

100th MINIVERSARY

By Gordon Young

Should the benevolent Fairy Godmother, who looks after all greenkeepers wave her glass fibre switching tip and turn your pick-up golf balls into 100 B.M.C. Mini Tractors and should she line them up nose to tail in a straight line, they would stretch from — well, wherever you happen to be to whatever is 272 yards 2 feet 9 inches away from you.

This might result in a certain amount of chaos but the inconvenience could be well worth enduring because that thin, red, all British line would be worth about £58,500 and it would not require the Fairy Godmother's assistance to transform 100 tractors into hard cash in as many weeks.

The well-known firm of Messrs. T. Parker & Sons (Turf Management) Ltd., have done just that. At a short ceremony last month, at the company's Worcester Park headquarters, Mr George Parker handed over the 100th B.M.C. Mini Tractor sold by them.

Buyers of the tractor were the Prudential Assurance Sports Club of Reading who join the ever widening circle of users which includes golf courses, football and cricket clubs and race courses, not to mention the many local authorities where the B.M.C. Mini Tractor is fast becoming standard equipment.

In a short speech Mr Parker said, "Wherever turf maintenance is a problem the B.M.C. Mini Tractor is enhancing its reputation as Britain's finest turf tractor by virtue of its stability, lugging power, light weight and economy

of purchase and operating costs. The 9-speed gear box (with 3 matched reverse speeds) gives it the flexibility necessary to operate in virtually all conditions and often where large tractors could not operate without serious turf damage. The potential of this tractor is almost limitless — we're finding new applications for it all the time."

Golf clubs, to date, have not been among the leading purchasers of this lightweight B.M.C. tractor but there is no reason why they should not be. This machine has been taken successfully over cricket tables and at Ascot race course it pulls large quintuple mowers. It is not suggested that this tractor, light as it is (approximately 2,000 lbs.), should be driven onto golf greens, nor, unless your course is as flat as a race track, could it be used to tow five large gang mowers but it should have no difficulty in taking three over the banks and undulations of the average golf course. In addition it can be used with the "Sisis" 6 foot Heavy Duty Aerator, the 72 inch "Truspred" Fertiliser, the "Park" 30 cwt. Tipping Trailer, the "Park" 9 foot Roller and in fact, most of the towed equipment used for golf course maintenance.

Messrs. Parker are justifiably proud of their sales achievement. May their success with this first-class, all British product continue so that in 1969 (or maybe sooner!) the handing over ceremony of the 200th B.M.C. Mini Tractor to be sold by them will take place, with congratulations and celebrations to follow, of course!