

will soon be sixty years of age. They have played on their present ground since 1881, and they have figured prominently in the honours list.

They were original members of the Huddersfield League, and they led with Armistice Bridge for the championship in the League's first season, when they also won the Lamb Cup. Since 1930 they have had a fine run of successes, taking part in the play-off on six occasions, with success on three of them.

SLAITHWAITE have for many years been one of the most successful teams in the Huddersfield district, and while they could boast of having produced players in the same extent as clubs like Duffell and Ludders Hall, many prominent players have been associated with them, and they have figured prominently in the honours list.

The early days of the club were hard ones for their promoters for its location, and they were always fighting to clear off debts.

Cricket was played in Slaithwaite before the war, but the team had to disband, as the ground was wanted for building purposes, but in 1877 a new club, the Slaithwaite S. James's, the successor of the present Slaithwaite club, was formed, and matches were played on a ground at Old White Road.

The original players of this club were Thomas Bamford, James Sykes, Lewis Bamford, Wright Giddings, John E. Wood, John Hopkinson, J. T. Quarmby, J. H. Dransfield, Brian Wood, Thomas Elms, and G. Maxwell. Mr. Clement Wood was the first president of the club, and later players were Alex Haigh, A. A. Wood, Joseph Wood, Ben

SLAITHWAITE

A Colne Valley Stronghold Of The Summer Game

ment at Slaithwaite, was engaged. The leading amateur players of the day were George Bamford, Tom England, Will England (the footballer), Alex Haigh, Charles Bird, and John Beckwith.

The Huddersfield and District League was formed in 1882, and Slaithwaite formed one of the top clubs chosen for the original League. They celebrated the season by winning the Lamb Cup and the Armistice Bridge for the championship of the League. In the cup they beat Armistice Bridge and Meltham Hill, and then in the final they defeated Duffell Hill. Tom England made 104 runs in the final match.

The players who gained this dual success were—Harry England, Tom England, Will England, G. Bamford (captain), G. P. Mead, Alex Haigh, J. Beckwith, J. Wood, Charles Bird, J. Sykes, G. Cotton, and T. H. Sykes.

The England Brothers

In 1893 Dan England retired, but took over the position of professional again in 1894, and two of the England brothers, Will and Harry, enjoyed batting triumphs about this time. Will scored 500 runs in season 1899, and two years later his brother accomplished the same feat. The club sustained a great loss in 1905 when Will England left for South Africa.

a professional, son in 1907 for Holmfirth in that match.

Slaithwaite gained championship during the following two years, in both of which they won the championship. During the latter season they suffered a humiliating experience when Colner bowled them out for 9. Sam Fletcher, who was professional at Colner, took seven for 4, and Thomas Jones, who is now a coach at Broad Oak, took the other three for 3 runs. Only four batsmen succeeded in scoring—Fred Jackson (2), G. Garside (2), M. Mead (1), and R. G. Boden (1). The remaining runs were lost.

Further Successes

Slaithwaite missed the championship in 1913, but they won it again in 1914. In the final of that year they beat Lintwaite Hall, at Paddock, by 123 (54 of which were scored by Wallace) to 100. Lintwaite Hall seemed certain to win when they had made 84 by the time they lost their fourth wicket. Then there was a collapse, and the last six wickets fell for the addition of sixteen runs. G. H. Boden took six for 21, and Wallace three for 44.

In 1915 the championship went to Lockwood, who beat Slaithwaite, at Paddock, in a match which still excites discussion among local cricket followers. This game was described in the article on the Lockwood club.

and view deep breaths and give that glorious moment.

"To Feel a Better Man"

Upward you go, across the path crossing patches of bog, climbing higher, and your spirits reviving in like proportion, and on this to feel a better man than you were a and all because you have placed your feet between the spot where and the busy world below. We talk, bound to this earth by elastic here on this hill that elasticity to its fullest, and you are vain as you have conquered, and you are the victory. Of course, the man must go to the genuine rock-climber's fall with rope and nail—meet the stern resistance of gullies or knife-edged ridge. Grained by workers or mountain transport are broad, mere shadows of the led wall but the joy of the hill tops is not by any means, but rather in the fact that we have no other reach the actual summit, and the rewards afforded us when this is the earth is mapped out at four times, and the new is needed, even then there is a thrill—a thrill that can be set out in words alone. Ah, the recollection of that I back the mountain to me. Up an ing the steep flanks of Carnedd until the wind-swept summit in the ramparts of Snowdonia stretch tain beyond mountains, and the brightly over the Irish Sea, amid the cloud wreaths of the narrow Welsh Meib, and on

THE FINE I SARAZEN

Secret Of

WHEN I was at Sandwich for Championship I overheard remark, "If I could drive as far Havers I'd back myself to go once in three times. A bang from flick with a mastic to the green putts. There you are, it's easy."

I agree that length is an important factor in modern golf, but significant fact is that every one agreed that Gout Sarazen won mainly by his superb putting.

"It's eye the putting." The Scotman who coined the phrase his golf, and it is as true today was. I had not the opportunity to see much of Sarazen's play which, but, of course, I knew his is notable for its soundness. What immediately the thought occurs: a golfer who has achieved the gem and who by great perseverance as become so steady and constant that the shot are not likely to go Sarazen proved this. To play in an average of 15 without a longest championship course in the truly a marvellous record.

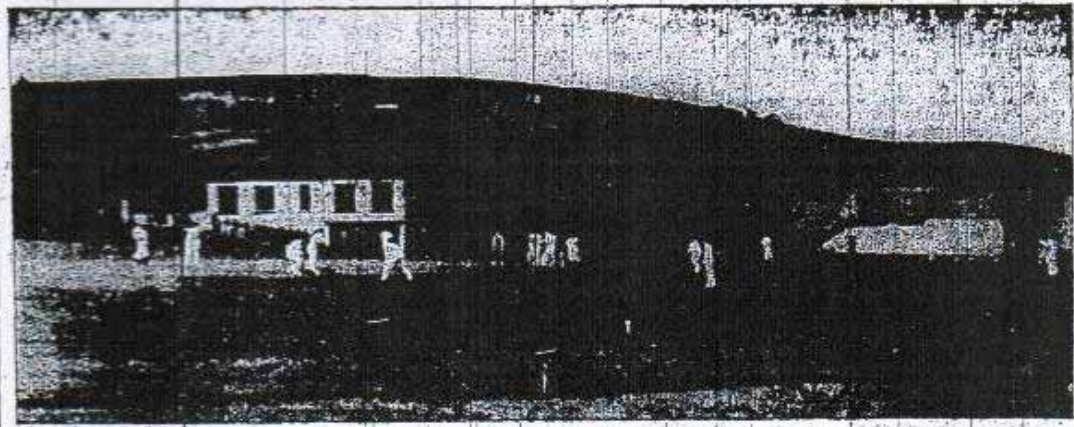
How Sarazen Putts

Yes while he covered the distance to green with splendid accuracy it have stated, mainly his putting, him to victory. Let me explain his putts. Like most American golf his body behind the ball, the toe foot being almost opposite the ball the first thing to be noted. The steadiness. There is no perceptible of the body, and this is a characteristic of the body. There is, however, perfect ease and grace, and obvious light grip of the club.

But while all these are important perhaps the most vital thing of all to which he swings the club and ball. As in the case of Bobby definitely springs, taking the club even for the exact point. For it put the club head goes back a fo it is noticeable too that he falls well. In this way he keeps the club and ball free.

Again Sarazen is one of those I rail the ball. This aspect of his discussed at Sandwich, and an spectator in the event declared that not half a dozen British players did not definitely hit the ball on I am not prepared to say whether true or not, but I agree that it is rare to see a player in this country putts.

The Rolling Ball



Grings, Wm. Grange, Tom Buckley, Charles Quarmby, Ben Quarmby, J. W. Proctor, Thomas Lamb, A. Sutcliffe, E. Mead, and M. Mead.

At Mead Hill Lane

The White Road field also had to be vacated owing to building requirements, and the club's best home was at Mead Hill Lane. At this time the Slaithwaite side met clubs of their own standing in the district, such as Colner, Marsden, Lintwaite, Goutland, Netherthorpe, Aspley United, Colchester, Northumberland Street, St. Andrew's, and Croxall Moor. After a few seasons the name of the club was changed to the Slaithwaite Cricket and Athletic Club, and the first sports meeting was held in 1877.

In the late seventies difficulties arose with the field at Mead Hill Lane, and negotiations were opened to obtain another one. The late Mr. Tom Wood was the principal figure in these, and he did more than any other man to procure for Slaithwaite the ground they at present have. Money was borrowed and promissory notes given to raise the funds. In 1881 Slaithwaite moved to their present ground, and it was in this season that they engaged their first professional, David Townsend, who received for his services 10s. per week. As time went on better-class clubs found their way into the Slaithwaite district, and matches began to be played on equal terms—hitherto fixtures and eighteen men had played against the first eleven of other clubs. From 1883 to 1886 the club was served in a professional capacity by Tom Burrows, and good progress was made during the time he was at Slaithwaite.

Ground Difficulties Again

More ground difficulties, lack of space, cropped up, and Lord Dersborough's agents were approached, with the result that the club obtained as much land as they required, and more money had to be borrowed to finance the levelling and adjusting of the field. Burrows was succeeded as professional by Jack Richardson (1887), J. Ackroyd (1888), and J. P. Morley (1889), and then in 1892

Bazans and other voluntary efforts had reduced the club's debts to such an extent that by the end of the nineteenth century the financial position was quite sound. In 1900 Mr. Tom Wood, who had returned from South Africa, set to work to raise funds for the erection of the new club-rooms, the first stones of which were laid at Easter, 1901.

T. H. Sykes, Roger Sykes, and Fred Dodson, prominent players with the club during this century, had started in the late 'nineties, and during the early years of the present century useful players with the club were Sam Fletcher (professional in 1903-5), Norman Sugden, G. H. Sugden, Frank Noble, A. Blackburn, T. W. Taylor, Harry Beckwith, and Dick Bamford, who kept wicket for the club for many years. T. H. Sykes and A. Blackburn were a very fine opening pair, and had many good stands to their credit. Dick won the club batting average, and their association together as first wicket batsmen lasted until 1907. Fred Dodson then became a first-wicket player. Roger Sykes was a successful bowler, and Frank Noble a good all-rounder.

The "Golden Age"

What might be termed Slaithwaite's "Golden Age" is closely linked up with Harry Wallace, who was their professional from 1910 to 1915. Wallace was a left-arm fast bowler and a very serviceable bat, who had been with Lancelotti Hall and Baccup before he was engaged with Slaithwaite. He is commonly reckoned one of the finest professional cricketers the Huddersfield League ever had.

During three of the seasons he was at Slaithwaite the club won the League Championship. In his first season he took 78 wickets for 8.4 runs each, and in that year his side came near to winning the championship. The last match of that season was at Holmfirth, and the position was such that victory for Slaithwaite would have given them the championship. Slaithwaite made 320 runs, but the match was abandoned owing to light, and there was a tie at the head of the League. In the play-off Slaithwaite again met Holmfirth and were climaxed in the issue of 200-

The year 1910 again saw Slaithwaite in the final of the championship. They beat Paddock in the final, but were beaten by Huddersfield, for whom Schofield Haigh, the Yorkshire player, took seven for 20 in the final.

There was a tie at the head of affairs in 1917 between Lintwaite and Slaithwaite. The season's matches could not be completed, and by a decision of the League committee Lintwaite's name was inscribed on the Byrom Shield.

Thus for seven seasons Slaithwaite had been actively concerned in the League Championship, which they won three times and played off for three times.

It has not been possible to mention above all the prominent players Slaithwaite had during this time. Others who were well known were Harry Beckwith, George Garside, A. Beckwith, W. Mead, Fred Bamford, Harry Booth, L. S. Dyson, R. G. Boden, S. Brice, Fred Dawson, Tom Elms, H. Sykes, and Percy Sykes. Some of these, such as Dyson, Garside, Mead, Brice, Dawson, Elms, and Sykes, are well-known for the assistance they have given to the club since the war.

Slaithwaite's successes since the war are confined to one each in the championship and the Sykes Cup competition. They won the former in 1925 and the Cup in 1924. The second eleven have won the championship in 1910, 1919, 1920, and 1930 and the Paddock Shield in 1924, 1928, and 1930.

Some Well-known Names

The work of Fred Webster, who was professional in 1924 and 1925; Frank Greenwood, the Yorkshire captain, who began his cricket career in the Huddersfield League with Slaithwaite in 1924, Wm. Ellis, Jack Dawson, A. Jehann, E. Hutchinson (professionals from 1928-30), G. H. Sordson, A. W. Shaw, and Percy Sykes, who in ten seasons since the war has scored over 4,000 runs for an average of just over 27 per innings, is so recent that they will be well remembered by crickety followers.

The full list of professionals at Slaithwaite is—1881, D. David Townsend; 1883, Tom Burrows; 1887, Jack Richardson; 1888, James Ack-