

## ST. ANDREWS LINKS SUPERVISOR VISITS RANSOMES

When a schoolboy sets his heart on the profession of a greenkeeper one pinnacle of that career would be of Links Supervisor at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St. Andrews.

After thirty years of greenkeeping, which had taken him as far south as Devon, and as far north as East Lothian, John K. Campbell was appointed to this top job in 1962, when he was 42.

production at first hand. His equipment ranges from the huge "Quintuple" gang mowers to the hand propelled "Certes" greens mowers with, in between, a large variety of machinery for other specialised cutting work.

Television viewers are probably more familiar with the Old Course than with the others, the course which claims to have the largest greens in the world, one



*John K. Campbell, Links Supervisor, takes a Ransomes "Auto-Certes" greens mower over the 18th green of the Old Course, in front of the Royal and Ancient Clubhouse, St. Andrews.*

Few people realise that John Campbell's responsibilities cover an area of 450 acres, a monumental task which, in the season, needs all the attention of twenty-eight men, and an array of machinery which has to earn its keep from dawn to dusk.

With the responsibility of providing top playing conditions for the members of the four courses under his supervision, as well as the world's top players at tournament times, John Campbell has insisted on standardising on Ransomes mowers for all his cutting work and has recently been down to Ipswich to see

alone covering one acre. As a point of interest, one could be faced with a putt of 225 feet on one of these double greens! With the critical T.V. cameras ready to pick up any fault, John Campbell has to have mowers which provide consistently perfect cutting, and, with such vast areas, there must be no chance of mechanical breakdown.

When next we switch on the set to watch the world's premier golfers and note the perfection of the "two-toned" cutting, spare a thought for John Campbell, the man responsible for providing absolutely perfect playing conditions for near perfect players.