years old. At various times after Ridgewood became a country club and golf course (it was incorporated as such in 1920) there have been additions.

The main portion was situated in a north-south position. Ar

Continued on Page 6



THIS WAS WHAT WAS LEFT of Ridgewood Country Club at 9 a.m. today. Pro shop which was saved is at left. Only portions of the kitchen (center) and locker room (right) were still standing, along with three chimneys.



page 3/4

# Spectacular Fire Destroys Ridgewood Country Club

## Loss Is Put In Hundred Thousands

Continued from Page 1

ell on the east side contained the locker and shower facilities. A smaller ell on the same side housed the kitchen.

The Ridgewood Country Club, a corporation in which a number of the members hold stock, observed its 40th anniversary last year.

The grounds once contained a race track in the area now containing the first, second and former 18th fairways. The 18th hole was played as the 16th last summer due to the fact that part of the south and east portions of the course were taken for the Yankee Expressway.

### Were There In Afternoon

Diamond and his wife, along with the groundskeeper, Samuel Kraiger, had been at the club yesterday afternoon, leaving about 4 p.m.

Asked if he had any theories as to the cause, Diamond said he felt the fire might have started in the wiring. A few other members at the scene theorized that the oil heating system might have been at fault.

### Probe Under Way

Fire Chief George C. Hanna said he had no idea of the cause. State fire marshal representatives and the town fire marshal, John H. Ireland, were called in to look over the ruins today.

Hanna said last night that a definite cause has not been determined, pending investigation, but noted the blaze appeared to have started in the center of the building, over the boiler plant. He theorized that either the heating plant or electrical wiring was responsible.

Mr. and Mrs. Diamond, up to last autumn, had occupied quarters on the second floor of the clubhouse. They moved last October to a home on South King St. The club office was then moved upstairs.

"All of our records are gone," President McLachlan reported. A few, including the incorporation papers, were said to be kept elsewhere.

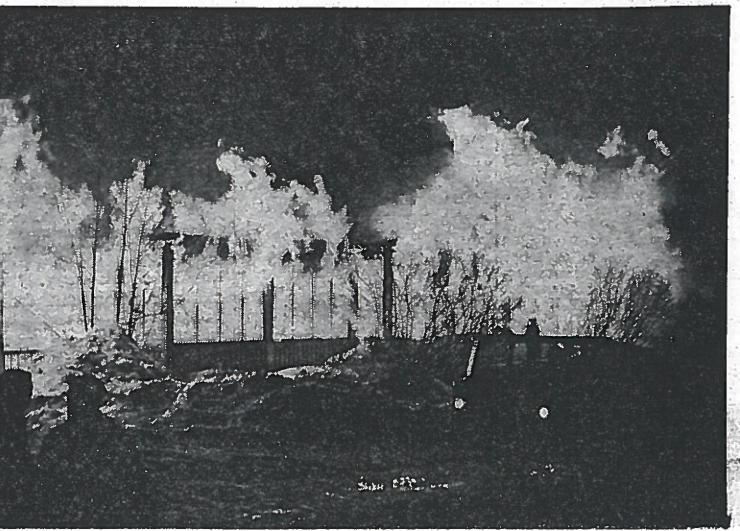
### Trucks Menaced

Firemen several times had to move trucks away from the flames. Beckerle and Co. Hose Co. volunteers had to do a fast job of backing its apparatus away from the main entrance when flames belched out of the west side of the building.

At the height of the blaze, flames shot more than 100 feet into the air. It could be seen from the top



SNOW AND SMOKE hampered firefighting operations at the Ridgewood fire. Most of the spectators were kept on Franklin St. Firemen were still on the scene this morning as the ruins continued to smoulder.



## Ridgewood C C To Be Rebuilt

### Directors Are Meeting This Afternoon

DANBURY — "We're out of business."

That was the comment today of George McLaughlin, president of the Ridgewood Country Club which burned to the ground last night.

He added that plans for rebuilding will be underway soon. When or where the new clubhouse will be built, he didn't know.

Directors of the club are meeting at 2 p.m. today in the Fairfield-County Trust Co. bank on Main St. to talk over the loss and begin planning for the future.

McLachlan said he was not surprised that the building burned.

"It was an old barn," he said. "We've talked about this for years." "This" referred to the

fire and the need for a new clubhouse.

Club members watching the spectacular fire were most concerned about their personal belongings inside. Many left golf clubs, shoes and other equipment.

One member said, "I usually take my clubs home during the winter. This time I left them in the clubhouse."

The fire drew a large crowd on Franklin St. and around the locker room extension. Fire Chief George C. Hanna was at the scene although he left command to Joseph Bertalovitz, battalion chief.

Chief of Police J. Howard McGoldrick appeared at 8:50 and a number of city policemen were sent to direct traffic and keep roads open for fire trucks.

The Salvation Army truck pulled up at 10:30 with a supply of coffee which firemen appreciated through the long night which got colder and colder.

Mrs. Jeanne E. Miller chairman of Red Cross first aid, and H. Frank Taylor, disaster chairman, also were on hand and dispensed coffee.

### Dining Rooms in Stalls

## Clubhouse Was Converted From Stock Farm in 1921

DANBURY — The blaze that levelled the Ridgewood Country Club ended a 39-year-history of social and golf activity in the spacious clubhouse that was formally opened Oct. 1, 1921.

The property occupied by the clubhouse was formerly the base of operations for the Ridgewood Stock Farm. The clubhouse was almost entirely created from the former stables.

Within the long, rambling building, some of the former race horse stalls, one of which accommodated a prize-winning stallion, Quartermaster, had been converted into small dining rooms.

The private dining chambers opened into a central corridor that led to a banquet hall and dance floor which was the center of the club's social activities.

A cozy lounge roof with a bar open fireplaces and windows

measured some 133 feet in length and 25 feet in width. It had an "L" 100 feet long and 30 feet wide.

The original 227-acres of land owned by the Ridgewood Country Club later was split up, in part to provide for a residential real estate development.

Of late, the acreage was diminished by the intrusion of Interstate Highway 84, now under construction. The golf course had to undergo some alterations as a result.

The early furniture in the clubhouse lounge was silver gray wicker and mahogany. The wood trim in the lounge was gray, matching the background of the wallpaper.

Furniture in the dining room was of Colonial design when the banquet facility first opened in 1921. The ballroom contained a mezzanine. On the first balcony were a number of round tables.

Danbury N-T  
2/11/61

page 4/4

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At the height of the blaze, flames shot more than 100 feet into the air.

"I could see them from the top of Stony Hill as I drove in from Newtown," said McLachlan.

#### Few Items Saved

Firemen laid hose from a hydrant on Franklin St. and a private hydrant located near the second green, about 300 yards from the clubhouse.

Water also was pumped from a nearby brook which winds its way through much of the golf course and flows under a bridge less than 100 yards from the south end of the clubhouse.

However, the flames had mushroomed through so much of the building by the time firemen arrived that they had no chance to bring the fire under control.

At 9:15 firemen wearing smoke masks carried out some tables and chairs from the locker room. These were the only items saved.

Heat was so intense that a utility pole and wiring burned across the drive from the main entrance. Electricity flashed for several minutes as wires short-circuited. Housatonic Public Service repairmen were called in to disconnect electric power to the building.

#### Firemen Given Oxygen

Several firemen were given oxygen at the scene after inhaling smoke.

A stiff northerly breeze carried sparks for long distances, but there are no other nearby buildings except the professional shop. A pine tree near the kitchen wing looked like a Christmas tree when sparks settled through its branches like lighted bulbs. The tree remains standing.

Assisting at the scene were fire police. Coffee was provided by the Red Cross and the Salvation Army.

#### Many Firemen on Scene

Fire companies dispatched to the scene were:

City paid Engine Companies 1 and 2, chief's car and fire police truck, King St. and Mill Plain town volunteers, and city volunteers from Independent Hose Co., Hoyt St.; Wooster Hose Co., Coal Pit Hill Rd.; Citizens Hose Co., Jefferson Ave.; and Beckerle and Co. Hose Co., Liberty St.

Firemen had difficulty laying hose to the building.

Engine Companies 1 and 2 laid two 2½-inch hoses from the Franklin St. hydrant and then struggled to hook another 2½-inch hose to the hydrant near the second green, 100 yards away.

Battalion Chief Joseph Bertalovitz, in charge of fire-fighting activities, gave special praise to four men who dragged heavy hose through snow up to their waists to the golf course hydrant. He said Lt. George Hope, Lt. Walter Green and firemen Eugene Tomanio and Frederick Tomaino hooked into the snow-covered hydrant around 8:45.

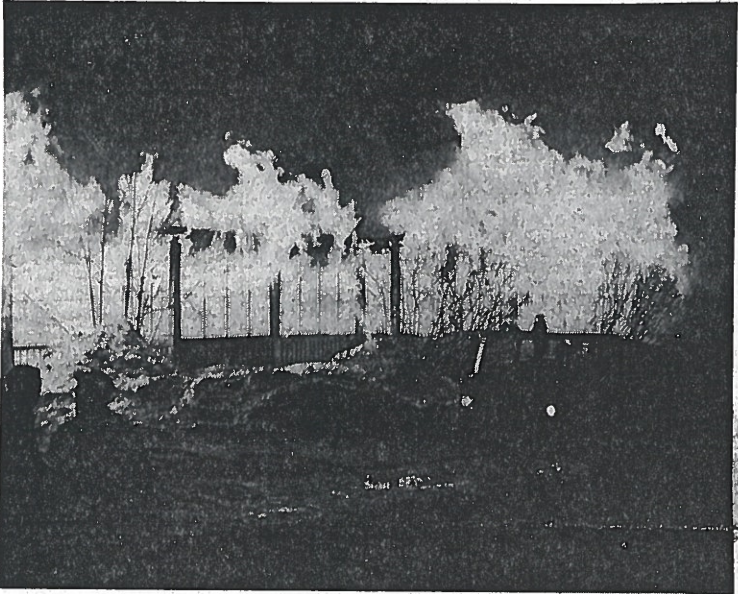
#### Controlled by Midnight

By 9 p.m. the King St. pumper put two "drafters" into the golf course brook and started pumping water through two 2½-inch hoses.

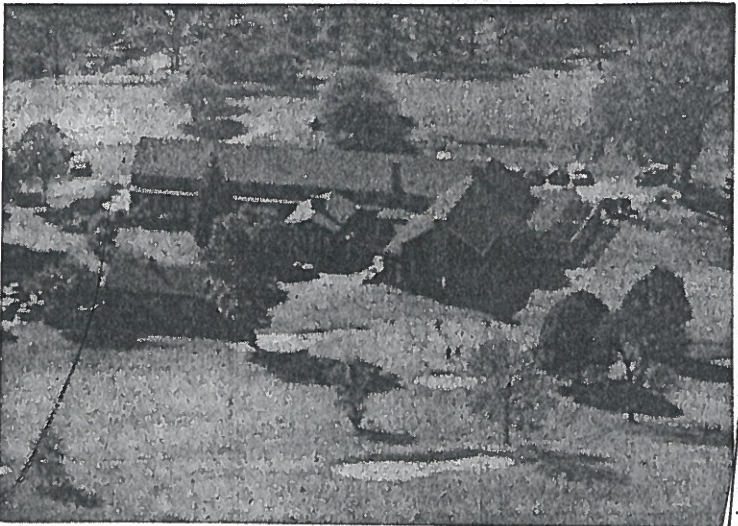
In all, 3,000 feet of 2½-inch hose, and 1,800 feet of 1½-inch hose was used. Except for efforts to save the locker room extension, most



SNOW AND SMOKE hampered firefighting operations at the Ridgewood fire. Most of the spectators were kept on Franklin St. Firemen were still on the scene this morning as the ruins continued to smoulder.



FLAMES MUSHROOM from enclosed porch near the west side main entrance of Ridgewood Country Club before fire reached its height. Beckerle & Co. Hose Co. volunteers had to beat a hasty retreat with their apparatus shortly after this photo was taken.



RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB, as it appeared from the air last summer.

of the water had little effect. Half of the locker room was still standing this morning.

Bertalovitz said the fire was under control shortly after midnight but broke out again in the locker room around 2 a.m. Although Engine Companies 1 and 2 returned to their station at 12:50, most of the hose was kept in use until early this morning. The second blaze was put out quickly.

King St. and Mill Plain volunteer trucks stayed at the scene through the night and this morning.

#### Second Flare-Up

In spite of temperatures in the 20's, water did not freeze until early this morning when nozzles were turned off and water lay in hoses.

A second flare-up occurred at 9:47 this morning. Men at the scene radioed for a pumper and Mill Plain Volunteers were dispatched. They had left the scene at 7 a.m. with the King St. Volunteer truck.

Firemen moved spectators away from a ground level oil tank near the kitchen annex last night fearing it would explode under the intense heat nearby. It never did but firemen said a gas tank inside the center of the building did explode about 8:30.

The News-Times phone number is PI 3-5591

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Within the long, rambling building, some of the former race horse stalls, one of which accommodated a prize-winning stallion, Quartermaster, had been converted into small dining rooms.

The private dining chambers opened into a central corridor that led to a banquet hall and dance room which was the center of the club's social activities.

A cozy lounge room with a fireplace and windows overlooked part of the original 2½-acre tract of land, containing an 18-hole golf course. The course was used by former PGA, Masters and National Open Champion Gen. Sarazen when he lived only a few miles away in Brookfield.

Nearly 400 members and guests attended the dedication night ceremonies in the clubhouse. The old building measured some 133 feet in length and 25 feet in width. It had an "L" 100 feet long a 30 feet wide.

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Furniture in the dining room was of Colonial design when the banquet facility first opened in 1921. The ballroom contained a mezzanine. On this first balcony were a number of card tables. The clubhouse was centered the middle of an old orchard.

The walls of the smaller dining alcoves and the lounge contained a collection of Currier and Ives prints of famous trotting horses, reminiscent of the days when the rambling structure housed the Ridgewood Stock Farm.

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8; 10 a.m., 30.

# Danbury News-Times

TIDES  
(Eastern Standard Time)  
FEB. High Tide Low Tide  
11-Sat. 7:29 A.M. 1:15 P.M.  
12-Sun. 8:28 A.M. 2:15 P.M.

ASTRONOMICAL CALENDAR  
Feb. Sun Rises Sun Sets  
11 Saturday 6:58 5:31  
12 Sunday 6:57 5:32

Danbury, Conn., Saturday, February 11, 1961

Second News Section

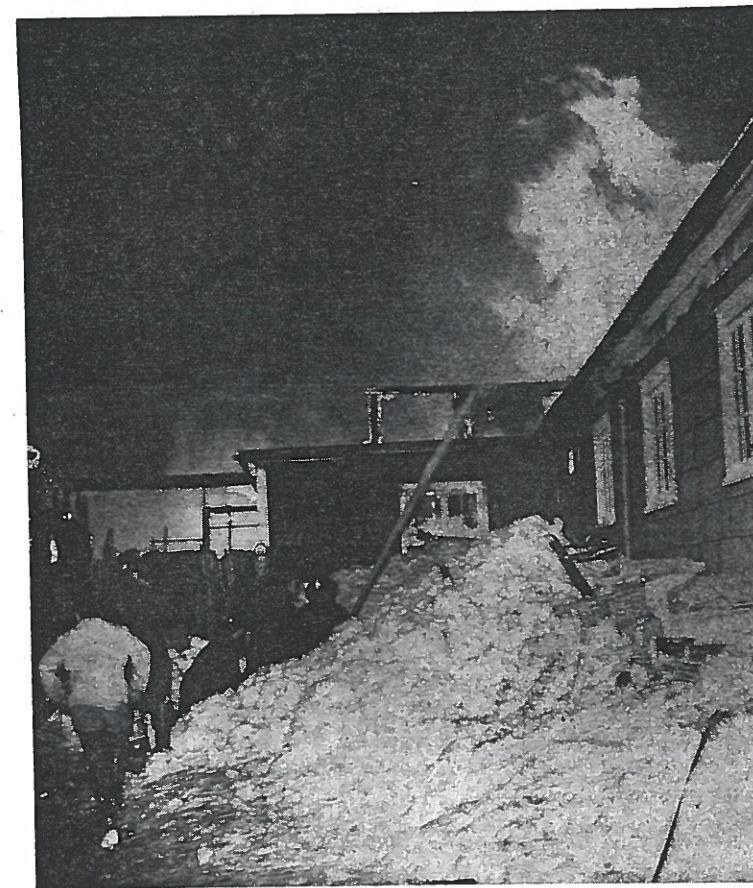
Page 9

## Report Ready By April; ion Consultants Do Study



FIRE CHIEF GEORGE C. HANNA is silhouetted against the flames. "There is nothing we could do. It had too much of a head start

when we were called," he said. Over 150 firemen from the paid department, city and town volunteers battled the spectacular blaze.



LOCKER ROOM was the last section to burn. Firemen laid hoses to two nearby hydrants and also pumped water from brook which runs through the golf course about 100 yards from the clubhouse.

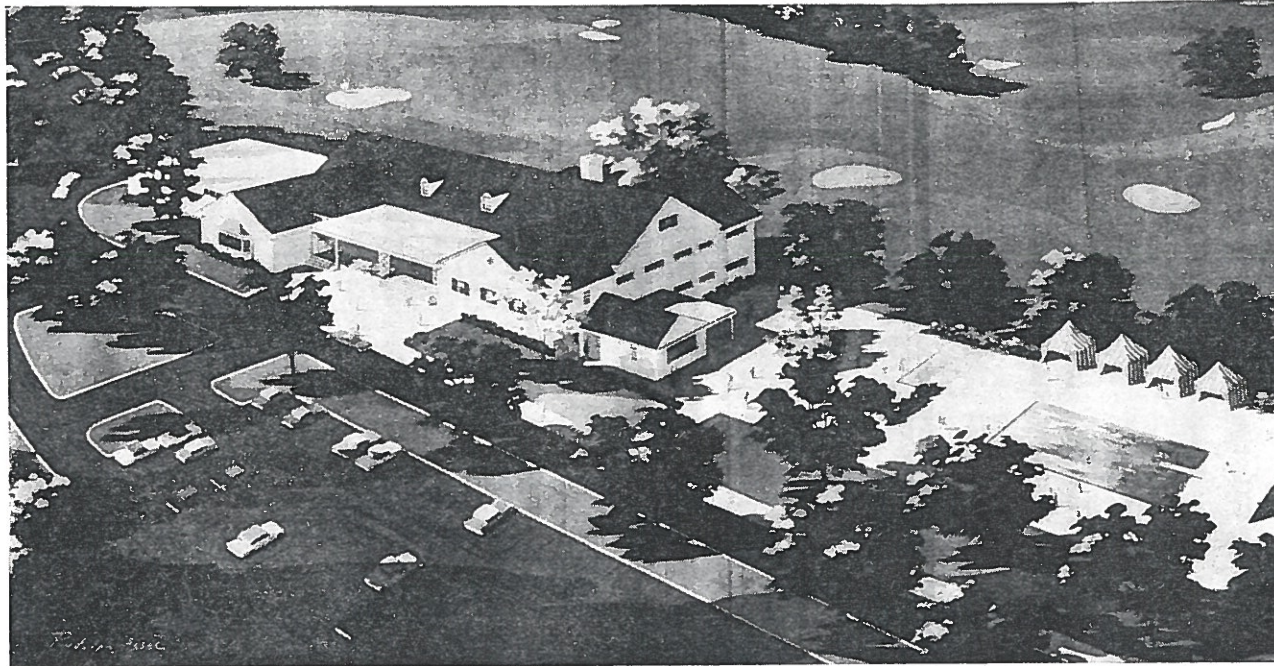
Mostly sunny, warm and humid today. Fair and little change in temperature tonight. Tomorrow mostly fair, warm and humid with a chance of showers or thunder-showers.

Temp. 8 a.m. 70; 11 a.m. 75

# Danbury News-Times

Monday, May 15, 1961  
Second Section Page 13

## Ridgewood Country Club Plans New Club House, Pool



HOW NEW RIDGEWOOD COUNTRY CLUB will look, as rendered by an artist from plans prepared by Frank A. LaCava, Danbury architect. Since this rendering was prepared, pool at right has been changed to L-

shape of Olympic dimensions. Building will rise on knoll to west of club house which was destroyed by fire Feb. 10.

### Plans for New Facilities Shown To Membership

DANBURY—A \$450,000 building program to give Ridgewood Country Club a new club house and a swimming pool was unveiled last night at a meeting of the membership in the Lobster Box.

The club house would replace the building destroyed by fire Feb. 10. Cost of the new club house is estimated at \$400,000 and of the pool and adjacent facilities \$50,000.

George A. McLachlan, president, told the meeting that the club's directors had accepted plans prepared by Frank A. LaCava, Danbury architect, for a 2½-story building of modified colonial design.

An invitation for bids will go out in June.

**Dining Facilities**  
The new building will be erected on the knoll west of the former site and the building will be on two major levels.

On the upper level, which will be the main floor, there will be a large area, 80 by 32½ feet, which can be subdivided with folding walls. This area will include a dining room, lounge area and private dining rooms. Sliding doors and large windows will open on to a covered terrace, 14 feet wide and 80 feet long.

There will be a fireplace in the lounge area. The wall at this end will feature colonial paneling.

A men's grill, with bar, will be on the same level and will measure 28 by 35 feet.

The kitchen will be located for direct service to the dining rooms, men's grill and terrace. A dining room for employes will be off the kitchen.

Off the main foyer, which will give entrance to the lounge and dining areas, will be cloak rooms and lavatories.

Locker Rooms, Etc.

six months after initial construction starts, if all goes well.

Work is still proceeding on reconstruction of the golf course, altered because of the loss of several holes in the building of the Yankee Expressway.

Two new holes remain to be completed and are expected to be in use within two weeks.

When completed, the revamped 18-hole course is expected to be one of the finest in the East.

**200 At Meeting**

More than 200 members were present at the meeting when president McLachlan announced the proposed building program had been approved by the board of directors at a recent session.

Arthur Tartaglia asked if a steam room had been considered and the president said it had not but could be at an extra cost.

Dr. John J. Gaffney expressed belief the club should "go all the way" and install an irrigation system for the greens. He added that the greens are "brown" the last two weeks of July and all of August.

For the most part, the plans received endorsement. There was general opinion that construction should start as soon as possible.

The Hampshire Inter-Library Center in the Connecticut Valley of Massachusetts is jointly operated by four colleges — Amherst, Mount Holyoke, Smith and the University of Massachusetts. The center is a research library for the use of faculty and advanced undergraduates.

### Town Park Is Readied For Opening

DANBURY—Although the Town Park does not open officially until May 30, picnic tables will be placed in the recreation site this week to enable area residents to enjoy a meal out-of-doors next weekend. Town Recreation Commission Director Edward J. Crotty said today.

He said the additional 300 feet of bathing beach, which will double the present size and capacity of the Town Park swimming area, will be ready for use by mid-June. The beach enlargement project has cost the town some \$40,000.

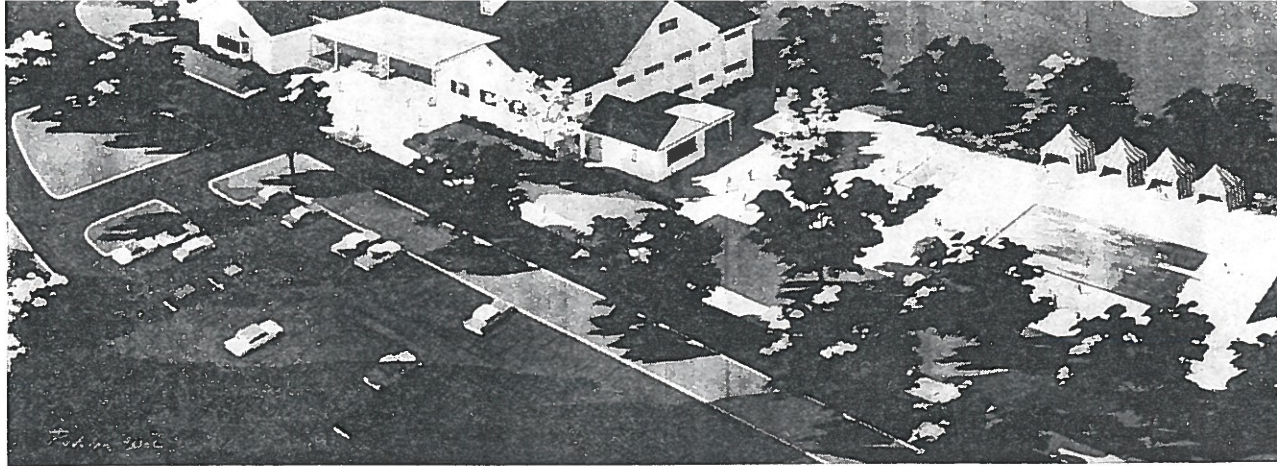
Crotty added that the parking space at the Town Park off Lake Candlewood will be opened by the middle of this week.

"We're quite happy over the progress of Town Park improvements," Crotty said today. He said the commission expects 1961 to be a record year from the standpoint of crowds and concession business.

He said the enlargement of the bathing beach and the addition of picnic facilities by filling in the old boat cove will enable far more residents to enjoy a weekend at the park this summer.

The additional picnic area now gives the Town Recreation Commission a total of 1.7 acres of picnic acreage in the Town Park, Crotty said.

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**Locker Rooms, Etc.**

A women's lounge room, women's locker room with showers and offices will also be on this level.

On the lower level will be the locker rooms, shower rooms and a lounge for men, the attendant's station, pro shop, baggage storage and other facilities.

Above the main floor will be an area which can be used eventually as an apartment or for other purposes.

The exterior will be of brick, in an old white color, with wood trim. Exterior walls will be of block and brick construction and interior walls of wood and other materials.

Fire sprinklers will be installed throughout. Provision will be made for air conditioning of certain sections.

The swimming pool will be L-shaped of Olympic dimensions and will include a high diving board. The pool will be located approximately where the ballroom of the former structure was located.

**Break Ground in July**

Ground-breaking is planned for early July and club officials expect the club house building to be completed by January or within

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