

## VIEWPOINT

West Lodge,  
West Road,  
St George's Hill,  
Weybridge,  
Surrey.

Sir,

I am writing this letter to you hoping to hear other members' views in the matter. Reading my January Journal, I find on the last page a scale of wages given as a guide (general of course) to us members. Although I am fully aware of the difficulties and varying conditions in different parts of the country, I do feel the Executive Committee have *not* been very generous in their suggestions for the Greenkeeper with £12 or the Assistant Greenkeeper with £13 10s. As the average wage of the working man will be £17 per week any moment now, I consider the suggested £12 will not be any help to Head Greenkeepers in getting new staff. I should have thought £13 or £14 a better offer.

As for the Assistant Greenkeeper, I think that he also at times has certain responsibilities to hold in his job. That being so, I should think at least £14 to £16 should be his wage.

I emphatically say that all Head Greenkeepers' wages (including accommodation, of course) should be no less than £20 per week for the high responsibility they hold. I am afraid that if Golf Clubs desire the best, they will have to pay these wages.

I am also afraid that if Golf Clubs' Secretaries should read these suggested rates of the Executive Committee, the fight that we Head Greenkeepers are having with our Clubs for more money will be to no avail.

You know, Sir, Head Greenkeepers and their staff have been very poorly paid servants of their Clubs in the past. It is only now that clubs are realising the importance of these men, simply because they are hard to get. They are the most important part of their staff and I am sure that now we have a chance to improve our positions, we should take great care that we use this opportunity. When all is said and

done, everything, yes everything, is going up in price, so why shouldn't golf? It is very cheap as an all the year round sport. I hope I have not said anything to upset anyone, but if we are going to suggest anything, let's have the guts to say something big.

Sincerely,

C. R. COOKE.

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The Hon. Editor, F. W. Hawtree,  
c/o *The British Golf Greenkeeper*,  
Addington Court Golf Club,  
Featherbed Lane,  
Croydon,  
Surrey, England.

21st January 1965.

Dear Sir,

In the January issue of *The Greenkeeper*, I was delighted to be mentioned in the excellent article by Mr. John Stobbs, "Chemicals or Compost". The trend here has been until recently, to do less and less top dressing, but since those two years, that knocked us younger experts "off the know it all" pinnacle, we have found that the old way used by older and wiser superintendents is still the best.

I am enclosing a speech that I made in San Diego a few years ago; you may find it interesting.

Yours truly,

PAUL N. VOYKIN,

Greens Superintendent.

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*We were extremely pleased to hear from Mr. Voykin, Superintendent at the Briarwood Country Club, Deerfield, Illinois. The excellent paper which he read at San Diego appears on page 8.*

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L. F. Millar, Head Greenkeeper at Moor Park Golf Club, has been carrying out big improvements on the High course in the past winter. New bunkers have sprung up, others have disappeared and the course will be in excellent shape for the Esso Tournament on 21st-24th July. The Artisans' Tournament and Championship also go to Moor Park in July on 5th, 6th and 7th and we can expect to see at least one member of the Millar family amongst the leaders.