

# £3,000 CLAIM AGAINST GOLF CLUB

A GREENKEEPER raised an action before Lord Hunter in the Court of Session today claiming £3,000 damages from Caldwell Golf Club Ltd., Caldwell, Renfrewshire, following an accident involving a rotor grass mower.

Ian Wilson, of 1 Hillside Road, Neilston, states that on 26th September 1966, he was required to cut grass on the bank of a burn with the mower which "floated" over the ground on a cushion of air and had a rotating blade, 19 inches in length, on its underside.

The engine of the mower was above the cutting blade. It was started by a cord pull and stopped by operating a switch on the outside of the engine. The handlebar of the mower was 3 ft. long and when holding it, he said, the operator was unable to reach the switch controlling the engine.

There was no control which could be operated from the handle to stop the machine.

To cut the grass, Wilson said, he had to stand at the top of the bank and push the mower down and pull it up again.

As he was pushing the mower down, he slipped and lost his balance. His left foot slipped under the mower, which he was unable to switch off and which was still cutting.

As a result, two toes of his left foot were severed.

Another toe had to be amputated in the Royal Alexandra Infirmary, Paisley, next day. He was in hospital for six weeks and attended as an out-patient for about four months, and was off work for six months.

Wilson blamed the golf club for their alleged negligence and failure to take reasonable care to provide proper plant.

The golf club said Mr Wilson was an

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experienced operator of the mower and had been instructed in its use.

The bank where he was cutting the grass did not exceed 4 ft. in height and did not require a rope, as suggested by Wilson.

The accident they claimed, was caused by Wilson's negligence and failure to take reasonable care for his own safety. They fulfilled all of the duties incumbent on them.

In awarding £1,000 damages Lord Hunter said that Wilson slipped on the wet grass of a slope and his foot went under the edge of the mower.

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