

## 40-YEAR RECORD OF SANDBACH CLUB'S GREENKEEPER

FOR nearly 40 years, Mr Alfred Oakes has been greenkeeper at Sandbach Golf Club, writes Richard Passmore.

When he started working there soon after the club moved to its present site in 1925, he points out that there were 150 members, "many of them gentry".

Mr Oakes, surely one of the most faithful golf club servants in the Midlands, has done invaluable work for the club, as can be seen from the fine conditions of the greens and fairways.

Sandbach Golf Club was formed in 1921, and the course was first laid out on the land off the Congleton road, on the other side of the town. But the land here proved to be unsatisfactory, and in 1925 the club moved to its present site.

In 1937 further land was obtained, and with the lengthening of the second and third holes the par for the course went up to 74 for 18 holes. But after three years the land had to be given up at the request of the War Agricultural Committee. At present the club lease the course and clubhouse from Sandbach Golf Course Ltd.

*(With grateful acknowledgments to Richard Passmore and the "Sentinel", Stoke-on-Trent.)*

### SITUATIONS VACANT

**GREENKEEPER REQUIRED** to take over nine-hole course. Must be experienced. Good wages plus side benefits. Full details from the Secretary, Chesham & Ley Hill Golf Club, Ley Hill, Bucks.

**HEAD GREENKEEPER REQUIRED** for 18-hole golf course in first-class condition, fully mechanised with good assistant staff. Modern house provided rent free. Pension scheme after trial period. High wage offered. All applications in strict confidence to be in writing to the Secretary, Leamington and County Golf Club, Whitnash, Leamington Spa.

## CAPTAIN WILLIAM MOORE

It is with deep regret we record the passing of William Moore, one of the leading turf research experts in this country.

Bill Moore was educated at the Blue Coat School and joined Suttons, the Reading seed firm, as a trainee in 1914. He subsequently saw active service in the First World War and on his return to business was attached to Suttons reorganised Grass Advisory service, and became personal technical assistant to the late Martin Sutton, the director in charge.

Bill Moore found grass research work completely absorbing and eventually became Suttons Turf Research Officer.

His services in a grass advisory capacity were keenly sought. He travelled extensively all over the British Isles advising on golf courses and sports grounds and innumerable private lawns. He was also in demand abroad, especially in Italy, where he visited probably every golf course, and many establishments where thoroughbred horses were reared in that country, and turf for them was so important.

Bill Moore's knowledge of grass was extremely wide, and in the compilation of grass seed mixtures he was a supreme expert. He retired from active work at Suttons in 1967 but even then demands for his services in advisory work continued and kept him very busy.

A prolific writer on grass matters and fluent lecturer, Bill Moore was always keenly interested in the work of such bodies as the National Association of Groundsmen and the Golf Greenkeepers Association. He was highly respected by numerous greenkeepers and groundsmen in this country and abroad, and many have reason to feel gratitude to him for a quiet word of advice in a difficult turf problem.