

TODAY'S NEWS

Have I got old news for you?

1856

The annual **Curling Competition** between the Old and New Town, for a Silver Jug, came off. 6 rinks a side when after a keen contested game, victory was in favour to the Old Town, by a majority of 6 shots.

1899

Woodvale v St Winnoch "A"

The opening stages of the game were hotly contested. The home team led 1-0 at halftime and the game ended in a **win** for Woodvale by 4 to 2.

The Lochwinnoch lads have intimated a **protest** on a plea of the goal-posts being half an inch too high.

1925

St Mirren win Easy Chairs at Lochwinnoch Sports.

The prizes were of local manufacture and a fine array of ornate house furniture of Queen Anne and similar design.

The crowd numbered about **5,000** so that there would be a substantial addition to the fund already raised for local and other charities.

The National Game



Castle Sempie Loch

Curling is peculiarly entitled to be called a National Game; but until recently it was quite unknown in the Highlands. The origin of the game is hidden amid the mists of antiquity, and it is impossible to say whether it is of native or of foreign growth; but in whatever way it may have originated, it has taken a deep and apparently ineradicable hold upon the Scottish people. It has been celebrated in the verse of Burns and of Hogg, and in the prose of Scott, and has been illustrated by the pencils of Harvey and of Lees. It even possesses a literature of its own, for its attractions have been set forth, and the exploits of its champions not only in innumerable songs and anecdotes, but in grave essays and amusing memorabilia, and the annual of the grand Caledonian Club now extends to 35 instances.

The game of golf is played at a season when those who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow must be engaged in their daily work; and, besides,



1899

National Skating Association

have found that it is more convenient to hold their championships races on Castle Semple Loch than Loch Leven, hence the great crowds of skaters from all quarters.

1920

Mr Manders, who is well known in the world of entertainment in Scotland has made arrangements to open a new Kinema in the Ayrshire village of Lochwinnoch. He has already begun building operations in Calder Street. It is hoped the new Kinema will seat between 400 and 500 people.

1900

Johnny "What's the difference between sense and sensation, papa?"

Papa "When I come downstairs to whip you, and you run out of the door, that's sense"

"When I grab you and apply the whip, that's sensation"

as the competitors are matched two and two, golf can scarcely be regarded as a social amusement. Football, again is a game for boys and young men rather than for staid and elderly gentlemen, parsons, and peers. But curling is followed at a season when the earth is snow-bound and ice-locked, when agricultural labour is necessarily at a stand still, and a healthy spirit-stirring out-of-doors game is required to fire the blood and cheer the heart.

Archibald, ninth Duke of Hamilton, who was a very keen curler, had for his usual skip a cadger named Tam Pate, who came from the Kirk of Shotts, and whose marvellous dexterity gained the victory for his Grace in the famous match which he played at Lochwinnoch in 1784 for a thousand guineas against McDowell of Garthland and a rink of celebrated curlers from Paisley.

One of the Hamilton party was a miller; another, who acted skip on the occasion, was a man above 70 years of age, and was called Hacketburn, from his lairdship or mailin. They gained the victory by a single shot.

played the last Duke's side, neukit stone When it struck did not stot or fly do, but it ran round



Tam Pate, who used a three-like a cocked hat. any other stone it off as stones usually about and lay still.

The spectators declared that Tam was a warlock.

The cheering which took place at his wonderful play was loud and long continued, but Tam himself never gave a smile nor uttered a single word amid the general rejoicing at the victory won by his single shot.



2010